

Chiropractic School Fact Sheet

What degree can I earn?

D.C.= Doctor of Chiropractic

What is the nature of this profession?

Chiropractors diagnose and treat patients whose health problems are associated with the body's muscular, nervous, and skeletal systems, especially the spine. They spend a great deal of time on their feet and use hands-on manipulation techniques. Most chiropractors are employed in private practice. Other areas of employment include nutrition, sports rehabilitation, and geriatrics. Chiropractors are known to have a good work-life balance, but often work hours will include weekends and evenings to accommodate patients.

Where can I find additional information about Chiropractic?

The Association of Chiropractic Colleges www.chirocolleges.org. To investigate requirements for state licensure, go to <http://www.fclb.org/>.

YOU CAN CHOOSE ANY MAJOR YOU WOULD LIKE AS LONG AS YOU FULFILL THE PREREQUISITES FOR CHIROPRACTIC SCHOOL.

Most Chiropractic schools require 24 credits of life/physical sciences with at least ½ containing a lab component. They may have other requirements as well. Here are some examples of classes that should be taken to fulfill the science requirements:

BIO 120: General Biology I BMS 208: Human Anatomy BMS 309: Human Anatomy Lab (Cadaver) BMS 212+213: Intro Microbiology w/lab BMS 290+391: Human Physiology and Lab <i>One of these Physics sequences:</i> PHY 200: Physics for the Life Sciences OR PHY 220: General Physics I PHY 221: General Physics II	<i>One of these Chemistry sequences:</i> CHM 109: Introductory Chemistry CHM 231: Introductory Organic Chemistry CHM 234: Introductory Biological Chemistry OR CHM 125+126: Principles of Chemistry I w/ lab CHM 127+128: Principles of Chemistry II w/ lab CHM 235+236: Organic Chemistry for Life Sciences I w/ lab CHM 237+238: Organic Chemistry for Life Sciences II w/ lab CHM 461: Biochemistry
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Other Suggested Courses: BIO 355, MOV 300, MOV 304, STA 215, PSY 101, Business, English, and Writing courses.

No grade below a C is allowed for prerequisite courses.

Prerequisites may vary from school to school. Research to make sure that you have met the prerequisites for the chiropractic schools to which you intend to apply. See your faculty mentor or an advisor in the CLAS Academic Advising Center for assistance in choosing elective courses. *Most chiropractic colleges require at least 3 years (90 credit hours) of undergraduate education; however, an increasing number are requiring bachelor's degrees.*

No Entrance Exam Required

GPA

To be considered for admission to chiropractic school, a **minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA** is required in at least 90 credit hours of undergraduate course work.

Besides a strong GPA, chiropractic schools look for the following:

- **Chiropractic-related Clinical Volunteer Experience and/or Shadowing**
 - See www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/preprofessional for a list of chiropractors in the area
- **Extracurricular and Leadership Activities:** visit www.gvsu.edu/studentorg to begin searching for organizations to join at GVSU!
 - [Pre-Chiropractic Club](#); other clubs of interest
- **Community service** www.gvsu.edu/service
- **Research experience** www.gvsu.edu/ours; Departmental Websites: Listing of research by faculty member and discipline
- **Strong letters of recommendation** (at least one letter from a Doctor of Chiropractic is typically preferred)
- Your ability to pass a **criminal background check** (CBC). Chiropractic schools will conduct a CBC before allowing admitted students to begin chiropractic school.

The Medical and Health Humanities Certificate, Certificate in Intercultural Training, and the Research Scholar Designation are great ways to attain competencies professional schools are looking for in applicants.

Track your experiences. Create a copy of our Preprofessional Action Plan document (www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/actionplan) to log information you will need for your application process. This document has tabs for many items including your academic plan, experiences and hours, GPA calculators, potential letter writers, important contact info and more!

Want more information?

- Discuss other options and interests with your faculty advisor and/or CLAS Academic Advisor
- Attend events sponsored by the CLAS Academic Advising Center to assist you through this process while at GVSU.
- Visit our prechiropractic website, www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/chiropractic, for more resources!

Sample Chiropractic School Curriculum	
Pre-clinical (4 trimesters)	Basic sciences, chiropractic philosophy, core adjusting techniques (varies by the philosophy of individual programs)
Clinical (3 trimesters)	Health center practicum, clinical sciences, chiropractic performance-based curriculum
Advanced clinical (3 trimesters)	Health center practicum, research, clinical sciences, chiropractic performance-based curriculum, rotations

Licensing standards vary by state, be sure to check licensing requirements in the state you intend to practice in prior to enrolling in a program.

To schedule an appointment with a Pre-Chiropractic Advisor in the CLAS Academic Advising Center, visit www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising and click on “Schedule Appointment”

Also follow us on social media!  **YouTube** [GVSU Preprofessional Programs](#)

 | **Instagram** [@gvsupreprofessionaladvising](#)