

**Wabash.**

**FIRST-YEAR STUDENT  
ADVISING HANDBOOK**

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**2022 - 2023**

# INTRODUCTION

**The first-year student Advising Handbook provides basic information useful in the advising process.** The handbook is designed primarily to answer questions that may arise in advising new students as they try to decide which courses to take in their first semester or two. (E.g., If I want to go to medical school, what kinds of courses should I take my first-year student year? Where can I go to get help with Chemistry? After Gene Yuss has taken the Modern Languages placement exam, which course, if any, should he take? Mario Speedwagon thinks he has a learning disability. What support services does Wabash offer?)

This handbook has four sections and two appendices. The appendices were prepared by pre-health advisor Jill Rogers and are written for a student audience, but may be helpful for your reference as well. They are available for students to view on the [pre-med page](#) of our website.

**Section I – General Information**

**Section II – Academic, Career, and Wellness Support Services**

**Section III - First Year Courses, Placements, and Credit by Exam**

**Section IV - Advising Pre-Engineering, Pre-Health, or Pre-Law Students**

**Appendix A – Medical School Preparation and Admission Guide**

**Appendix B – Dental School Preparation and Admission Guide**

To use the handbook most effectively, you may want to skim through to see how it is put together and generally what kind of information it provides. During preliminary conversations with your advisees, if you identify students who are talking about pre-med or engineering, you should read through these special program sections if you are not already familiar with them. Beyond this, you may want to review the [Academic Bulletin](#) to address questions about departments/majors/programs. Finally, there is also an [advising resources webpage](#) on the Wabash site, with advice for advising students at any stage of their Wabash career, which you may find helpful.

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# Section I – General Information

- New Student Advising at Wabash
- New Student Advisor Budget Information
- Additional Resources for New Student Advising
- Orientation and Required Extended Orientation Sessions for New Students

## **New Student Advising at Wabash**

*Advising at Wabash is a teaching and learning process that involves meaningful relationships between advisors and students. The mission of advising is to promote intellectual, personal, and career development so that students can identify, pursue effectively, and achieve realistic academic, personal, and career goals.*

The most obvious function of advising at Wabash is to assist students in selecting classes that they need to meet the requirements for graduation. In the process, the student must meet liberal arts distribution requirements and select a major and a minor. Helping students make these kinds of decisions throughout their time at Wabash is the prescriptive part of academic advising. Advising should, however, go beyond the prescriptive to be developmental and personal. Developmental advising helps students adjust to the college environment, set realistic educational, personal, and career goals, and thus, make the most of college resources. Such personal, developmental advising leads to the creation of relationships between faculty and students that are significant and often treasured, assisting students in making the most of their Wabash experience.

Indeed, advising is fundamentally important to student persistence and success. Such success depends upon 1) the student's perception that his goals and interests match well with the institution, 2) the extent to which the student connects with, and becomes integrated into, the academic and social communities of the College, 3) the match between the student's expectations of the College and the reality of the place as the student experiences it, and 4) the success the student experiences during the first year. The faculty advisor has the opportunity to help a student reflect on goals, objectives, and experiences, and to select among alternatives to make adjusting to college as smooth and as beneficial as possible.

For many freshmen, the faculty advisor is the professional person with the greatest opportunity to assist with the adjustment to college. Some of our freshmen are reluctant to go to their professors, support staff, or Deans with questions and problems related to their adjustment. The special relationship with the advisor, created through informal contacts outside the classroom and during the first days on campus, should make conversations about some of these issues, and interactions with those able to help, more likely.

We hope that the information in this Handbook, and that you gather in conversations with your advisor colleagues will assist you as you engage with this exciting and important role as a First-year student Advisor.

Thank you for your efforts with our students. We hope you will have a rewarding experience and, especially, will enable your advisees to have the same. Good luck.

## **New Student Advisor Budget Information**

With any questions about the using the correct budget number for an expense, please contact Pam Sacco ([saccop@wabash.edu](mailto:saccop@wabash.edu); x6324). Pam will provide advisors with a list of object codes and section numbers via email. Please consult with Pam in any case when you are unsure of the number to use, as the Business Office will not make corrections to charges applied to incorrect numbers.

If you are teaching a Freshman Tutorial and also advising new students, note that there are separate budget numbers for New Student Advising budget and the Freshman Tutorial budget. But all receipts for expenses incurred for both advising activities (e.g., dinners with advisees, social events with advising group, etc.) AND for tutorial activities should be given to Pam. It is helpful if receipts are sent soon after the charge is made, rather than at the end of the month or when balancing a p-card.

Traditionally, advisors host a dinner for their new advisees during New Student Orientation. The total budget for your advising dinner is \$200 per advising group. Please use the section number specific to your advising dinner – *these section numbers will be different*. Provide Pam with a PDF or a hard copy of the receipt for your dinner. If you pay for the dinner with personal funds and request reimbursement, the original receipt is required.

Each section of students has additional money (\$200 for FT and \$200 for EQ) allocated to it for social activities (and food) during the academic year, so advisors who want to host/pay for additional activities for advisees during the year should work with FT and EQ instructors to decide on how that additional money can best be used.

## **Additional Resources for New Student Advising**

The **First Year Programs/FRA First-year student Advising/2022-2023** folder in Box includes samples of documents you may find useful as you start the advising process. Specifically, you will find samples of Advising Syllabi, letters to advisees from advisors, information that advisors give to advisees during orientation, and documents that help advisors organize and make efficient advising meetings with students. You will also find the orientation schedule (once available) and this handbook.

On our website, there is an Advising page at <https://www.wabash.edu/advising/> with more general resources for advising students at any stage of their enrollment at Wabash.

## **Orientation and Required Extended Orientation Sessions for New Students**

In most years, there are Extended Orientation sessions for new students after the beginning of the Fall semester, covering topics such as making the most of our Professional Development office's services, time management, and mental health dialogues. Associate Dean for Student Engagement and Success Heather Thrush will announce the schedule for both New Student Orientation and Extended Orientation Sessions once decisions from the College are announced about the start and end dates of the Fall 2022 semester and the nature of academic and residential life at Wabash in Fall 2022.

## **Section II – Academic, Career, and Wellness Support Services**

- Academic Centers for Excellence
  - The Writing Center
  - The Quantitative Skills Center (QSC)
  - Supplemental Instruction (SI)
  - The Office of Student Enrichment (OSE)
- Support for Students with Disabilities
- Schroeder Center for Career Development (Career Services Office)
- Wabash College Counseling Center



## **Academic Centers for Excellence**

The Academic Centers for Excellence (ACE) at Wabash include:

- **The Writing Center**
- **The Quantitative Skills Center (QSC)**
- **Supplemental Instruction (SI)**
- **The Office of Student Enrichment (OSE)**

The Academic Centers for Excellence endeavor to provide students with individual and small group instruction and assistance in their coursework, along with facilitating necessary and appropriate learning accommodations. Recognizing that our students' intellectual growth and personal development occur concomitantly and are often intertwined, the directors of the Writing Center, the Quantitative Skills Center, Supplemental Instruction, and the Office of Student Enrichment work collectively to encourage student success.

**Peer Consulting and Tutoring** is available in both the Writing and Quantitative Skills Centers. All Writing Consultants and QSC Tutors are faculty-recommended and receive training in the art of peer consulting and peer tutoring.

## **The Writing Center**

Writing Center location:

Second floor, Lilly Library

By Appointment or Drop-in

<https://www.wabash.edu/ace/writing>

The Wabash Writing Center is dedicated to helping Wabash Men become the best writers that they can be. Our trained Writing Consultants are eager to answer any writing questions, to explain writing expectations, and to discuss audience expectations.

Our goal is to provide a knowledgeable, engaged, responsive audience for your writing and thinking. Instead of writing alone, you can write alongside a fellow Wabash Man and receive instant feedback and discussion. You can brainstorm your ideas, think out loud, rework tricky sentences, discuss your ideas, or any mix of the complex parts of composing your work. It is about helping you present your ideas in a clear, coherent, concise manner.

The Wabash Writing Center exists because Wabash Men write. We are here to be the audience you need.

The Writing Center is directed by Dr. Zachery Koppelman.

Office: Lilly Library 2nd floor

Phone: 765-361-6024

Email: [koppelmz@wabash.edu](mailto:koppelmz@wabash.edu)

## **The Quantitative Skills Center (QSC)**

### **QSC locations and hours:**

Second floor, Lilly Library

Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, 7-10 PM <https://www.wabash.edu/ace/qsc>

The Quantitative Skills Center, or QSC, provides peer tutoring for any student in biology, chemistry, computer science, economics, mathematics, or physics. All tutors are faculty-selected and trained to provide quality peer tutoring.

The QSC operates every Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 7-11pm on the second floor of the Lilly Library. When you arrive, please check-in with the Monitor on Duty and he will direct you to the appropriate tutor to assist you.

For any questions about the QSC, please contact Vic Lindsay.

Office: Lilly Library 1st floor

Phone: 765-361-6062

Email: [lindsayv@wabash.edu](mailto:lindsayv@wabash.edu)

## **Supplemental Instruction (SI)**

Supplemental Instruction (SI) is structured, peer-led group study. Students who want a fuller mastery of the course material can use SI as a space to encounter classmates who are committed to on-task group study sessions.

SI sessions are facilitated by a Leader who has previously taken and done well in the course and have been recommended by professors. The SI Leader attends class (again) with students, and conducts regularly scheduled study sessions to review the course material.

The SI Leader does not go over homework; instead, he facilitates activities to promote mastery of the most difficult course material. The SI Leader does not repeat the lecture, so SI sessions are not a substitute for course attendance.

