The Office of Admissions has assembled this timeline to assist you in the admissions process to PCOM’s DO programs. Please check the PCOM website for opportunities to visit our campus in Philadelphia, Georgia or South Georgia.

PCOM
Office of Admissions
4170 City Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19131
215-871-6700
800-999-6998
Fax: 215-871-6719
admissions@pcom.edu

PCOM GEORGIA
Office of Admissions
625 Old Peachtree Road NW
Suwanee, GA 30024
678-225-7500
866-282-4544
Fax: 678-225-7526
gaadmissions@pcom.edu

PCOM SOUTH GEORGIA
2050 Tallokas Road
Moultrie, GA 31768
229-798-4710
Fax: 229-798-4925
sogaadmissions@pcom.edu

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT PCOM.EDU.

PCOM reserves the right to make all admission decisions based upon all information available to the DO Faculty Committee on Admissions.

PCOM is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104; 215-662-5606. The Commission on Higher Education is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation. PCOM is also accredited by the American Osteopathic Association through its Bureau of Professional Education and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

PCOM’s application has been approved by the American Osteopathic Association’s Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) for an additional location, PCOM South Georgia, in Moultrie, Georgia. A required pre-operational site visit was conducted on February 14, 2019. When fully approved, the PCOM South Georgia location will fall under the accreditation status of PCOM’s main campus. As of April 2019, Official COCA action and a final inspection of the facility in June, 2019 are the remaining steps required for COCA to grant approval to enroll students at PCOM South Georgia with classes beginning on August 12, 2019.

Note that this publication is accurate for the 2019-2020 application cycle.
FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE YEARS

• Academics: Maintain competitive academic standing in all coursework.
• Advising: Make contact with your school’s pre-health advisor.
• Activities: Carefully select extracurricular activities on campus and in your local community that are of interest to you. Choose a wide variety of activities; however, do not get so involved that you jeopardize your academic performance. Do not join an activity because you think it will “look good.” Rather, do what you enjoy. Gain experience working with others and building leadership skills. Reflect on those experiences and consider how they will assist you in a future career in medicine.
• Licensure: Look for licensure programs to gain valuable skills as a certified nursing assistant, medical assistant, EMT, etc. Look for work/volunteer opportunities in a healthcare setting where you will work with different types of medical professionals, including osteopathic physicians. Keep track of your hours working with patient populations.
• Prerequisite Coursework: Along with your degree program’s freshman/sophomore coursework requirements, you should begin fulfilling your required coursework for admission to PCOM. You can find the list of required and advisable courses at https://www.pcom.edu/admissions/apply. If your schedule permits, you should begin fulfilling your English requirement in your freshman year—preferably English Composition.
• Apply early for any summer research/workshop positions if you are interested. Although not a PCOM requirement, a research background will aid you in any science field you may choose, including medicine.
• Begin building relationships with your faculty; when it is time to request letters of recommendation, they will be able to speak to your abilities as a student and future physician.

JUNIOR YEAR

• Academics: Continue to maintain competitive academic standing.
• Activities: Stay involved in your selected extracurricular activities. If you haven’t volunteered or experienced the healthcare field, now is a good time to do so. If you have already, keep up the good work! Remember, interesting cases increase your exposure and help you develop insights around the complexities of American medicine. Keep an experience journal for use in the application process. Look for DO physicians to shadow.
• Prerequisite Coursework: Complete course requirements for PCOM. Ideally, these should be completed before taking the MCAT exam so as to enhance your performance.
• MCAT: In February, apply for a spring MCAT exam date. Plan ahead and apply early to reserve your seat. The MCAT exam dates, times and locations can be found on the AAMC website. Be sure to request your scores be sent directly to AACOM. You can also access your scores online at http://www.aamc.org.

• Letters of Recommendation: Be sure to follow deadlines set by your advisor/committee regarding the request for a recommendation letter(s).
• Start brainstorming and preparing a personal statement for your application. Review your experience journal for ideas.

SENIOR YEAR

• Application Process: Beginning in May, you may apply to AACOMAS online at www.aacom.org.
• DO Letter of Recommendation: Obtain a letter of recommendation from an osteopathic physician; while not required, this credential is strongly recommended.
• Academics: Maintain competitive academic standing and take upper-level science courses to improve your scientific foundation needed for success in medical school.
• Graduation: Be sure you complete your college’s graduation requirements for your selected degree program.
• Leadership: Seek leadership roles and responsibilities within the organizations in which you are involved.
• AACOMAS: Submit your AACOMAS application ASAP. The PCOM AACOMAS deadline is February 1st, but DO NOT WAIT FOR DEADLINES! PCOM has a rolling admission process and early applications are strongly recommended. (Interviews begin in September.) Also, be sure to check with AACOMAS to verify that all of your transcripts have been received and verified so that the processing of your application is not delayed. It is your responsibility to ensure a completed application!
• Supporting materials: Please pay the $75 institutional application fee and submit all supporting materials (including letters of recommendation, MCAT score reports, etc.) to PCOM by March 2, 2020.

POST-BACCALAUREATE, GRADUATE AND/OR GAP YEAR(S)

• GPA/Knowledge Enhancer: Enhance your science GPA and scientific knowledge by choosing a curriculum that provides hard science coursework at the graduate level. PCOM offers a graduate program in biomedical sciences that serves as a stepping stone to our DO programs. Candidates who meet minimum criteria are assured an interview for the DO program and many Biomed students enter our DO programs each year.
• Career Changer: Post-baccalaureate programs offer the opportunity to complete the undergraduate prerequisite courses for medical school. Focus on your studies during this time period.
• MCAT: Consider repeating the MCAT exam. Remember that exam scores expire after three years.
• Make the most of non-academic periods by expanding your experiences in clinical settings, research, and/or community service.
• Keep an open mind to career alternatives.
• DO Letter of Recommendation: Obtain a letter of recommendation from a DO pre-health advisor/committee.
• DO Letter of Recommendation: Send the letter(s) directly to AACOM. You can also access your scores online at http://www.aamc.org.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

BACHELOR’S DEGREE FROM A REGIONALLY ACCREDITED INSTITUTION

• Average overall GPA of 3.5 and average science GPA of 3.4 for matriculated students

COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS

8 semester hours each of:
• General Biology with lab
• Physics with lab

16 semester hours of:
• Chemistry: At least 4 semester hours of laboratory; 4 of the 16 required semester hours must be Organic Chemistry (with lab) and at least 3 semester hours must be Biochemistry.

3 semester hours each of:
• English Composition
• Literature

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL COURSEWORK

• Anatomy
• Genetics
• Physiology
• Histology
• Immunology

MEDICAL COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TEST (MCAT)

• The Faculty Committee on Admissions recommends that a student have at least a 500 composite MCAT score with at least a 125 on each section to be competitive. MCAT scores are valid for 3 years from desired matriculation.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

There are two ways to satisfy the requirement:
• The preferred method by the DO Faculty Committee on Admissions is to submit a letter from your pre-health or academic advisor/committee (undergraduate, post-baccalaureate or graduate programs).
• Three faculty letters of recommendation; two of those three letters must be from science professors (undergraduate, post-baccalaureate or graduate programs) who issued you a grade reflected on your transcript.

U.S. CITIZENSHIP OR PERMANENT RESIDENCY (GREEN CARD) REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION.