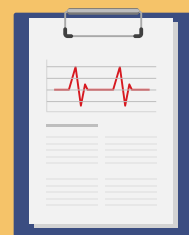


Path to Medicine: Tips for Future Physicians



If you want to get an early start on your career in medicine, the UTRGV School of Medicine has a few tips and advice to help you.

First, ask yourself,

“Is a career in medicine right for me?”

If your answer is “yes,” then you understand that a medical career is earned with:

- Hard work.
- Diligent investment of time.
- Responsibility for self and decisions made.
- Maturity to understand the reality of setbacks.
- Accepting facts:
 - Asking for help when necessary.
 - Willing to listen to and accept constructive feedback.

According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, high school students interested in a career in medicine should:

- Work on building a good foundation of math and science coursework and take advanced classes (Advanced Placement or Dual/Concurrent Enrollment) if available.
- Use your time in high school to develop solid study habits, test-taking skills, and written and verbal communication skills.

Become a Self-Starter Now!

- Choose to learn the subject matter instead of memorizing to get the grade, rank, or social status.
- Read! Read! Read! It helps to develop reading speed, complex comprehension skills, verbal and writing skills.

Did you know that in a typical first semester of medical school, you will read about 14,400 pages!

- Be of service to others. Diversify your volunteer activities and make sure these activities have meaning for you. This is critical in helping to develop your “human experience” skills.
- Define your moral and ethics compasses as that will define who you are as a health professional and assist you in making tough decisions in life.



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