This program is designed to give all students in the course additional ways of processing the course material and constructing new knowledge; is not a remedial or tutoring program.

SI Session attendance is strictly voluntary and is anonymous from the professor.

For any questions about SI, please contact Vic Lindsay.

Office: Lilly Library 1st floor

Phone: 765-361-6062

Email: [lindsayv@wabash.edu](mailto:lindsayv@wabash.edu)

<https://www.wabash.edu/ace/si>

## **The Office of Student Enrichment (OSE)**

The Office of Student Enrichment (OSE) provides Wabash Men with one-on-one counseling regarding time management skills, study skills, reading skills, and Academic Honesty. The OSE also offers one-on-one support for English Language Learners.

Please visit <https://www.wabash.edu/ace/office> and follow the “Make an Appointment” link to arrange for a meeting if you would like assistance regarding time management, study skills, reading skills, understanding Academic Honesty, or if you would like support for learning American English.

The Office of Student Enrichment is directed by Dr. Zachery Koppelman.

Office: Lilly Library 2nd floor

Phone: x6024

Email: [koppelmz@wabash.edu](mailto:koppelmz@wabash.edu)

## **Support for Students with Disabilities**

The Disability Services Coordinator is Associate Dean Heather Thrush

Phone: 765-361-6347

Email: [thrushh@wabash.edu](mailto:thrushh@wabash.edu)

For a student with a disclosed disability, the Disability Services Coordinator can assist in arranging accommodations as appropriate and supported by documentation.

Students who suspect they have a disability are welcome to meet with the director to determine how to proceed. While the coordinator can assist the student in finding a diagnostician, the student is responsible for arranging the testing and paying for it.

### **For advisors of students with disabilities:**

If a student discloses a disability, he is encouraged to discuss it with his advisor. However, he is not obligated to do so. For many students, college marks a transition to independence, and the desire to try on new identities; many will want to try academic work without accommodations as a test of this new freedom. Any discussions you have with a student about his disability are to remain confidential unless the student grants you permission to speak with others. You and he must be very specific about who else may know. If a student discloses a disability to you, please remind him that unless his documentation is on file with the Coordinator of Disabilities Support Services, he will not be eligible to receive accommodations should he wish them. Common sense dictates that a highly visible disability, such as a mobility impairment or blindness, is not subject to these strictures.

As you advise students with disabilities, you and the student may wish to take the condition in consideration as you plan a class schedule. A student with a hearing impairment might hear better in small classes, and one with ADHD will probably not do well with two 75minute classes in a row. Priority registration might be helpful in some cases. Each student's case is different, however, and the disability should not be used to discourage a student from taking a particular course.

Foreign language acquisition is often especially challenging for students with learning disabilities, ADHD, and, hearing impairments. The absence of a foreign language on a student's transcript or extremely poor grades may indicate one of these disabilities. Given Wabash's language requirement, the advisor is strongly urged to discuss this issue with the first-year student and encourage him to begin his language course as soon as possible. This will allow the student time to retake a course if necessary or to try another language.

## **Schroeder Center for Career Development (Career Services)**

### **Contact:**

Cassie Hagan, Director of Professional Development & Center for Innovation, Business, and Entrepreneurship

[haganc@wabash.edu](mailto:haganc@wabash.edu)

765-361-6096

### **Office Hours:**

Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Located at Arnold House, 502 W. Wabash Ave.

765-361-6414

Wabash Career Services helps students to identify, develop, and experience civic and career leadership before they graduate. Through professional immersion trips and vibrant internships, students explore opportunities to reach individual career goals of employment, graduate school, or service opportunities. Whatever he can dream, we offer individualized programs and resources to help Wabash men get there.

The Career Services office is open year-round. In addition to professional staff, we employ a staff of Peer Career Advisors (PCAs) who are specially trained to assist with resumes, cover letters, job and internship searches, and digital career resources including Handshake (our campus job and career event portal) and LinkedIn for alumni-student networking.

### **Career Advising**

We encourage students of all academic majors and career interests to visit Career Services and get to know our staff “early and often.” Our institutional data shows that students who begin engaging with us in their first-year student year are more likely to have secured their First Destination Outcome (whether job, graduate school, service opportunity, or other) by the time they walk across the stage on Commencement Day and into their next chapter of life.

The resume standard we’ve developed and updated for more than a decade is affectionately referred to as “The Wabash Format” and is the cornerstone of our advising model. Creating a resume in the official format is the first to-do for all students. We will ask students to begin by filling in the template with their personal experiences and then meet with a staff member to polish it. Resume review sessions accomplish much more than a professional document. The resume format we’ve developed is a tool for us to get to know that student as an individual and begin to build confidence in their abilities based upon the skills and experiences they’ve developed to that point. Some students require multiple meetings to achieve an employer-ready resume, but at the end of each interaction with a Career Services staff member, they have something tangible to look at and know they have skills and experiences that transfer to success in other endeavors. The resume can also act as a tool to highlight what skills and experience a student may want to work toward obtaining in order to achieve goals

they've already identified. Some of the key skills we encourage students of all academic disciplines to develop and be able to articulate are those identified as [Career Readiness Competencies](#) by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE): Career & Self-Development, Communication, Critical Thinking, Equity & Inclusion, Leadership, Professionalism, Teamwork, and Technology.

We don't prescribe to a specific one-size-fits-all four-year career plan, but we do have certain milestones we aim for all students to achieve in order to gain career clarity and preparedness. Our advantage in size, is that we aspire to get know each student through ongoing conversations and be able to help offer guidance and empower him to work through a four-year plan that is tailored to his particular career interests, which we expect will change or adjust throughout his Wabash experience if he is achieving these milestones along the way.

We offer the Clifton Strengths© assessment to assist students in better understanding their natural talents, how to develop those into strengths, and provide a vocabulary for articulating their skills and experiences. Strengths© is a personal development tool at its core, with applications to not only career exploration, but also leadership development, personal relationships, and academic and extracurricular work. Students are encouraged to meet with one of our Strengths© certified staff members for a personalized consultation after completing the assessment. We also offer Strengths© sessions for small groups in a classroom or team setting and are happy to customize a session to tie in with themes of interest. Keep us in mind to substitute for days you may need to miss class for professional conferences or for advisees who seem to need some direction and confidence in decision making on majors or career interests!

We offer drop-in advising for those who may have quick questions or thrive on impulsivity. Students can also schedule advising appointments with both professional staff members and Peer Career Advisors online via Handshake to find a time that works with their schedule.

### **Specialty Advising Areas**

In addition to Career Services, students with interests in these specific career interests should seek out opportunities to interact with these pre-professional or specialty area advisors.

|                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Pre-Health Careers          | Jill Rogers     |
| Pre-Law Careers             | Scott Himsel    |
| Pre-Engineering             | Nathan Tompkins |
| Competitive Fellowships     | Susan Albrecht  |
| Business & Entrepreneurship | Cassie Hagan    |

We also encourage students to leverage the knowledge and network of their faculty members within their respective disciplines. We're always open to collaborating with faculty and staff to mobilize our team to connect students with opportunities within your field of study, research, or adjacent industries.

## **Events & Programming**

Career Services is extremely active, visible, and approachable on campus and we aim to reach students where they are. We also strive to offer access to experts and opportunities that appeal to the widest range of student interests as possible. Our signature programs are:

**Coffee & Careers:** Offered weekly from 9-11 AM at the 1832 Brew Lounge in Lilly Library (while classes are in session only). Our staff is available for resume and cover letter review, on-campus employment questions, job/internship/graduate school search assistance, and information about upcoming events or opportunities. Most weeks we will also have a featured guest representing opportunities from an employer or graduate program. We always treat students to a beverage of their choice from The Brew, too. (Note: We also welcome faculty and staff guest cameos and have been known to buy their coffee as well!)

**Fall & Spring Career Networking Events:** Serve the purpose of a career fair without the traditional, stuffy setup and unengaged recruiters sitting behind tables. We nix the tables and get students and recruiters networking and making personal connections – it's the Wabash way. We welcome representatives from a variety of graduate programs, service experiences, and employer industries to join us for a business casual evening of meeting with students, freshmen through seniors, of all academic majors and career interests. We typically see a great deal of alumni representing our guest organizations, and we always welcome new partnerships.

**Student Employment:** The student employment program on campus is within the Professional Development office, because we view this as very important first step into a professional work environment. WISE positions are available in nearly every academic discipline and administrative area of the College. Our own staff and faculty serving as caring supervisors who can share professional guidance and correct in “educational moments” better prepare our students to be successful in their internships, graduate programs, and first full-time jobs post-Wabash.

**Information Sessions:** Straight-forward, recruiting-focused opportunities for students to hear directly from the employer or graduate program on program/company overview, opportunities available, application process. Typically, one-hour or less over a pizza lunch.

**Expert-in-Residence:** Students have opportunities to engage a special guest expert in a variety of formats. These tend to be more intimate - small group conversations over lunch or individual meetings. These interactions tend to be beneficial for students looking for industry-specific resume advice, career planning, or networking. Experts-in-Residence tend to be guests who are at more advanced stages in their careers and have a niche or specialized area of knowledge to share.

**Mock Interviews:** Offered during Mock Interview Weeks (typically once per semester) or on a one-off basis as requested. We match students with alumnus, recruiting partner, or other qualified professional who can simulate a real-world interview experience and provide critical feedback in a friendly environment. Mock interviews are great practice for a variety of professional situations and help

students to feel comfortable and confident in scenarios where they may need to speak about their liberal arts education, choice to attend an all-male institution, or articulate their strengths and goals.

