**Health/Pre-Med**

**Cornell Study Abroad Options**

**LOCATION**
- Universities And Field-Based Programs in Africa, Asia, Europe, And Latin America

**ELIGIBILITY**
- Follow your College’s requirements
- Meet Program/University requirements

**CORNELL APPROVAL DEADLINE**
- October 1 for Spring
- March 1 for Fall & Academic Yr
- Some programs have early-deadlines
  Check for your program!

**PROGRAM COSTS**
- Varies by program (see website for more information)
- Estimated budgets include bursaries and out-of-pocket costs
- Financial aid available for semester/year programs

**ADVISING**
- Appointments for walk-in hours

**PLANNING FOR STUDY ABROAD**

Students in many majors study health abroad. A stimulating abroad experience related to your academic or professional interests in health can be valuable in the context of medical school applications and interviews.

- Take university courses with local students abroad
- Conduct an independent study on a field-based program
- Participate in service-learning programs
- Intern for academic credit
- Engage in comparative international study

*It may be a challenge to arrange lab research; internships cannot allow students to provide direct medical care; and study in multiple countries/internships are not approved by A&S.

**STUDY ABROAD & HCEC**

Career Services maintains a website with information on how off-campus study fits within the application process for medical school.

- [www.career.cornell.edu/HealthCareers/]
- [studyAwayAndTransferStudents/premed.html]

Students apply to medical school more than one year before they plan to matriculate. About 40% of our students apply in the summer between their junior and senior year; another 25% apply the summer after their senior year and 35% apply as alumni. Study abroad is an option in all colleges, but this might result in taking a year off between graduation and medical school. This latter time may be particularly suitable for students who are not on campus their junior year, who want to improve their academic or experiential credentials, or who believe that a year between Cornell and professional school will benefit their personal and professional goals. Study away students should consult with their College’s premed advisor to determine timing of their medical school application, given their major and these other factors.

The Health Careers Evaluation Committee (HCEC) prepares the letter of evaluation most medical/dental schools request of applicants. Candidates are urged to register with the HCEC beginning in the late fall semester of the application cycle (the calendar year preceding application) [www.career.cornell.edu/paths/health/medschool/hcec]

**Course Credit, the Medical School Application & Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)**

The American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) is used to apply to most American medical schools. All grades recorded in a foreign grading system (used by a French or Spanish university, for example) will not be recorded in your AMCA GPA; these foreign grades will be recorded within your accumulated Pass/Fail semester hours. AMCAS is available online in April/May and accepts applications beginning in June. It is best to apply early in the summer.

For complete details on the AMCAS policies contact AMCAS directly at 202/828-0600 or amcas@aamc.org.

See the MCAT website for foreign test centers, testing date options and online registration: [http://www.aamc.org/students/mcat](http://www.aamc.org/students/mcat)

If possible, complete the science course prerequisites for medical school before going abroad. These courses should be taken at U.S. institutions to ensure you have covered topics you will encounter on the MCAT and/or have the appropriate prerequisite course(s) for upper division courses in your plan.

*See a “pre-med” advisor to discuss course selection, timing, etc.

**AAMC GUIDELINES**

The Association of American Medical Colleges, AAMC, has prepared guidelines for premedical students providing patient care during clinical experiences abroad.


For understandable reasons, the AAMC is concerned about potential harm to the patient, possible physical harm to yourself, legal issues with local authorities, the appearance of being unethical which may jeopardize admission to med school, and the potential for being involved with a fraudulent company.

While it is Cornell Abroad’s expectation that study abroad programs and foreign universities uphold the following guidelines, it is up to the student to act in accordance with these guidelines:

- The primary purpose of a student clinical experience is observation, not hands-on treatment. You are there to learn, not to treat.
- Always keep the welfare of the patient foremost in your mind, recognizing patient autonomy and the patient’s right not to have trainees involved in their care.
- Every act of service involves the building of a cultural bridge.
- Never engage in unsupervised activities or tasks that are generally reserved for trained health professionals.
- Understand and perform within your limitations (i.e. students who are trained EMTs may be able to provide more assistance than their peers without such training).
- Be aware that it is not necessary to travel abroad to serve those in need.

