



Admissions requirements for students seeking matriculation to a Naturopathic Program*

* LLU does not offer this program.

- Degree:**
- ❖ A bachelor's degree is required.
- Units:**
- ❖ **Number:** Satisfied by bachelor's degree.
 - ❖ **GPA:** A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required. To be competitive, students should have a 3.5 or higher for both their overall and BCPM (Biology, Chemistry, Physics & Math) GPA.
 - ❖ **Institution:** *It is preferred that all science courses be from a 4-year institution.*
 - ❖ **AP & CLEP:** Do not satisfy science prerequisites. Can satisfy non-science prerequisites if fulfilling degree requirements (though some institutions will not accept for any prerequisites).
- Experience:**
- ❖ *All candidates are encouraged to have had direct patient care experience in order to become acquainted with medical careers.*
- Application:**
- ❖ **Service:** NDCAS (Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine Centralized Application Service) usually opens in May and applications can be submitted beginning June 1. It is important that students apply as early as possible as this improves one's chances of acceptance.
 - ❖ **Deadline:** Varies by institution.
 - ❖ **Tests:** MCAT (Medical College Admission Test) is required.
 - ❖ **Recommendation Letters:** A minimum of 3 recommendations needed: *2 from a science professor, 1 from a physician.*

Coursework

Prerequisite Courses	Recommended Courses
<p>Communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ College Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> __ ENGL 111 __ ENGL 112 __ ENGL 113 OR __ ENGL 124 Freshman Seminar in Writing <p>➤ Social Sciences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> __ PSYC 104 General Psychology __ PSYC 234 Developmental Psychology <p>Natural Sciences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ General Biology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> __ BIOL 111 & Lab __ BIOL 111A __ BIOL 112 & Lab __ BIOL 113 & Lab ➤ General Chemistry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> __ CHEM 111 & Lab __ CHEM 112 & Lab __ CHEM 113 & Lab 	<p>➤ Organic Chemistry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> __ CHEM 271 & Lab __ CHEM 272 & Lab __ CHEM 273 & Lab <p>➤ General Physics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> __ PHYS 231 & Lab __ PHYS 232 & Lab __ PHYS 233 & Lab <p>➤ Biochemistry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> __ CHEM 491 w/o lab __ CHEM 492 w/o lab <p>➤ Math</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> __ MATH 121 College Algebra <p>Sciences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Upper Division Biology Courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> __ BIOL 434 Histology __ BIOL 446 Gross Anatomy __ BIOL 466 Systems Physiology <p>Others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> __ MDCN 204 Intro to Medicine __ MATH 131 Calculus I __ MATH 155 Introductory Statistics __ COMM 104 Fundamentals of Speech __ COMM 244 Interpersonal Communication <p><i>Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine's wording is:</i></p> <p>12 semester units of Biology with labs— (courses must be at science major level) So, include at least 1 upper division BIOL course.</p> <p>8 semester units of Chemistry with labs-- (courses must be at science major level) You must take entire GCHEM sequence to be eligible for OCHEM.</p> <p>4 semester credits in Organic Chemistry with lab. To be eligible for CHEM 491, you must take entire OCHEM sequence.</p> <p>One college level course in Physics</p> <p>3 semester units in Biochemistry</p> <p>Etc.</p>

Career opportunities and related occupations:

❖ A growing and aging population will contribute to the overall increase in the number of physicians needed, especially in underserved areas, such as inner city and rural areas. Outstanding career opportunities can be found in these locations. Because of efforts nationally to control health care costs and limitations on use of specialty services, a lower number of specialists will be in demand. Naturopathic medical education is grounded in the six principles of naturopathic medicine which 1. The healing power of nature; 2. Identify and treat the causes; 3. First do no harm; 4. Doctor as teacher; 5. Treat the whole person; and 6. Prevention. Naturopathic medicine is defined by these principles.

Educational qualifications:

❖ The minimum educational requirement for entry into most medical schools is a 4-year Bachelor's degree (any major). Additionally, many applicants have formal education beyond a BA/BS, and may also have had a variety of experiences in the health care field. In the naturopathic medical school, students spend most of the first two years in laboratories and classrooms studying the basic sciences but not using the same paradigm of the systems approach as the traditional medical school. Rather, this type of education focuses more on how a symptom in one part of the body may affect the entire patient. During the last two years, students have greater opportunities for hands-on clinical training. As a result, most naturopathic medical students are ready to begin practice right out of school instead of having to do residencies.

Expectations:

❖ Overall, becoming a physician requires physical, emotional and intellectual stamina and lots of perseverance. It takes the desire to work with and for people, and particularly, the ability to use critical thinking to solve problems. Prospective physicians must be prepared to study throughout their careers to keep up with medical advances, and to be flexible enough to respond to changes in the healthcare system.

Salary:

❖ For the most updated information on salaries visit: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics at <http://www.bls.gov/bls/blswage.htm>.

For more information:

Websites	Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine and Health Sciences (SCNM)	Professional Organization(s)
La Sierra University: www.lasierra.edu/prehealth Loma Linda University: www.llu.edu	2140 E. Broadway Rd. Tempe, AZ 85282 Phone: 480.858.9100 Email: admissions@scnm.edu	The American Association of Naturopathic Physicians 8201 Greensboro Dr., Suite 300 McLean, VA 22102 Phone: 703.610.9037 www.naturopathic.org

Pre-Health Professions is dedicated to providing quality service to La Sierra University students, faculty and staff. Our primary goal is to address your pre-professional needs. As a service-based department, we accept walk-ins on a daily basis. We endeavor to answer all of your questions about careers in the health field; no question is too small for our attention.

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