

are you interested in becoming a . . .

# DOCTOR, PHARMACIST OR VETERINARIAN?

There's never been a better time to think about a career in the healthcare professions. The industry is adding more jobs than any other group of occupations.

**19%**  
**JOB GROWTH  
THROUGH 2024**

**10 OF TOP 20 FASTEST-GROWING JOBS  
ARE IN HEALTHCARE**

**2.3 MILLION NEW JOBS THROUGH 2024**

## INDUSTRY GROWTH TIED TO:

### AGING POPULATION

By 2030, 1 in 5 Americans will be age 65 or older.

### PREVALENCE OF CHRONIC DISEASE

As of 2012, 117M people adults had 1 or more chronic health conditions.

### ACCESS TO HEALTH INSURANCE

89% of Americans had insurance in 2016.

### Why Pursue a Career in Healthcare

- Prestige and respect for the profession
- High potential for paid education
- High earnings potential
- Advancement opportunities
- Day-to-day excitement and job variety
- High job satisfaction

### 2016 Median Salaries

Chiropractors	\$67,520
Dentists	\$159,770
Nurse Practitioners & Midwives	\$107,460
Occupational Therapists	\$81,910
Optometrists	\$106,140
Pharmacists	\$122,230
Physical Therapists	\$85,400
Physicians & Surgeons	\$208,000
Veterinarians	\$88,770

### Characteristics of Healthcare Providers

- Desire to help others
- Social skills & empathy
- Cultural understanding
- Teamwork
- Strong communication skills
- Integrity
- Reliability & dependability
- Resilience & adaptability
- Critical-thinking skills
- Interest and aptitude in the sciences

## Determining if a Career in Healthcare Is Right for You

- Narrow down your field of interest through web research or by speaking with your guidance counselor.
- Talk to someone in the field to learn more about what they do and why they love their profession.
- Shadow a doctor or intern in a healthcare setting to determine if you enjoy the work and if it interests and inspires you.

# Pre-Health & Biomedical Sciences Degree Programs

Pursuing a pre-health or biomedical science degree will provide you the foundation of knowledge you'll need for all professional healthcare careers and will help you fulfill the prerequisites required for admission to most medical, dental, and veterinary schools and other health-related post-graduate programs.

## REQUIRED CLASSES

Behavioral sciences	Genetics
Biochemistry	Humanities
Biology/Zoology	Inorganic Chemistry
Calculus	Organic Chemistry
College English	Physics
College Mathematics	Psychology
Computer Science	

## YOU'LL ENJOY A PRE-HEALTH AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM IF YOU:

- Are interested in a career in healthcare but are not sure of your specific goals
- Plan to become a doctor, pharmacist, dentist, or veterinarian
- Enjoy studying the sciences and the thought of helping others

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN A PRE-HEALTH DEGREE PROGRAM

- Opportunities to volunteer, shadow or intern in healthcare settings
- Flexibility to pursue your pre-health degree while also exploring other interests
- Articulation agreements for early or guaranteed admission to post-graduate programs
- Strong pre-professional advising

Learn more about the Pre-Health and Biomedical Sciences Degree Program at the University of Northern Colorado.

[www.unco.edu/biology/programs](http://www.unco.edu/biology/programs)

Sources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/aging/pdf/state-aging-health-in-america-2013.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/overview/index.htm>

<https://www.bls.gov/ooH/healthcare/home.htm>

## WHY I CHOSE A PRE-HEALTH DEGREE?

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- A Student



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**NORTHERN**  
**COLORADO**