**The Suit Room:** Arnold House is home to the totally free professional clothing closet. Sustained almost entirely by generous donations from alumni, staff, and friends of the College, and a dry cleaning partner, students can borrow suits and other professional clothing items any time during the year for any reason. It is well utilized and donations are always welcome. Many students come to Wabash without professional clothing items needed to feel confident and prepared for interviews and many other events that come up on campus.

**Professional Immersion Experiences (PIE Trips):** Have been reimagined many times over the years, with our signature New York PIE Trip being nearly 15 years old. PIE Trips get students off campus to explore many different career tracks in a short amount of time, experience what it's like to live and work in a different city, navigate public transportation, enjoy a cultural event, and hear from alumni and other professionals to gain a great deal of insight. Students have the opportunity to compare and contrast organizational cultures and reflect on potential interests they may wish to further pursue in an internship, externship, or job. These experiences occur over school breaks and include a great deal of networking with alumni. Themes and locations are offered on a rotating basis but may include Chicago, Los Angeles, Denver, Washington D.C., Indianapolis, New York City, finance, marketing, entrepreneurship, politics and public service, and more.

### **Collaboration**

We always welcome the opportunity for an additional touchpoint with your students or to work with you to create programs that are meaningful for students across campus. Please feel welcome to reach out to me to discuss ideas for working together for the benefit of our students.

We are glad to setup resume workshops, mock interview programs, Strengths© sessions, or other customized programs to individual advising cohorts, Tutorial/EQ classes, or other groups you may work with. Please let us know how we can support the students you work with most directly!



## **Wabash College Counseling Center**

### **Staff:**

Jamie Sweet Douglas, MA, NCC, LMFTA, LMHC, LCAC

Counseling Center Director

Licensed Therapist

[douglasj@wabash.edu](mailto:douglasj@wabash.edu)

765-361-5592

Laura Dolph, MA, LMHC

Licensed Therapist

[dolphl@wabash.edu](mailto:dolphl@wabash.edu)

765-361-6252

**Joint email:** [counseling@wabash.edu](mailto:counseling@wabash.edu)

**Location:** Ginny Hays House (415 Crawford St.), 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

**Hours of Operation:** Monday through Friday during the academic school year.

**After Hours:** 765-361-6000 – (Campus Security) for non-life-threatening emergencies

**911 – for life-threatening emergencies**

### **Services:**

The Wabash College Counseling Center (WCCC) provides brief therapy for current Wabash students and their dependents, if any, and long-term therapy, as needed. There are no fees for service in the WCCC and no session limits. Students are responsible for any costs if a referral or hospitalization is recommended or required.

The WCCC is also available to provide presentations and/or resources for any mental health related issues.

### **Some reasons a student might seek counseling services:**

- Depression, including suicidal ideation
- Any diagnosed (or previously undiagnosed) mental health disorder
- Anxiety
- Substance Use Disorders (Substance use/mis-use is a big challenge on any college campus and is included in the Diagnostic and Statistic Manual of Mental Health Disorders)
- Sexual orientation or gender identity questions
- Relationship problems – friends, parents, roommates, intimate relationships
- Grief
- Eating disorders
- Adjustment to college
- Life transitions and life stressors
- Concerns about a friend

**Referrals:**

Anyone can refer a student to counseling – faculty, staff, friends, advisors, roommates, fraternity brothers...

**It is important to remember that our services are confidential and voluntary. We cannot force or require a student to attend counseling sessions.** We can receive information from a referral source but cannot share information with you unless a student signs a specific release of information. In cases of life-threatening emergency, the Dean of Students office will be notified and involved in supporting the student.

We always welcome questions from faculty, staff, and coaches who are concerned about a student, and students who are concerned for a friend.

**Two ways to make an appointment:**

- Email the WCCC at: [counseling@wabash.edu](mailto:counseling@wabash.edu)
- Call: 765-361-5592

**Student Health Services**

The Student Health Center, located upstairs in the Allen Athletic Center, is open Monday through Friday when classes are in session. A registered nurse is on duty daily. Dr. Scott Douglas or Dr. John Roberts will see students by appointment. Students must contact the Health Center by phone or e-mail to make an appointment this year. The phone number is 765-361-6265. Nurse Amidon can also be reached at [amidonc@wabash.edu](mailto:amidonc@wabash.edu). Appointments allow us to provide enough time for your needs, minimize time away from studies, and to keep sick and well people separated in the waiting area. There is no charge for Student Health Center visits; however, you may incur additional costs for laboratory testing or specialty referrals.

Students requiring medical services outside of normal Student Health Center hours are asked to call the office of Southside Family Medicine at 765-362-5789 and identify themselves as Wabash students. If you experience an emergency, call 911 or report to the Franciscan Health - Crawfordsville Emergency Department at 1710 Lafayette Road, north of Crawfordsville on State Road 231, 765-362-2800. If you require admission to the hospital, the hospital physicians will take care of you.

Care outside of Health Center hours is also available at the Ascension Ambulatory Care Center, 1684 Bush Lane (south of Crawfordsville on State Road 231 behind O'Reilly Auto Parts), Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This clinic is to be used only for urgent care that cannot wait until Student Health Center is open. Problems outside office hours can also be directed to the private office of Drs. Douglas and Roberts at 765-362-5789, Monday through Friday.

# Section III – First Year Courses, Placements, and Credit by Exam

- Academic Information
  - Freshman Tutorial (FRT-101)
  - Enduring Questions (FRC-101)
  - Conversion to Credit/No Credit Option
- Placements
  - World Languages
    - Classical Languages (Greek and Latin)
    - Modern Languages (Chinese, French, German, Spanish)
    - Background Credit in Language Courses
  - English Composition Requirement & Placement in ENG-101
  - Mathematics Placement
    - General Guidelines for Placement Within the Calculus Sequence
    - Background Credit in Math Courses
  - Dual Credit
  - Wabash Departmental Exams
- Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and other Credit by Exam
  - AP Exam Equivalencies
  - IB Exam Equivalencies
  - Cambridge International Exam Equivalencies

## **Academic Information**

*2022-23 First-year student Experience Leaders*

*Colin McKinney, 765-361-6314 (through June 30)*

*Jeff Drury, 765-361-6296*

*Neil Schmitzer-Torbert, 765-361-6076 (beginning July 1)*

### **Freshman Tutorial (FRT-101)**

During the Fall Semester of his first year, every Wabash student enrolls in a Freshman Tutorial (FRT-101). This class, limited to sixteen members, introduces freshmen to academic experiences characteristic of the liberal arts at Wabash College and emphasizes academic skills basic to their Wabash education.

Instructors (who may also be the student's academic advisor) select topics of importance to them and ones they judge to be of interest to students. Students need not have had previous experience with the topic in order to enroll in a particular Tutorial. Although the topics, often interdisciplinary and non-traditional, vary among the Tutorials, all freshmen engage in common intellectual experiences and practice both written and oral self-expression. Reading, speaking, research, and writing assignments will vary with individual instructors, but the goals of every Tutorial remain the same: to read texts with sensitivity, to think with clarity, and to express one's thoughts (orally and in writing) with precision and persuasion—all in terms of each Tutorial's particular subject.

All Tutorials will meet on Tuesday & Thursday at 9:45 a.m. The schedule of the student's other classes should be set so as not to conflict with the Tutorial. In June, Tutorial enrollments are assigned with as much adherence as possible to topic preferences expressed by the students as part of the onboarding process through the Wabash Admissions Office. Students should have selected a Tutorial that is interesting to them, regardless of their concerns about possible majors.

Once assigned to a Tutorial, a student will not be able to register for another Tutorial. Therefore, students should have selected their Tutorial preferences carefully after reading the on-line Tutorial descriptions. Students who did not complete the on-line Tutorial registrations were randomly assigned to a section with available seats.

Students are not permitted to withdraw from Freshman Tutorial.

### **Enduring Questions (FRC-101)**

*Enduring Questions* is a required first-year student colloquium offered during the spring semester. It is devoted to engaging students with fundamental questions of humanity from multiple perspectives and to fostering a sense of community. Each section of the course includes a small group (approximately 16) of students who consider together classic and contemporary works from multiple disciplines. In so doing, students confront what it means to be human and how we understand ourselves, our relationships, and our world.

The daily activity of the course most often involves discussion, and students complete multiple writing assignments for the course. As such, assessment of student performance emphasizes written and oral expression of ideas. In addition to regular class sessions, students may attend affiliated speakers and programs both on and off-campus.

Students may not withdraw from Enduring Questions. All students must pass the course to graduate from Wabash.

### **Conversion to Credit/No Credit Option**

Students with fewer than 15 earned credits toward a Wabash degree have the option of converting as many as two courses total, and no more than one course in any semester, to grading on the basis of Conversion to Credit/No Credit (listed on the transcript as either "CC" or "NC"). *Note: this option applies to courses, not credits. A CC/NC option used in a ½ credit course counts as one of the two available chances to select CC/NC grading.*

A student exercising this option will receive a grade of CC for a course in which a grade of D or higher would normally be received; a grade of NC will be recorded in cases when an F would have been received. A grade of CC will earn credit toward graduation for a student and can be used in a course that meets distribution requirements. Neither the grade of CC nor the grade of NC will carry any value in computing the student's GPA.

A student may exercise the CC/NC grading option for a full credit course after the start of the 7th week of the semester and until the deadline for withdrawing from the course with a W. A student may exercise the CC/NC grading option for a half-credit course after the start of the 4th week of the course and until the deadline for withdrawing from the course with a W.

A course grade of CC does not fulfill prerequisite requirements for other courses and does not meet requirements for a major or a minor. Grades of CC may be accepted as fulfillment of co-requisite requirements in a major at the discretion of academic departments or program committees.

