



August 2011 E-Newsletter

What should I do if my GPA is below admission requirements?

While we do not have a minimum GPA requirement, we recommend having at least a 3.0 GPA (science and cumulative) in order to be competitive. If you know your GPA does not meet those guidelines, you should not feel hopeless. Admission may be more difficult, but it is by no means impossible.

To improve your science GPA, you can take additional science courses at any accredited four-year college or university. Keep in mind that your goal is to improve your GPA, so ideally, you should receive an A or B in these courses. Sometimes just one or two courses will raise a GPA. In other instances, a full year might be needed to improve your likelihood of acceptance. This depends on what your GPA is before you start additional coursework. Some good courses to take include anatomy, biochemistry and physiology.

Some students with weaker GPA's enroll in a 1-year Master's program in biomedical sciences and students who didn't major in the sciences will oftentimes take a post-baccalaureate program to make up for their deficiency.

If your science GPA is below a 3.0, you should call an admissions representative to discuss your situation. Also, you can schedule a consultation where you bring your transcripts in person and discuss your plan with an admissions representative.

How do NYCPM students finance their education?



NYCPM offers a variety of ways for students to fund their medical education. Approximately 95% of students receive some type of financial aid and over \$600,000 in merit and need-based scholarships is given out each year.

NYCPM's Financial Aid Office can help students apply for the following loans:

- Subsidized Stafford Loans
- Unsubsidized Stafford Loans
- Federal Perkins Loans
- Federal College Work Study (CWS)
- Health Professions Student Loans (HPSL)
- Loans for Disadvantaged Students (LDS)
- Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students (SDS)

(Please note: a student must be an American citizen/Permanent Resident to be eligible for federal loans.)

All students who apply are automatically considered for the merit-based scholarship, which is based on things like your GPA, your MCAT/DAT, and the college you attended. These scholarships are awarded at the time of acceptance and the amount is divided up evenly over four years.

NYCPM tuition for the 2011-2012 school year is \$26,100. In addition to tuition, students should expect to pay for books, supplies, housing, and food. Because working full time throughout medical school is strongly discouraged, most students borrow enough to cover all of these extra costs.

For more information about Financial Aid options, visit <http://www.nycpm.edu/sfinancial.asp>.

I graduate from college in December. When should I apply for January?



The January class at NYCPM provides a great opportunity for December graduates who don't want to wait half a year to begin medical school. There are no disadvantages to beginning in January. The tuition is prorated, and housing is available.

Even though you have not completed your degree or even all of your prerequisites, you should apply as soon as possible after the admissions cycle begins in August. The deadline for the January term is November 30.

To get a head start, request your Pre-health Committee evaluation or three letters of recommendation to be sent to NYCPM's admissions office. You can also request your official transcripts to be sent before you have completed your degree. Your MCAT scores should be released to AACPMAS after you take it. Everything you submit will be kept in a file until your application arrives.

How do out-of-state students meet people if they attend NYCPM?



Almost anyone attending NYCPM will agree that students quickly become a close-knit family. During orientation, new students are paired with a Big Brother or Sister student volunteer designated to help new students with anything they need. In addition, you could opt to live in an NYCPM apartment with other NYCPM students, providing you with instant acquaintances. Other students commute to the College together, and meet

after classes to form study groups. Naturally, these groups often socialize together as well.

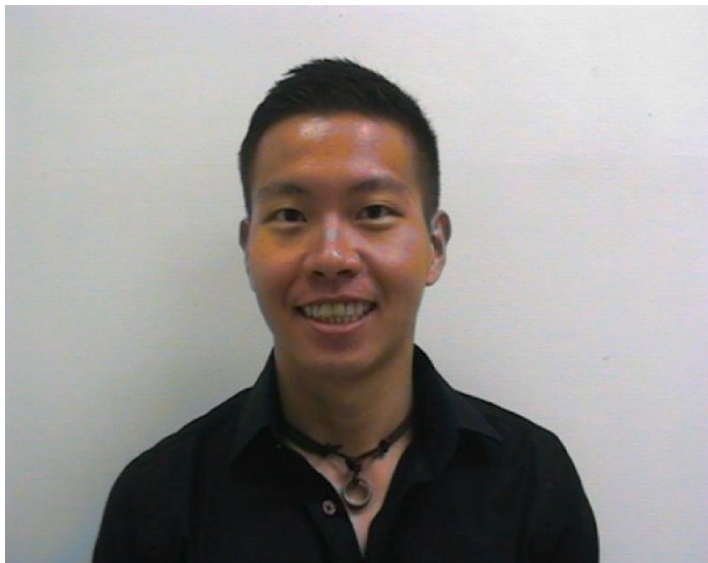
Students regularly plan social events for the community such as barbecues, sporting events, ski trips and more. There are also many clubs available that provide opportunities for meeting other people. Some clubs and activities students participate in are:

*Student National Podiatric Medical Association
Surgery Club
Sports Medicine Club
Diabetes Club
International Podiatry Club
Footnotes, Student Newsletter
Student Literary and Arts Magazine
NYCPM Basketball Team*

*American Association for Women Podiatrists
Research and Wound Care Club
Running Club
Orthopedics Club
American Academy of Podiatric Practice Management
Podiatric Medical Review
NYCPM Yearbook
Student Government*

Wherever a student comes from, there are many opportunities to get plugged in to the NYCPM community, network with professionals in the field and form lasting relationships.

Meet an NYCPM Student:



Name: Terence Chi
Hometown: Long Valley, NJ
Email: ychi@nycpm.edu
Undergraduate College: Tulane University
Medical School Class: 2014

What made you decide to pursue a career in podiatric medicine?

I have always wanted to work in the medical field. My father is a neurologist, and many of my relatives work in the medical field such as urologist, dentist, and pharmacist. After shadowing many different careers in the medical field, I found that podiatric medicine fits me the best. Today's podiatrists are physicians, surgeons and the experts on the lower extremities.

What made you decide to attend NYCPM?

Although all podiatric medical schools provide excellent medical education, I especially appreciate the sense of community in NYCPM. The upperclassmen would send freshmen class notes, tips for tests, and they are always there to help you. In addition, full-time faculties made it easy for students to have access to professors at their leisure.

What was the transition from undergrad to medical school like?

It was to be expected. Professional schools require more perspiration. Many colleagues are motivated and driven yet helpful. Studying with your colleagues and having great classmates smoothed the transition from undergrad to podiatric medical school.

What is your favorite part about being a student at NYCPM or in NYC in general?

NYCPM is a great community! I felt very welcomed when I interviewed here. I am constantly surrounded by helpful colleagues. Also, New York City is wonderful! It has a lot to offer whether you want to study at the New York Public Library, see a smash-hit Broadway show, listen to a New York Philharmonic concert, go to a Yankees game or just sit and relax at a Starbucks!

What activities are you involved in at NYCPM?

I am in the Surgery Club and serve as a student ambassador for the Office of Admissions.

What advice do you have for incoming students?

Having a balanced life is extremely important! Podiatric medical school requires a lot of work, but don't forget to take some time off to decompress as well!

NYCPM is currently accepting applications for admission. Start your application today by visiting <http://www.e-aacpmas.org/>.

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