

SECOND BACHELOR'S DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAMS

Second bachelor's degree programs are designed for students who have already earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and wish to pursue an additional bachelor's degree at North Park University.

Teaching Licensure Only- Post B.A. Degree

This program is designed for students who possess an undergraduate degree recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education and wish to become licensed to teach. The program is offered in the evenings and on Saturdays as well as the regular day schedule. All field and clinical experiences take place during school hours.

Licensure-only candidates must meet the same program (Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle Grades, Secondary, or K-12) and GPA requirements as undergraduate licensure candidates, that is 2.5 overall, 2.75 in the major/concentration, and 2.75 in education coursework. Secondary and K-12 candidates must take a minimum of 24 sh at North Park University and early childhood and elementary candidates must take a minimum of 28 sh at North Park University.

All professional education and content-area coursework that forms part of an application for licensure, endorsement, or approval that is received by ISBE on or after February 1, 2012, must have been passed with a grade of no lower than C in order to be counted toward fulfillment of the applicable requirements.

Program requirements and course descriptions can be found under the Education major in the undergraduate section of the catalog.

Medical Studies Post-Bachelor's Degree

The Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Medical (post-bacc) program is designed for students who have completed a baccalaureate degree. North Park's post-bacc program would provide the course work, advising, and application support for students to apply to medical school or health sciences

professional programs. The post-bacc program provides preparation through prerequisite courses for medical school (and the MCAT) or other health-sciences professional programs, for:

- persons wishing to change careers
- persons wishing to enhance an existing academic record to increase the competitiveness of their medical school, or health sciences professional program, applications.

The post-bacc program will primarily attract students preparing for medical school, and the curriculum is designed based on medical school admission requirements. However, students interested in dental school, optometry school, pharmacy school, veterinary science, occupational therapy, physical therapy, clinical laboratory science, or physician's assistant programs may also attend the program.

Students will apply and enroll at North Park University in this program to complete a second bachelor's degree in medical studies. Students may also choose to attend NPU for a shorter time frame and complete only the few courses needed to complete medical school application requirements.

Based on the preparation requirements and suggestions for students preparing for medical school, the post-bacc program will provide advising and core courses for standard science prerequisites as well as elective courses in the core subjects found on the MCAT. The Program Coordinator will advise students regarding coursework and professional development opportunities while they are enrolled in the program.

The mission of the Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Medical program is to prepare students for admission into competitive medical and health professional graduate programs through course work, advising, and application support.

Learning Outcomes and Assessment

Upon completion of the Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Medical program, students will:

- Demonstrate mastery of knowledge of science concepts required in the medical profession and its application in their chosen field
- Recognize and evaluate the ethical dimensions of their profession for application in decision-making
- Develop a clear understanding of their chosen profession in the health field and communicate effectively their desire, qualifications, and fit

Learning outcomes are assessed as part of the program assessment process.

The Program Coordinator will oversee assessment of the learning outcomes for the program. Specifically, assessment will include data collection regarding student qualifications (including grades, MCAT scores, and research or clinical experiences), applications to graduate programs,

acceptance into programs, and final program choice. Students will also engage in an exit interview process which will include reflection on the

quality of the program, ethical decision making in the health field, and self-understanding. Course assignments may also be used as evidence for achievement of learning outcomes (e.g., cumulative final exams scores for mastery of content, or paper assignments that include ethical reasoning or reflection on careers in the health field).

Admission Requirements and Criteria

The post-bacc program includes a competitive application process. Post-bacc students will complete the admissions process which will include a standard NPU application and submission of transcripts. In addition, minimum admission requirements for the Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Medical program include a bachelor's degree from an accredited university/college, a 3.2 cumulative grade point average, and faculty approval.

Applicants must provide by the submission deadline:

- Evidence of a completed bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and a minimum cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.2 or higher with official undergraduate transcripts.
- North Park University application
- A current resume
- Two letters of recommendation from individuals who can comment upon academic and/or professional work histories.

Curriculum

A student who has previously graduated with a bachelor's degree from North Park may be eligible for a second bachelor's degree if an additional 30 hours are taken beyond the initial degree at North Park and all requirements for the major of the second degree are met. A student who has completed a bachelor's degree from another institution will be treated as a transfer student and must complete all the degree requirements.

The post-bacc program curriculum outlines the requirements for a major in Medical Studies. For a student to be eligible to declare this major, he/she must have completed a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and apply to and be granted admission to the post-bacc program. Traditional undergraduates may not pursue a major in Medical Studies; this is a post-baccalaureate major program only.

Major requirements in Medical Studies are based on the Association of American Medical Colleges minimum requirements for medical school application.

Major requirements for the B.S. in Medical Studies

Required semester hours

56 sh

Prerequisites and supporting courses

Completed bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university

Required core courses

BIOL 1250, 1260, 2930; CHEM 1150, 1160, 2310, 2320, 3330; PSYC 1000; SOC 1910; 8 sh from MATH 1150, 1510, 1520 or STAT 1490; PHEN 1110, 1120 or PHEN 1210, 1220

Electives

Courses from the following list, as needed, to enhance academic record for medical school or health professional program application or meet the minimum semester hour and residency requirement for a second bachelor's degree.

BIOL 2100, 2910, 3010, 3210, 3230, 3140, 3510, 3620; CHEM 3250, 3260; MATH 1150, 1510, 1520 or STAT 1490; PHEN 2110; PSYC 2100, 2700, 3010, 3600

Notes and restrictions

Students must complete at least 30 semester hours at North Park post bachelor's to meet eligibility for second degree. Course waivers and substitutions are allowed.

Health professional programs view research and clinical experiences highly. In fact, in the current market admission to programs is often very competitive and students must have this experience to be considered for admission. Post-bacc students will be advised to engage in opportunities such as internship, practica in medical settings, or off-campus research.

Program Advising

The program also provides advising regarding the application process including writing a statement of purpose, providing letters of recommendation, and development of off-campus research, clinical and volunteer experiences. Regular communication with the Program Coordinator is required.

This service to students alongside curricular requirements will provide instruction and guidance for student development of the understanding, qualifications, and fit in their career path.

Course Waivers and Substitutions

For degree seeking students, up to eight courses within the required core courses in the major may be accepted to meet requirements if a student has completed similar undergraduate courses from an accredited institution within a 10 year period and received a grade of B or higher.

Students will choose electives to complete the minimum required semester hours to complete a second degree.

Course substitution arrangements are facilitated through the Program Coordinator. The Program Coordinator will act upon these requests upon admission process and the student will be advised regarding appropriate NPU coursework for degree completion. Students in this program will have different preparation, goals, and academic histories. Therefore, course substitutions are likely. Elective courses in the major are suggested for students who have completed major requirements but still need semester hours toward the major. A plan of study will be determined for each student in collaboration with the Program Coordinator in advance that will meet the student needs and goals.