Only one course with a grade of CC can be applied to a single distribution area in a student's degree program. (For example, students are required to complete three credits in Behavioral Sciences – only one of those credits can have a CC grade.)

The following courses are not eligible for the CC/NC grading option for any students: First-year student Tutorial (FRT-101); First-year student Colloquium/Enduring Questions (FRC-101); and ENG-101. **Beginning in Fall 2024, students with fewer than eight (8) earned credits can use the CC/NC option for any eligible course; students with at least eight (8) but fewer than 15 earned credits are eligible to use the CC/NC grading option in courses at the 200-level or above.**

The decision to exercise the CC/NC grading option in a course is final and irreversible. The signature of the student's advisor is required to exercise the CC/NC grading option.

## **Placements**

### **World Language Placements**

All Wabash students must complete a World Language distribution requirement to graduate. Typically, a student's enrollment in World Language courses is based on the results of a language placement tests he completes prior to enrollment (this should be completed prior to his attendance at Wabash 101 in June). World languages offered at Wabash include Chinese, French, German, Greek, Latin, and Spanish.

The distribution requirement in World Languages can be satisfied by any *one* of the following means:

- Completing the 101 + 102 sequence in any language offered at Wabash (Chinese, French, German, Greek, Latin, and Spanish);
- Completing the 103 course in either Spanish or French;
- Completing a course at the 201 level or higher in any language offered at Wabash

Students should take the placement test for all languages they studied in high school, even if they don't think they want to continue studying the same language(s) at Wabash. The results of the placement tests determine the level at which they would begin study in that language at Wabash. A student is not permitted to register for a world language course that is lower than his placement in that language.

### **Classical Language Placement (Greek, Latin)**

Students who have had any previous experience with Latin ought to take the online Latin Placement Exam in the spring or over the summer before their First-year student year. Those who have had more than two years of Latin must take the exam. Generally, if the latter student wishes to continue in Latin, he will be placed in Latin 201 or higher, depending on his placement test results. Occasionally a student may place in Latin 102; that student is encouraged to audit Latin 101 in the fall semester. (Alternatively, that student may wish to enroll in Greek 101 in the fall semester, since his knowledge of Latin should give him a head start with Greek, and he will be earning credit for the course.) Students who have studied ancient Greek in high school are encouraged to take the placement exam in Greek through arrangement with the Classics Department; the Greek exam is not offered online.

### **Using Greek and Latin to satisfy the Language Requirement**

Students may use either Greek or Latin to satisfy the College language requirement. Advisors should stress the importance of beginning Greek and Latin language training early, so that students will not miss the opportunity of majoring in the language because of a late start.

Students who test into Latin 201 or higher via the Latin Placement Exam can fulfill the language requirement with that one course. If a student who places into Latin 201 completes the course with a grade of B- or better, he will receive an additional course credit in Latin. This course credit does not count towards the major or minor, but it can be counted for distribution either in the Language Studies group or in the Fine Arts/Literature category, depending on the student's program.

### **Phi Beta Kappa Eligibility**

In order for a student to qualify for Phi Beta Kappa, he must complete study of a foreign language through the Intermediate level. For students studying Greek and Latin, that means through Greek or Latin 201. If a student begins his study of Greek or Latin at Wabash, this is a three-semester commitment (101, 102, 201).

### **Advantages of Greek and Latin across the Curriculum**

Greek and Latin are recommended for any student, not just the best students. Both are complex languages, but neither course has a significant oral/aural component. Moreover, the study of Greek and Latin can help the student hone his logical skills and improve his vocabulary and understanding of the English language.

Both languages are recommended for students interested in **Mathematics** or **Computer Science**, given the highly logical structure of both languages. Both are recommended also for students pursuing a major in **Political Science** or **PPE (Philosophy, Politics, Economics)**; these languages and their ancient cultures shape the terminology and theories that underlie modern politics. And both can be useful for students interested in **Philosophy**, since key philosophical terminology derives from Greek and Latin, and major philosophical schools of thought trace their roots to Greco-Roman antiquity.

**Latin** is especially recommended for **Pre-Law** students, given that many legal terms are Latin.

**Greek** is especially recommended for **Pre-Health students**, since Greek is the basis for many medical and scientific terms used in English. Greek is also essential for anyone who wants to pursue **Religion** with a focus on Christianity; generally, students can read the New Testament in Greek easily after a year of basic language instruction.

### **Modern Language Placement (Chinese, French, German, Spanish)**

Students who wish to continue at Wabash with a language studied in high school must enroll at the level determined by our departmental placement policy. Students who have taken at least two years of a language in high school will typically begin at the 201 level or higher. Placement is determined by the Computerized Adaptive Placement Exam and reference to high school transcripts.

REMEMBER: Any student may begin at the 101 level in a language that is new to him. For example, a student who is placed in SPA-301 can choose to enroll in FRE-101 or GER-101 and complete the requirement with the elementary sequence.

### **Background Credit in Language Courses**

A student who starts with the third semester course or higher (201 or 301 level) of a language and completes that course with a B- or higher also receives one elective credit for the course immediately preceding the one he has taken. For example, a student who places into SPA-201, takes this course, and

earns a B- or higher also receives an additional credit for SPA-102 upon completion. **SUCH CREDIT DOES NOT COUNT TOWARD A MAJOR OR MINOR IN THE LANGUAGE.**

A student need not earn a grade of B- or better to fulfill the language requirement. Any non-failing grade in the appropriate courses will satisfy the World Language distribution requirement for graduation. For example, a student who places into SPA-201, takes this course, and receives a grade of C has still satisfied his World Language distribution requirement – he just doesn't get the additional background credit for SPA-102.

### **English Composition Requirement and Placement in ENG-101**

Some new students will be placed into ENG-101 Composition. This course will already be on their schedules when they arrive at Wabash 101. If a student does not have ENG-101 on his schedule, he does not have to take the course and is considered to have satisfied the English Composition requirement for graduation.

If your advisee has been placed into ENG-101:

- It does NOT indicate a deficit. We would offer ENG-101 to everyone if we had enough faculty to do so.
- It means he will have at least two classes in his first semester (ENG-101 and First-year student Tutorial) that are small and afford lots of one-on-one interaction with faculty.

Why was he placed into ENG-101?

- We count the number of seats we can offer and then place students into those seats based on high school GPA and standardized test scores. We think he could benefit from more practice in writing (as could anyone), but we don't think he is behind his peers or in need of remediation.

What if you think we made an error in placement?

- Contact me at [benedicc@wabash.edu](mailto:benedicc@wabash.edu) or text me at (765) 918-7192. I'm happy to talk to your advisee and make a more personalized placement recommendation.
- If you have a student who was not placed into ENG-101 but expresses interest, steer him toward ENG-202 (Writing with Power & Grace), an intermediate writing class offered most semesters (although sadly not this one—he'll have to wait until the spring).

What if the section of ENG-101 assigned to your advisee is at an inconvenient time?

- Students are randomly slotted into ENG-101 sections. You will see this information in the student's schedule.
- If the time assigned to your advisee doesn't work for him, the simplest fix is to switch him with another of your advisees who has also been placed into ENG-101 at a different time. Let me and the registrar know that you are requesting a switch.
- Note that ENG-101 sections are capped at 15 so that each student can have individual attention. Please avoid adding a student to a different section without swapping another student out.



- If you don't have another advisee who can swap times, contact me and I will arrange a swap if possible.
- Caveat: ENG-101-01 (Benedicks, MWF 9-9:50am) is a section for WLAIIP students **only**. Do not switch students into or out of this class.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Crystal Benedicks, Director of Writing Across the Curriculum, at [benedicc@wabash.edu](mailto:benedicc@wabash.edu) or (765) 918-7192 (call or text).

### **Mathematics Placement**

All incoming freshmen will take the same algebra-based Mathematics Placement exam during the summer through Canvas. Recommended mathematics courses will be based on this exam, Math SAT/ACT score, AP scores, grades in high school calculus (if taken), and high school rank. Some students will be given immediate course credit based on their AP scores. Once AP scores are received and recorded, you will be able to see them for an advisee on the Test Scores tab of his record in Self Service/Student Planning. They are usually sent to Wabash in late June, *assuming that the student has directed the College Board to do so.*

| Advisee         | Appropriate 1 <sup>st</sup> Course in the MAT-100-111-112-223 Sequence (Calculus through Linear Algebra) | Appropriate Mathematics Distribution Courses for Freshmen<br>(These do <b>not</b> count toward a mathematics major or minor) |                                  |                                 |                                   |
|-----------------|--|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                 |  | MAT-106 or MAT-178 Topics  | MAT-103 Probability (1/2 credit) | MAT-104 Statistics (1/2 credit) | MAT-108 Discrete Math (fall only) |
| Adams, John     | 112  |  |                                  |                                 | 108                               |
| Baker, Fred     | 100  | 106 or 178   | 103                              | 104                             | 108                               |
| Collins, Milt   | 111  | 106 or 178   | 103                              | 104                             | 108                               |
| Douglass, Henry | 100 or 111   | 106 or 178   | 103                              | 104                             | 108                               |
| Evenson, Phil   | 223  |  |                                  |                                 | 108                               |
| Franke, George  | 111 or 112   |  |                                  |                                 | 108                               |

### **Placement Guidelines**

Many students take MAT-111 "just because it's the next math course" and they wind up in a class that is difficult and not interesting to them. If a student does not particularly like mathematics and has no interest in an area of study that requires it, there is no need to take calculus. The department offers

more appropriate courses that satisfy the Quantitative Literacy distribution requirement. These are listed in chart above and need not be taken in his first year.

