

## AP CREDIT AND MEDICAL SCHOOLS June 2019

Will medical schools accept your AP credit? The answer is it depends. There is information below, so begin by understanding that schools have varying policies:

- \* Some accept AP credit entirely.
- \* Some accept AP credit on a case-by-case basis.
- \* Some accept AP credit, but will ask for or “suggest” an additional or advanced course.
- \* Some don't accept AP credit, but require fewer courses, so AP credit isn't needed.
- \* Some don't accept AP credit at all.
- \* Sometimes the information on a website is unclear.
- \* Sometimes the information on their website and on the MSAR website differs.
- \* And all schools can change their mind about requirements and AP credit at any time.

### 1. AP CREDIT CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS

AP credit in Chemistry and Physics are common questions. The table below is a general guide, as of May 2019, of those medical schools that seem to require 4 or 5 semesters of Chemistry and 2 semesters of Physics and state that they will not accept AP credit or only accept it with additional coursework. Use this table as a guide, but remember that it may not be accurate in the future.

TABLE 1

STATE	SCHOOL	CHEMISTRY	PHYSICS	NOTE
CA	Loma Linda	NO	NO	
CA	Northstate	NO	NO	Also requires 2 semesters math (no AP)
CT	U Connecticut	NO	NO	
CT	Yale	NO	NO	
GA	Med College GA	NO		
GA	Mercer		NO	
KY	U Kentucky	Unclear	NO	
MA	Harvard	Unclear	Unclear	
MA	Tufts		NO	
MO	St. Louis	NO	NO	
NY	Icahn at Mt. Sinai	NO		
NY	Weill Cornell	NO		
TN	Meharry	NO	NO	
UT	U Utah	Unclear	NO	

NO = AP credit is not accepted or it's accepted but they require additional or advanced coursework  
 blank = AP credit is accepted, or few courses are required

**OUR RECOMMENDATION FOR CHEMISTRY:** Follow the placement guidelines by the Chemistry Department and go on to more advanced courses. Although, if you think your AP course was not recent and you need a review, you can choose to begin at a lower level. If a school asks for 4 or 5 semesters of Chemistry at the college level, you could add Chem 210DL or Biochem 302 in your junior or senior year. For instance, the following sequences will give you 4 or 5 semesters of chemistry at the college level, not including AP:

Chem 20(AP) .... 110DL, 201DL, 202L, Biochem 301	(4 semesters of college chemistry)
Chem 21(AP) .... 110DL, 201DL, 202L, 210DL, Biochem 301	(5 semesters of college chemistry)
Chem 21(AP) .... 201DL, 202L, 210DL, Biochem 301	(4 semesters of college chemistry)
Chem 21(AP) .... 201DL, 202L, 210DL, Biochem 301, 302	(5 semesters of college chemistry)

**OUR RECOMMENDATION FOR PHYSICS:** If you have AP credit for Physics 25, enroll in Physics 142L (Trinity) or 152L (Pratt). If you have AP credit for Physics 26, enroll in Physics 141L (Trinity) or 151L (Pratt). If you have AP credit for both Physics 25 and 26, we recommend Trinity students repeat either 141L or 142L. This meets the requirement of many schools that accept AP credit for Physics but ask for one additional course. Pratt students should follow Pratt recommendations. Note that going on to advanced 200-level Physics courses is possible, but not very feasible for most students.

2. **AP CREDIT BIOLOGY:** AP credit is insufficient for preparation in Biology and many medical schools will not accept it. Take two Biology courses with lab at Duke. These will usually be Biology 201L and 202L, or Biology 203L and a second biology-lab course. Some schools will ask for a third Biology course for the best preparation.

3. **AP CREDIT ENGLISH:** Most medical schools require 2 courses in English or writing. If you are in Trinity, you should have this with the 3 writing courses (Writing 101 and 2 W courses) you complete for the Trinity curriculum. However, if you are a Pratt student, only Writing 101 is required. Most schools will accept AP English for the second course, but check the requirements of schools you think you will apply to, to be sure AP credit is accepted; if not, add an English/Writing course by the time you graduate.

4. **AP CREDIT MATH and STATISTICS:** Calculus I is required for Physics at Duke; AP credit (Math 21) is acceptable. Statistics is required for the MCAT. However, if you have AP credit in Statistics, we recommend you still take a Statistics course at Duke. This will give you a deeper foundation for the MCAT, for medical schools and for research that you might do. Note that the Trinity curriculum requires you to take one QS course in the Math, Computer Science or Statistics departments. If you have AP Math and will not take a Math or Computer Science course at Duke, then take your Statistics course in the Statistics department (not in the Psychology or Biology departments). This way you will complete statistics for the MCAT and medical schools and also fulfill a Trinity curriculum requirement at the same time. If you do enroll in Math or Computer Science at Duke, then a Statistics course in Biology or Psychology is acceptable.

The combination of Calculus I and Statistics will fulfill nearly all math/statistics requirements for medical schools.

5. **AP CREDIT PSYCHOLOGY:** Psychology is needed for the MCAT and many medical schools recommend courses in psychology or the social sciences. AP credit is usually acceptable. However, many students with AP Psychology will add a second course (such as Psy 106 Bio Bases of Behavior or other) for better preparation.

6. **EVERYONE ....** remember that your application may be several years away and schools can change their requirements or policy on AP credit at any time. The best thing to do is check the requirements of schools in your home state or others you are interested in each year for requirements. An easy way to do this is to do an internet search (for example, search for "yale med sch adm req"). This usually brings up an appropriate link. Later, as you get closer to applying, you should subscribe to the Medical School Admissions Requirements website (\$28 per year, [aamc.org/msar](http://aamc.org/msar)), where you can find details of requirements and selection factors. In many cases, if you need to add a course later, you can do so in your junior or senior year.

If you have specific questions close to the time of application, email the medical school admissions committee and ask.