*This is an unofficial summary. For the full guidelines, see: [www.aamc.org/download/181690/data/guidelinesforstudentsprovidingpatientcare.pdf](http://www.aamc.org/download/181690/data/guidelinesforstudentsprovidingpatientcare.pdf)

**GLOBAL HEALTH MINOR**

- Completes any academic major
- Students need basic knowledge about global health & necessary skills/experience to begin to build their own unique career pathway in global health.
- Open to all undergraduate students in all colleges.
- Designed around three specific objectives:
  - Learn about the problems of global health in a classroom experience
  - Experience global health issues first-hand in a field-setting
  - See the full career pathway to work in global health

Students are required to take:
- Intro to Global Health (NS 206)
- one course from a set of approved courses
- two electives
  - an approved overseas experience in a resource-poor setting of eight weeks or more
  - a “capstone” seminar.

[www.human.cornell.edu/che/DNS/globalhealth](http://www.human.cornell.edu/che/DNS/globalhealth)

Jeanne Moseley, jmn298, Program Coordinator
PRE-MED* STUDY AWAY RECOMMENDED TIMELINE

**OPTION 1** Study Away During Junior Fall (No Gap Year)

- **Sophomore**
  - Try to complete the science course prerequisites (introductory biology, introductory chemistry, organic chemistry, and introductory physics) before going abroad. You may opt to take the MCAT after sophomore year if pre-reqs are complete.

- **Junior Fall**
  - ABROAD
  - Access the HCEC Orientation Video (available by mid-Nov)
  - Attend HCEC Orientation in November or watch the HCEC Orientation Video on the web
  - Register with HCEC
  - Give HCEC study abroad address/ check e-mail

- **Junior Spring**
  - ABROAD
  - Use online HCEC file check
  - Take MCAT abroad (optional timing)

- **Junior Summer**
  - Take MCAT abroad (if not yet taken)

- **Senior Year**
  - Interview at Medical Schools

- **Post Grad Year**
  - Attend Medical School

**OPTION 2** Study Away During Junior Spring (No Gap Year)

- **Sophomore**
  - Try to complete the science course prerequisites (introductory biology, introductory chemistry, organic chemistry, and introductory physics) before going abroad. You may opt to take the MCAT after sophomore year if pre-reqs are complete.

- **Junior Fall**
  - ABROAD
  - Access the HCEC Orientation Video (available by mid-Nov)
  - Attend HCEC Orientation in November or watch the HCEC Orientation Video on the web
  - Register with HCEC
  - Give HCEC study abroad address/ check e-mail

- **Junior Spring**
  - ABROAD
  - Use online HCEC file check
  - Take MCAT abroad (optional timing)

- **Junior Summer**
  - Take MCAT abroad (if not yet taken)

- **Senior Year**
  - Interview at Medical Schools

- **Post Grad Year**
  - Attend Medical School

**OPTION 3** Study Away (Take a Gap Year)

- **Sophomore**
  - Check HCEC website
  - Review the recommended timeline

- **Junior Fall**
  - ABROAD
  - Access the HCEC Orientation Video (available by mid-Nov)
  - Attend HCEC Orientation in November or watch the HCEC Orientation Video on the web
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- **Junior Spring**
  - ABROAD
  - Use online HCEC file check
  - Take MCAT abroad (optional timing)

- **Senior Fall**
  - Interview at Medical Schools

- **Senior Spring**
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Note: MCAT is offered 20+ times a year, in January and from March to September. Scores are available in approximately 4 weeks.

*This timeline is also appropriate for Pre-Dents, but the DAT is available year round.

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**DIRECT ENROLLMENT OPTIONS**

Some universities offer courses that you might not encounter in the U.S.