The only Wabash majors that require calculus through at least MAT-111 are: Biochemistry, Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, Financial Economics, Mathematics, and Physics. If a student is interested one of these majors, or the dual-degree engineering program, then the course listed in the “Calculus through Linear Algebra” column is the recommended place to begin. The need to take the recommended course during the first semester depends on the student’s intended major; please refer to the requirements for the relevant department or program.

### **General Guidelines for Placement Within the Calculus Sequence**

**MAT-223:** This student is a powerhouse (one or two students a year are placed here). Taking MAT-223 in the fall is highly recommended, and the student should seek out one of the mathematics professors to discuss his interest in mathematics.

**MAT-112:** The student has had a solid experience with calculus and is strongly encouraged to continue with MAT-112 in the fall. Even if he is interested in a major that only requires MAT-111, please encourage him to take MAT-112 as it keeps more options open to him.

**MAT-111 or 112:** Not quite as strong on paper as the 112 students. If he doesn’t take 112 right away in the fall, he is probably better off starting in MAT-111. If the student takes MAT-112, keep one of the MAT-111 time slots open in the student’s schedule to allow him to switch to 111 if 112 proves too difficult.

**MAT-111:** This student should be up for the challenge of MAT-111. Students in the fall who find themselves overwhelmed in MAT-111 are often able to drop back to MAT-100. It is recommended to leave the MAT-100 timeslot open just in case.

**MAT-100 or 111:** Not quite as strong on paper as the 111 students. This student should probably not take both MAT-111 and an economics course in his first semester. The student may also want to avoid taking MAT-111 and a laboratory science course, though different science departments differ on that recommendation. If the student takes MAT-111, keep the MAT-100 time slot open in the student’s schedule to allow him to switch to 100 if 111 proves too difficult.

**MAT-100:** This course is solely intended for students who intend to major in a discipline that requires calculus, but who need a review of topics necessary for the study of calculus. Students not intending to go on to MAT-111 should not take MAT-100. Enrollment in MAT-100 is by instructor permission only and students interested in taking the course should contact the instructor of the course to discuss his plans.

### **Background Credit in Math Courses**

A student who places into MAT-112 or higher and completes that course with a grade of B- or higher also receives one credit for the course immediately preceding the one he has taken. For example, a student who places into MAT-112, takes this course, and earns a B- or higher also receives an additional credit for MAT-111 upon completion.

### **Dual Credit**

Some new students at Wabash will bring transcripts from other colleges reflecting courses that they completed while they were in high school. More often than not, these courses are dual credits – that is, they received both high school credit and college credit for taking the same course. Typically, these are intro-level courses. In recent years, dual credit opportunities for students have increased in frequency and popularity, as they are promoted by school districts as a way for families to save money on college, and serve as recruiting channels for the colleges that are offering college credit for these courses.

Wabash's policy on dual credits is more cautious than that of many other institutions. We will accept these courses for credit, but only after completion of a (usually higher-level) course in the same department at Wabash with a grade of B- or higher. The dual credit course is then awarded as background credit, much like the background credit in math or world languages described earlier. The credit received for a dual credit in this scenario is, by default, a general elective credit with no specific Wabash equivalency (but still counts toward the 34 required credits to graduate). At the department or program chair's discretion, a dual credit may be equated with a specific Wabash course and apply to a major or minor. If there is no corresponding department, program, or course at Wabash in which to enroll, no credit will be granted for the dual credit course. The regular rules of transfer credit still apply to dual credit courses as well: the transcribing institution must be regionally accredited; the coursework must be liberal arts in nature and acceptable to Wabash College; and the final grade in the course must be at least C-. An official academic transcript from the college that awarded the credit must be received in the Wabash Registrar's Office for credit to be transferred (i.e. a grade report or a high school transcript stating that this was a college course is not enough).

If a student earns college credits as high school student by completing courses on a college campus alongside students from the general college population, he may have those credits evaluated as transfer credit rather than dual enrollment credit, subject to the conditions for acceptance of transfer credit at Wabash stated above.

### **Wabash Departmental Exams**

Credit may be granted for Wabash-designed and administered examinations. Faculty members administering Wabash-designed examinations have the option to authorize credit with or without a grade. Not all departments or programs at Wabash offer credit by exam. Students seeking this option should consult with the appropriate chair of the department or program.

### **Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and other Credit by Exam**

A new student at Wabash may receive credit upon enrollment based on examination scores indicating a high level of achievement in the subject matter. Exams recognized by Wabash, and requirements for receiving credit, are listed below.

Credit by exam will not be granted, or will be removed from a student's credits toward graduation, when the student takes a comparable course that covers the same material. College placement examination results will take precedence over credit by exam. For example, AP credit will be forfeited if, by College placement examination, the student is required to take a beginning course. In all cases, the amount of credit awarded will be determined by the appropriate department.

#### **Advanced Placement (AP)**

The College grants credit for College Board Advanced Placement (AP) results with an Advanced Placement exam score of 4 or 5 in courses relevant to a Wabash academic program. The credit is recorded as elective credit and designated as XXXX-98 or XXXX-99 (where XXXX represents the Wabash department or program, e.g. ENGL = English).

Additionally, Department or Program Chairs may designate credit equivalencies for specific Wabash courses at their discretion, e.g. to meet prerequisite or distribution requirements, and with the Chair's permission, students may request the Registrar's Office to update to their program on that basis. The Mathematics program and the Modern and Ancient Languages program may grant or deny AP credit based on proficiency exam performance.

A table of AP Exam Equivalencies begins on the following page.

## AP EXAM EQUIVALENCIES

| Exam Title                                      | Score | Equivalency   | Credit        |
|---|-------|---|---------------|
| Art History                                     | 4, 5  | ART-101   | 1             |
| Biology   | 5     | BIOL-98 (without lab)   | 1             |
| Calculus AB                                     | 4, 5  | MAT-111   | 1             |
| Calculus BC                                     | 4, 5  | MAT-111 & MAT-112   | 2             |
| Chemistry                                       | 4, 5  | CHEM-98   | 1             |
| Computer Science A                              | 4, 5  | CSC-111   | 1             |
| Computer Science Principles                     | 4, 5  | CSC-101   | 1             |
| Economics - Micro & Macro (both exams required) | 4, 5  | ECO-101   | 1             |
| English Language/Composition                    | 4, 5  | ENGL-98   | 1             |
| English Literature/Composition                  | 4, 5  | ENGL-99   | 1             |
| Environmental Science                           | 4, 5  | ENST-98 (non-lab elective)  | 1             |
| French Language                                 | 4, 5  | FRE-101   | 1             |
| German Language                                 | 4, 5  | GER-101   | 1             |
| Government/Political Science -                  | 4, 5  | PSCI-AP92   | 1             |
| Government/Political Science - U.S.             | 4, 5  | PSCI-AP91   | 1             |
| History - European                              | 4, 5  | HIST-AP93   | 1             |
| History - U.S.                                  | 4, 5  | HIST-AP94   | 1             |
| History - World                                 | 4, 5  | HIST-AP92   | 1             |
| Music Theory                                    | 4, 5  | MUS-201   | 1             |
| Physics C (Electricity & Magnetism)             | 4, 5  | PHY-178 (non-lab) or PHY-110 if the student completes the labs for PHY-110          | 1             |
| Physics C (Mechanics)                           | 4, 5  | PHY-178 (non-lab) or PHY-109 if the student completes the labs for PHY-109          | 1             |
| Psychology                                      | 4, 5  | PSYC-99 or PSY-101 if the student takes a 200-level course and earns a B- or higher | 1             |
| Spanish Language                                | 4, 5  | SPA-101   | 1             |
| Statistics                                      | 4, 5  | MAT-103 & MAT-104   | 1 (1/2 + 1/2) |

Please contact the Registrar's Office at 765-361-6245 for questions about exams not listed. AP credits earned in Biology or Chemistry will *not* fulfill the college's laboratory science distribution requirement.

### **International Baccalaureate (IB)**

Courses completed for the International Baccalaureate Degree with a higher-level (HL) examination grade of 5, 6, or 7 may receive credit at Wabash, provided the course is liberal arts in nature and applicable to a Wabash academic program. International Baccalaureate credits may not be used for fulfilling science laboratory requirements. Academic departments or programs may place additional limits on the applicability of International Baccalaureate credits within their departments or programs.

### **IB EXAM EQUIVALENCIES**

| <b>Exam Title</b>                             | <b>Score</b> | <b>Equivalency</b>                     | <b>Credit</b> |
|---|--------------|--|---------------|
| Chemistry                                     | 5, 6, 7      | CHE-111 once CHE-111 labs are complete | 1             |
| Economics Macro & Micro (both exams required) | 5, 6, 7      | ECO-101                                | 1             |
| English Literature                            | 5, 6, 7      | ENGL-98                                | 1             |
| English Language & Literature                 | 5, 6, 7      | ENGL-99                                | 1             |
| History - Americas                            | 5, 6, 7      | HIS-200                                | 1             |
| Spanish                                       | 5, 6, 7      | SPA-101                                | 1             |
| Physics                                       | 5, 6, 7      | PHY-111 once PHY-111 labs are complete | 1             |

### **Cambridge Assessment International Education (CIE)**

Cambridge International Exams, A-Level, may receive credit subject to review by the appropriate department or program chair. While these exams are well-regarded in higher education for their rigor, Wabash does not have a long history of accepting or having students present these exams, and has only reviewed a limited number of them. The 6-point grading scale is A\*(a\*), A(a), B(b), C(c), D(d), and E(e), where A\*(a\*) is the highest grade and E(e) is the lowest.

Cambridge A-level exam results are most often presented by international students, or domestic students who completed secondary school abroad.

### **CIE EXAM EQUIVALENCIES**

| <b>Exam Title</b>  | <b>Score</b>      | <b>Equivalency</b> | <b>Credit</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 9700 - Biology     | A*(a), A(a), B(b) | BIOL-98 (no lab)   | 1             |
| 9701 - Chemistry   | A*(a), A(a), B(b) | CHE-111            | 1             |
| 9709 - Mathematics | A*(a), A(a), B(b) | MAT-111            | 1             |

### **College Level Examination Program (CLEP)**

College Level Examination Program credits may receive credit subject to review by the appropriate department or program chair. CLEP exams are not as common as they once were, and have not been presented for consideration at Wabash for many years.

# Section IV – Advising Pre-Engineering, Pre-Health, or Pre-Law Students

- Special Programs or Areas of Preparation
  - Dual-Degree Engineering
  - Pre-Health Professions
  - Pre-Law Program

## Special Programs or Areas of Preparation

### Dual Degree Engineering Programs

For students interested in engineering, Wabash College offers dual degree engineering programs with Columbia University, Washington University-St. Louis, and Purdue University. After its completion (typically 3 years at Wabash, 2 years at the engineering school), a student will simultaneously receive a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wabash and a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering or Applied Science from the engineering school. Detailed requirements and other links can be found at <http://www.wabash.edu/academics/physics/engineering>.

Each of these programs is different, and not all engineering majors are available with these programs. These programs are ambitious—they require a minimum GPA of between 3.25 and 3.5, and almost certainly a minor in mathematics. Depending on the student's major, he may need to take 5 credits during several of his semesters at Wabash. *Advisors should be aware that this is a rigorous program that requires careful planning and a strong aptitude in science and mathematics.*

Note: Many of our students who pursue engineering after Wabash do not participate in these dual degree programs. Often, they will complete a normal science major and then go on to receive another bachelor's or higher degree in engineering at another school.

### **Courses to be Taken During the First-year student Year**

Students who plan to participate in the 3-2 program should, in their First-year student year, take:

- MAT-111 and 112 (or 112 and 223 if initially placed into 112)
- Two physics courses [PHY-111 and 112]
- Engineering students often skip CSC-101 and take CSC-111 with a prerequisite waiver (contact the instructor)

### **Advising Freshmen with Engineering Interests**

Ask the student if he is considering dual degree engineering. **If a student wants to do the 3-2 option, he needs to start immediately!** Putting the decision off a semester may preclude the student from participating.

Have the student schedule a meeting with Professor McKinney, Tompkins or Westphal in their first semester.

If student is placed into MAT-100, he is almost certainly not a candidate for a 3-2 timeframe, but he could still consider a pre-engineering track and should come talk to us ASAP.

If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to contact:

- Nathan Tompkins, Goodrich 312, x6305, [tompkinn@wabash.edu](mailto:tompkinn@wabash.edu)
- Chad Westphal, Goodrich 208, x6101, [westphac@wabash.edu](mailto:westphac@wabash.edu)
- Colin McKinney, Goodrich 109, x6314, [mckinnec@wabash.edu](mailto:mckinnec@wabash.edu)



## Pre-Health Professions

<http://www.wabash.edu/academics/medicine/>

Medical school admission has transitioned to a holistic admissions process. The intent is to assess competitive students through competencies, rather than metrics alone. More information about the MCAT can be found at <https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/mcat2015/>.

In general, students will need to exhibit competencies in academic and interpersonal areas. Specific prerequisite coursework is as follows:

- *At least one year of Biology (BIO-111 + 112); Genetics (BIO-211) and Cell Biology (BIO-212) recommended \**
- *One year of general chemistry (CHE-111 + 241) \**
- *One year of organic chemistry (CHE-221 + 321) \**
- *One semester of Biochemistry (CHE-361) \**
- *One semester of Sociology (SOC-201)\**
- *One semester of Psychology (PSY-101)-preferably taken freshmen year \**
- *Additional psychology coursework if possible (e.g. PSY- 222 Social Psychology) \**
- *One year of physics (PHY-109 + 110 OR PHY-111 + 112)\**
- *One semester of Calculus or statistics (PSY-201 + 202 can be helpful)*

These courses will help prepare student for the MCAT, and therefore should be taken before a student sits for the MCAT2015 exam. Because pre-med students need to take multiple science courses, advisors should place them in BIO-111 or CHEM 111 their freshmen year to begin the science sequences. If a student plans to apply to **dental school**, the following prerequisite courses are required for the Indiana University School of Dentistry:

|                         |            |                                    |
|-------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| *Biology                | 1 year     | our BIO-111 + 112                  |
| *Inorganic Chemistry    | 1 year     | our CHE-111 + 241                  |
| *Organic Chemistry      | 1 year     | our CHE-221 + 321                  |
| Physics                 | 1 year     | our PHY-111 + 112 OR PHY-109 + 110 |
| ! Anatomy               | 1 semester | our BIO-221                        |
| ! Physiology            | 1 semester | our BIO-315                        |
| Biochemistry            | 1 semester | our CHE-361                        |
| Introductory Psychology | 1 semester | our PSY-101                        |
| Microbiology            | 1 semester | our BIO-225                        |

= These courses are necessary for the DATs and should therefore be completed by the end of a student's junior year.

! = These courses may not necessarily be offered every year, so students need to plan ahead in order to fit them into their four-year plan.

The science and mathematics requirements for other health professional schools [Veterinary Medicine, Optometry, etc.] may differ slightly from those for medical schools. Some health professional schools may require more courses in certain areas and fewer courses in other areas. Students should contact Jill Rogers ([Rogersji@wabash.edu](mailto:Rogersji@wabash.edu)) to determine admissions prerequisites and requirements.

Inform your advisees to watch for the announcements of the Pre-Health Professions Information Meetings, which are held in both the fall and spring semesters each year. If you have any questions about advising students who are interested in health professional school admission, Jill Rogers ([Rogersji@wabash.edu](mailto:Rogersji@wabash.edu); x6171) will be glad to help you.

## **Pre-Law Program**

### **Advising Freshmen Interested in the Pre-Law Program**

**You have come to the right place!** Wabash has a long tradition of producing excellent lawyers.

**No particular courses are required in the first year.** There are no particular courses a first-year student must take if he wants to attend law school. Pre-law advisors will have specific course recommendations after first-year student year for students interested in law. At this point, just focus on making good grades!

**Any major works—find one you love (and that loves you back).** Because the law regulates virtually everything, and because Wabash requires a well-rounded education, *any* Wabash major will prepare you for law school. Seriously.

**Come to our call-out meeting.** There are many prelaw activities students can participate in beginning their first-year student year. Watch your email and come to our call-out meeting.

In the meantime, you can read the summary in the [Academic Bulletin](#) or contact the Pre-Law advisor, Professor Scott Himsel ([himsels@wabash.edu](mailto:himsels@wabash.edu)).

# **APPENDIX A – MEDICAL SCHOOL PREPARATION AND ADMISSION GUIDE**

## Medical School Preparation and Admission Guide

Making the decision to become a physician involves maturity, commitment, and perseverance. Individuals accepted into medical school demonstrate a calling to serve others and an aptitude in the medical sciences. Nationally, about 40% of applicants are accepted into medical school each year (Wabash's acceptance rate is significantly higher). The application process itself is quite involved and begins nearly two years before matriculation. SO...what are some issues you should be focusing on now, as an undergraduate, if you are considering medical school?

- Do I have what it takes to gain admission and succeed in medical school?
- What co-curricular and extra-curricular activities should I become involved in?
- What does the application process consist of, and when should I start?
- Why do I want to be a doctor?
- What if I don't get in?

### **Do I have what it takes to gain admission and succeed in medical school?**

Indeed, admission into medical school is competitive, and medical schools have become very good at selecting students who will succeed. Students may apply to allopathic medical school (MD) or osteopathic medical school (DO). (For more information on allopathic medical school, visit <https://www.aamc.org/students/>; for more information on osteopathic medical school, visit <http://www.aacom.org/>).

A competitive candidate for medical schools needs to demonstrate excellence in many areas.

- Academic performance (a minimum GPA of 3.6 for MD schools, 3.4 for DO schools)
- Medical College Admission Test score (MCAT) well above the average
- Community involvement with a commitment to service
- Professional exposure

Beginning in 2012, through the direction of the American Association of Medical Colleges, medical schools began redesigning their admissions process to review an applicant's competencies in academics (though MCAT and GPA), Interpersonal skills, and Intrapersonal skills. See <https://www.aamc.org/initiatives/admissions/>

In short, medical schools want their students to be academically successful, well-rounded with a strong desire to serve. With this in mind, it is important that undergraduates begin thinking about their college career early on in the process. This doesn't mean you have to decide every class you'll need to take over your four years of study in your first semester. In fact, you don't even need to declare a major until the end of your sophomore year. But you need to commit to learning and performing your academic best when you arrive at college. Certainly, medical schools have accepted students who have started out slow in college (and they definitely acknowledge those students who underachieve early

on, but later demonstrate academic excellence), but it is challenging to bring your cumulative GPA up above a 3.5 if your first few semesters hover around a 3.0

In the same way, use your undergraduate years, including your summers, to become involved in your school and greater community (see below), along with increasing your knowledge of medicine as a profession (again, see below). Don't expect to cram activities and internships in at the end of your senior year. Not only will this be obvious to the admissions committees of medical schools, but it might keep you from developing your "humanitarian" side.