**AUSTRALIA**
- University of Melbourne
- University of Queensland

**BOTSWANA**
- University of Botswana + practicum (CIEE)

**GHANA**
- University of Ghana (CIEE)

**IRELAND**
- University College Dublin

**ISRAEL**
- Ben Gurion University
- Tel Aviv University (TAU)

**SOUTH AFRICA**
- University of Cape Town (UCT) (IES, CIEE)
- University of Natal in Durban (USA)

**UNITED KINGDOM**
- King’s College with the Health & Society Module
- University College London (UCL)
- University of Glasgow
- Queen Mary College, University of London

**SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS (FIELD-BASED or INTERNSHIP)**

Internship programs offer internships for academic credit. Internships are guaranteed, customized, project-based, and academically directed. *Study in multiple countries & internships are not approved by A&S, unless otherwise noted.

- **Alliance**
  - Public Health & Indian Studies at Manipal University

- **Boston University (BU)**

- **CIEE**
  - Community Public Health, Buenos Aires, Argentina
  - Community Public Health, Gabarone, Botswana
  - Community Public Health, Santiago, Dominican Republic
  - European Clinical Psychology, Copenhagen
  - Cognitive Neuroscience of Fear: From Animal to Human Models
  - Health Delivery and Prioritization in Northern Europe
  - Human Health & Disease: A Clinical Approach
  - Medical Practice & Policy
  - The Social Brain: The Neuropsychology of Social Behaviors
  - Sports Medicine: Performance and Fatigue
  - Medical Biotechnology and Drug Development
  - Human Health & Disease: A Clinical Approach
  - Medical Biotechnology and Drug Development
  - Public Health & Trad’l Chinese Medicine, Yunnan Province
  - Global Health Issues, South Africa
  - Traditional Medicine and Health Care Systems, Madagascar
  - Traditional Medicine and Traditional Chinese Medicine
  - India: Traditional Medicine and Healthcare

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*See below for recommended programs. This is not an exhaustive list, nor a guarantee of major credit.*

**“CORNELL-IN” PROGRAMS**

- Cornell in Cuba
- Cornell in South India
- Cornell in Nepal
- Cornell in Paris
- Cornell in Seville
- Students on Cornell in Barcelona, Cornell in Belén, Cornell in Kyoto, can arrange courses and/or volunteer experiences with a health focus.

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**MINNESOTA STUDIES IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (MSID):**

- Ecuador, Kenya, Senegal, and India
- OTS: Costa Rica, Env. Change & Human Health
- OTS: South Africa, Health in the Tropics

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**SIT:**

- Argentina: Public Health in Urban Environments
- Brazil: Public Health, Race, & Human Rights
- Chile: Public Health, Traditional Medicine, & Community Empowerment
- Health & Community: Globalization, Culture, & Care
- India: Health & Human Rights
- Jordan: Health & Community Development
- Kenya: Health & Community Development
- Mali: Health, Gender, & Community Empowerment
- South Africa: Community Health & Social Policy
- Switzerland: Global Health & Development Policy

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**SUMMER PROGRAMS**

Cornell Abroad has resources that students can consult for summer study in our library. Register under Summer & Short-Term Programs on the Cornell Abroad webpage. Note: Students from the College of A&S do not have language requirements for summer programs.

- **BU:** Internship Programs, Dublin, London, Madrid, Sydney
- **CIEE:** Community Public Health, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- **CIEE:** Community Public Health, Gabarone, Botswana
- **CIEE:** Community Public Health, Santiago, Dominican Republic
- **DIS:** European Clinical Psychology, Copenhagen
- **DIS:** Cognitive Neuroscience of Fear: From Animal to Human Models
- **DIS:** Health Delivery and Prioritization in Northern Europe
- **DIS:** Human Health & Disease: A Clinical Approach
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- **DIS:** The Social Brain: The Neuropsychology of Social Behaviors
- **DIS:** Sports Medicine: Performance and Fatigue
- **DIS:** Medical Biotechnology and Drug Development
- **DIS:** Human Health & Disease: A Clinical Approach
- **DIS:** Medical Biotechnology and Drug Development
- **SIT:** Public Health & Trad’l Chinese Medicine, Yunnan Province
- **OTS:** Global Health Issues, South Africa
- **OTS:** Traditional Medicine and Health Care Systems, Madagascar
- **SIT:** China: Community Health and Traditional Chinese Medicine
- **SIT:** India: Traditional Medicine and Healthcare

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