### **What co-curricular and extra-curricular activities should I become involved in?**

When you're not studying, in lab or class, you should carefully consider how you're spending your time. We want our future doctors to understand the world around them, right? Medical schools like to see candidates who are involved in their communities. Keep in mind--*there is no silver bullet!* You need to decide what energizes and motivates you. Each person has their own preferences and circumstances! Some examples include:

- Wabash community (sports, newspaper, clubs of interest, research, etc.)
- Crawfordsville community (volunteering, working with local schools, public health department, health clinics, etc.)
- Home town (service projects and volunteerism)
- World/global community (service abroad, mission trips, study abroad, immersion learning)

Finding meaning and developing a personal stake in your activities demonstrates maturity and commitment. It will probably also make you a more appealing person!

If you're lucky, your volunteerism and service will somehow involve medicine and healthcare, or research. If not, that's alright, too, but BE SURE that you obtain some professional exposure along the way. At the very least, you must have some shadowing opportunities with physicians or other healthcare providers. Internships or service projects in a medical setting are even better, as they allow you to develop a deeper understanding of what it means to be a doctor and help those in need of medical care. Having exposure to the practice of medicine is an unwritten prerequisite to getting in to most medical schools. If you need assistance finding professionals to work with, your pre-health advisor can get you started.

### **What does the application process consist of and when should I start?**

The *short* answer is this: applying to allopathic and osteopathic medical schools begins at the end of your junior year (for those hoping to matriculate the summer after graduation). To learn more about these two professions visit [www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org) (MD) and [www.aacom.org](http://www.aacom.org) (DO). In both cases, a centralized application service exists so that you apply only one time, regardless of how many medical schools you choose to apply to (although if you plan to apply to both MD and DO programs, you must

apply to each application service). For MD's the application is called AMCAS; for DO's it is called AACOMAS.

The application has multiple sections where you:

- List your grades and request transcripts from all colleges you've attended
- List your undergraduate activities, organizations, awards, services, internship, shadowing
- Compose a personal statement

Additionally, the Wabash Pre-Health committee writes a Letter of Recommendation for you. This letter is generated after you solicit a minimum of 5 faculty members who can evaluate your academic performance. Make sure to get to know your faculty! Professors generally appreciate working with students and getting to know you in and out of class. The better they understand your character and strengths, the more meaningful their evaluation letter will be. Once your letter is complete, we will send it directly to the application service(s) you choose to apply to (you will never see the letter). The process of soliciting faculty begins in the spring of your junior year.

Finally, you must take the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) before your application to medical school is considered complete. The MCAT contains 4 sections:

- Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems
- Chemical and Physical Foundations of Living Systems
- Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior
- Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills

*(read below to understand prerequisite coursework and timing for MCAT2015)*

Once your AMCAS/ AACOMAS application is complete, your letter of recommendation submitted, and your MCAT taken, you will be asked to submit "secondary" applications to many of the medical schools you've applied to. Qualified applicants will be invited for an interview in the fall of your senior year. Many medical schools have rolling admissions, meaning you will be informed of your acceptance anytime following your interview up until August after your senior year.

Now for the *long* answer...in order to (1) complete the coursework that will allow you to demonstrate academic preparation for medical school, (2) study for the MCAT exam, and (3) have the extracurricular activities to be competitive for medical school, you really need to start working on your candidacy early on. **Over the next few years, medical schools will be reevaluating their prerequisite requirements (and in some cases eliminating them). Instead, medical schools will begin assessing "competencies," both in academics and character.**

Stay informed through your pre-health advisor and at [aamc.org](http://aamc.org) as medical schools begin to clarify and define a core set of entry-level competencies. At this time, we recommend Wabash students take the following courses to demonstrate academic preparedness:

- *At least one year of Biology (111, 112); Genetics (211) and Cell Biology (212) recommended \**
- *One year of general chemistry (111, 241) \**
- *One year of organic chemistry (221 and 321) \**
- *One semester of Biochemistry (361) \**
- *One semester of Psychology (101) \**
- *One semester of statistics (PSY-201)*
- *One semester of sociology (PSC-201/SOC-201)\**
- *One year of physics (109 and 110, or 111 and 112)\**
- *One semester of Calculus*

\* These courses will help prepare student for the MCAT, and therefore should be taken before a student sits for the MCAT exam.

As you can see, pre-meds need to take quite a few courses in order to feel confident about the MCAT. With this in mind, consider several approaches:

1. If you come to Wabash with very strong math and science preparation and test into at least Calculus 1 (MAT-111), you might consider doubling up on your sciences from the beginning (first semester). Speak with your freshman advisor about this, because starting out your first semester with two labs is challenging and not for everyone!
2. If you decide to take only one science course your freshman year, you will likely be considering either Chem 111 or Bio 111. **Choose first based on your interest.** But if you don't have a strong inclination one way or the other, enrolling in CHE-111 freshman year will allow you to sequence your science coursework in a way that makes the most sense.
3. Consider a *gap year* in between Wabash and medical school. Most college students do not like to think about adding another year to their journey towards physician-hood. However, for many students, taking an extra year to prepare for medical school makes a lot of sense. Here's why--In order to matriculate directly into medical school from Wabash, students need to take the MCAT at the end of their junior year. This gives students only three years to prepare for the science and social science content listed above. For some, this is challenging but workable; for others it is unrealistic. For example, students who come to Wabash lacking strong math/science preparation will likely struggle in their science courses if they overload their schedules. Much better to do well in your coursework and develop your skill sets (and earn a respectable GPA) by taking a little longer. Medical schools will respect this decision, and it will give you another year to learn about your future calling. All of this demonstrates maturity and perseverance, two very important qualities for our future doctors. Work with your prehealth advisor and your academic advisor to navigate the path that is right for you, and to look over options for your gap year between Wabash and medical school.

## Why do I want to be a doctor?

This is really the most difficult question of all, and it's one that you need to be prepared to answer. For one, you will undoubtedly be asked it when you interview. And you will certainly need to speak to your motivation in your personal statement on the application. Even more, who wants to put their health in the hands of somebody who is ambivalent about their professional calling? Becoming a physician is one of the biggest decisions you will make in your life so we want you to be thoughtful and mature in the process.

Here are some questions to ponder to help you answer this question:

- What have I done to serve people over the past few years and how has it affected me?
- Who do I admire and why? What kind of work do they do?
- What have been the most gratifying experiences of my college career, and my life?
- In my academic and co-curricular achievements, what personal qualities have helped me to be successful?
- Who do I want to be in 10 years?

It's clear after reflecting on these questions why medical schools want you to be well-rounded. The experiences, activities, achievements and professional exposure you should possess when you apply will help grow and define your character and clarify your vocational calling.

## AND NOW FOR THE QUESTION WE KNOW YOU'RE ALL THINKING ABOUT:

### What if I don't get in???

Of course, there will be those of you disappointed. And there are **many** opinions out there, some better than others. But before getting to those, this is probably a good time for some honest self-examination:

- Do you feel you have the academic ability, curiosity and work-ethic to be a competitive candidate?
  - If you performed in the mediocre range on your MCATs, struggled to get B's and C's in your science classes and feel lucky to graduate with a 3.2, you may want to think about other career options.
  - On the other hand, if you were a slow starter and didn't invest your mind or your time fully on medical school admission, but your MCATs were competitive and you're ready to give it your all, consider reapplying after strengthening your application (see below).
- What is your "plan B?" Everyone should have one, and now is the time to look at your other career choice(s). If you still feel that medical school is where you want to be, consider reapplying after a year (see below). If not, look at this experience as a time for reflection and move ahead in other directions. Career Services is a great place to start if you need suggestions and guidance.



**How do you go about re-applying the next year?** Generally speaking, medical schools don't like to see the same application twice, so if you don't get in the first time around, you'll need to do something after graduation that enhances your candidacy. Consider meeting with your pre-health advisor as well as a member of a medical school admissions committee. You'll want to have a frank conversation about the weak points of your application.

- The most standard route to take is entering a "**Post Bac Program.**" These are one- or two-year curricula designed to enhance your GPA. You will take rigorous science courses, allowing you to demonstrate to medical schools your ability to handle challenging coursework. There are many programs out there, and some options are better for students than others, so check with your pre-health advisor before applying to these programs.
- If your MCAT is the weak link, you should consider additional preparation and a re-take.
- Students who lack experience and volunteerism may choose to spend a year doing research, working in a medical setting, or performing service work.

If you are committed and have the desire to be a doctor, don't give up. Medical schools like to see perseverance and dedication. Reapplying certainly demonstrates this!

If you have questions about pursuing medical school or other health professions, please contact **Jill Rogers**, the Wabash Pre-Health Professions advisor, at [rogersji@wabash.edu](mailto:rogersji@wabash.edu). And visit [www.wabash.edu/academics/medicine/](http://www.wabash.edu/academics/medicine/)

# **APPENDIX B - DENTAL SCHOOL PREPARATION AND ADMISSION GUIDE**

## Dental School Preparation and Admission Guide

Making the decision to become a dentist involves maturity, commitment, and perseverance. Individuals accepted to dental school demonstrate a calling to serve others, an aptitude in the health sciences, and an ability to work well with his/her hands. Dental school is becoming more and more competitive because of lifestyle and career satisfaction associated with the profession. At Wabash, typically 4-6 students will apply to dental school each year. The application process itself is quite involved and begins nearly two years before matriculation. SO...what are some issues you should be focusing on now, as an undergraduate, if you are considering dental school?

- Do I have what it takes to gain admission and succeed in dental school?
- What co-curricular and extra-curricular activities should I become involved in?
- What does the application process consist of, and when should I start?
- Why do I want to be a dentist? ➤ What if I don't get in?

### Do I have what it takes to gain admission and succeed in dental school?

More than ever, admission to dental school is competitive. And dental schools have become quite good at selecting students who have the desire and ability to be a dentist. A competitive candidate for dental school needs to demonstrate excellence in 4 areas:

1. Academic Performance (*minimum* undergraduate GPA of 3.4, with a strong science background)
2. DAT performance (academic average of 19 or higher, with no one score below 17. Special attention is paid to the PAT section, perceptual ability testing)
3. Community involvement with a commitment to serve
4. Professional exposure (this is REALLY important)

In short, dental schools want their students to be well-rounded and possess self-understanding. With this in mind, undergraduates should be thinking early on about your college careers. This doesn't mean that you'll have to decide every course you will enroll in over your 4 years of study in your first semester\*. In fact, you don't even need to declare a major until the end of your sophomore year. But you need to commit to learning and performing your academic best when you arrive at college. Certainly, dental schools have accepted students who start out slow in college (and they definitely acknowledge those students who underachieve early on, but later demonstrate academic excellence) but it is challenging to bring your cumulative GPA up to a 3.5 when your first several semesters hover around a 3.0.

(\*The IU school of dentistry requires one semester of physiology. Because Wabash offers physiology only every other year, and it is an upper-level biology course, this is one class you WILL need to plan early for. See your pre-health advisor to make sure you are on track to get in your prerequisites.)

In the same way, use your undergraduate years, including summers, to become involved in your school and greater community (see below), along with growing your understanding of the dental profession (again, see below). Don't expect to cram activities and internships in at the end of your

senior year. Not only will this be obvious to the admissions' committees of dental schools, but it might keep you from developing your "humanitarian" side.

### **What co-curricular and extra-curricular activities should I become involved in?**

When you're not studying, in lab or class, you should carefully consider how you're spending your time. We want our future dentists to understand the world around them, right? Dental schools like to see candidates who are involved in their communities.

- Wabash community (sports, newspaper, clubs of interest, research, etc)
- Crawfordsville community (volunteering, working in local schools, Red Cross, health clinics, etc)
  - Home town (service projects and volunteerism)
- World/global community (service abroad/study abroad)

Consider your interests when choosing how you want to spend your "free" time. Doing something you're personally invested in will demonstrate maturity and commitment, and it will make you a more appealing person.

If you're lucky, your volunteerism and service will somehow involve dentistry and healthcare, or research. If not, that's alright too, but BE SURE that you obtain some professional exposure along the way. At the very least, you must have some shadowing opportunities with dentists or other healthcare providers. Internships or service projects in a dental setting are even better, as they allow you to develop a deeper understanding of what it means to be a dentist and help those in need of healthcare. Having exposure to the practice of dentistry is an unwritten prerequisite to getting in to most dental schools, and if you need assistance in finding professionals to work with, your pre-health advisor can get you started.

### **What does the application process consist of and when should I start?**

The **short answer** is this: applying to dental school begins at the end of your junior year (if you wish to matriculate the summer after your senior year). See [aadsasinfo@aadsasweb.org](mailto:aadsasinfo@aadsasweb.org) for specific information on the timeline for applying to dental school. Almost all dental schools use a centralized application (AADSAS) so that you apply only one time, regardless of how many dental schools you are applying to.

The application has sections where you:

- List your grades and request transcripts from all colleges you've attended
- List your undergraduate activities, organizations, awards, services, internships, shadowing ➤  
Discuss your manual dexterity skills
- Compose a personal statement

Additionally, the Wabash Pre-Health Professions Committee writes a letter of recommendation for you. This letter is generated after you solicit 5 faculty members who can evaluate your academic performance. Make sure to get to know your faculty. Professors generally appreciate working with students and getting to know you in and out of class. The better they understand your character and strengths, the more meaningful their evaluation letter will be. Once your letter is complete, we will

send it to AADSAS, who will distribute it to the dental schools you have applied to (you will never see the letter). The process of soliciting faculty begins the spring of your junior year.

Finally, you must take the DAT before your application is complete. We recommend you take the DAT at the end of your junior year. Your pre-health advisor will discuss different options for preparation with you.

Once your AADSAS is complete, your letter of recommendation submitted, and your DAT taken, you will be asked to submit a “secondary” application to many of the dental schools you’ve applied to. Qualified applicants will be invited for an interview. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO HAVE ALL YOUR APPLICATION MATERIALS IN TO THE IU DENTAL SCHOOL BY JULY** in order to be reviewed for an early interview slot (September), especially for in-state applicants. Late applications have been responsible for qualified applicants not gaining admission their first year. Applicants will be informed of their acceptance no earlier than Dec. 1.

Now for the **long answer**...in order to (1) fulfill the prerequisites for dental school, (2) be prepared to take the DAT, and (3) have the extracurricular activities to be competitive for dental school, you need to start working early to become a competitive candidate. Most dental schools require the following coursework:

- 1 year general biology (BIO-111,112)
- 1 year general chemistry (CHE-111,241)
- 1 year organic chemistry (CHE-221, 321)
- 1 year physics (PHY-111,112)
- \*\*1 semester anatomy (BIO-221)
- \*\*1 semester physiology (BIO-315)
- \*\*1 semester microbiology (BIO-225)
- 1 semester Biochemistry (CHE-361)
- 1 semester psychology (PSY-101)

(A 3-D art course or a ceramics course – ART-121, ART-123 - is recommended to demonstrate manual dexterity)

\*\*some combination of these upper level bio courses is required at IU School of Dentistry and others. It is important to check with the individual dental schools and your pre-health advisor to understand individual school requirements.

See [www.wabash.edu/academics/medicine/](http://www.wabash.edu/academics/medicine/) for more information about prerequisites and Wabash courses.

When should you take these courses? This is where the careful planning comes into the picture. In order to sit for the DAT by late spring following your junior year, you will need to have at least one year of general biology completed along with one year of general chemistry and one year of organic chemistry. Therefore, you need all of these courses in your first three years at Wabash, so plan accordingly.

Finally, you will be filling out your application to dental school early in the summer between your junior and senior years. Therefore, you will need to have enough service and professional exposure experiences to demonstrate your commitment to dentistry. Internships, research experiences, service

projects, and the like will all be part of your application, so you will need to invest your time into community and professional activities early on.

WHERE should you apply? Most pre-dental students will apply to 4 or 5 schools. Where you apply depends on many factors and your pre-health advisor can discuss these with you when the time comes. There is one hard and fast rule, though: **you should absolutely apply to your state school!** And if your state of residence is not Indiana, you should also consider applying to the IU dental school, because of your state ties as a Wabash student.

### **Why do I want to be a dentist?**

This is really the most difficult question of all, and it's one that you need to be prepared to answer. For one, you will undoubtedly be asked this when you interview. And you will certainly need to speak to your motivation in your personal statement on the application. Even more, who wants to put their oral health in the hands of somebody who is ambivalent about their professional calling? Becoming a dentist is one of the biggest decisions you will make in your life so we want you to be thoughtful and mature in the process.

Here are some questions to ponder to help you answer this question:

- What have I done to serve people over the past few years and how has it affected me?
- Who do I admire and why? What kind of work do they do?
- What have been the most gratifying experiences of my college career, and my life?
- In my academic and co-curricular achievements, what personal qualities have helped me to be successful?
- Who do I want to be in 10 years?

It's clear, after reflecting on these questions, why dental schools ask you to be well-rounded. The experiences, activities, achievements and professional exposure you should have when you apply will help grow and define your character and clarify your vocational calling.

### **AND NOW FOR THE QUESTION WE KNOW YOU'RE ALL THINKING ABOUT:**

#### **What if I don't get in???**

Of course, there will be those of you disappointed. And there are **many** opinions and options out there (some better than others). Before getting to those, this is a good time for some honest self-examination:

- Do you feel you have the academic ability and curiosity to be a competitive candidate?
  - If you performed in the mediocre range on your DAT, struggled to get B's and C's in your science classes and feel lucky to graduate above a 3.0, you may want to think about other career options, because the academic pressure only gets harder in dental school.
  - On the other hand, if you were a slow starter and didn't invest your mind or your time fully on dental school, but your DAT was competitive and you're ready to give it your all, consider reapplying after strengthening your application (see below).

- What is your “plan B?” Everyone should have one, and now is the time to look at your other career choice(s). If you still feel that dental school is where you want to be, consider re-applying after a year (see below). If not, look at this experience as a time for reflection and move ahead in other directions. Career Services is a great place to start if you need suggestions.

How do you go about reapplying the next year? Generally speaking, dental schools don’t like to see the same application twice, so if you don’t get in the first time around, you’ll need to do something after graduation that enhances your candidacy. Consider meeting with your pre-health advisor as well as a member of a dental school admissions committee. You’ll want to have a frank conversation about the weak points of your application.

- The most standard route to take is to enter a “post bac program.” These are one- or two-year curricula designed to enhance your GPA (or help you meet the prerequisites of dental schools). You will take rigorous science courses, allowing you to demonstrate to dental school admission’s committees your ability to handle challenging coursework. There are many post-bac programs out there, and be wary! It is important to consult with your pre-health advisor and do your homework before applying to these programs.
- If your DAT was the weak link, you should consider additional preparation and a re-take.
- Students who lack experience and volunteerism may choose to spend a year doing research, working in a dental setting, or performing service work.

If you are competitive and have the desire to be a dentist, don’t give up. Dental schools like to see perseverance and commitment, and reapplying certainly demonstrates this!

If you have questions about pursuing dental school or other health professions, please contact Jill Rogers, the Wabash Pre-health Professions Advisor, at [rogersji@wabash.edu](mailto:rogersji@wabash.edu).