

# Preparing for a Career in Health Care

## Why Caltech?

Caltech offers a collaborative environment. While the competition among students on a prehealth career track at other schools can be extreme, Caltech encourages and promotes working together—from its Nobel Prize-winning scientists, to staff, to the newest entering class.

Our outstanding core curriculum lays a solid foundation in the basic science courses required by medical and health schools. Most of our students score above the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile on the MCAT exam.

Students have the opportunity to do cutting-edge research with internationally-renowned faculty through Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (The SURF Program), independent study, or employment in a faculty member's lab.

With a 3 to 1 ratio of undergraduates to faculty, our students have direct access to their instructors and the chance to be known personally by them, rather than getting lost in the crowd at a larger institution. This is especially helpful when students are applying to med school and other programs that require recommendation letters.



## Get Involved

Caltech is located near several world-class medical institutions including the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Huntington Memorial Hospital, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, USC Medical Center and UCLA Medical Center. We have formal preceptorship programs with these organizations, which allow students to shadow physicians on a rotational basis. Thus, students gain the exposure they need to the actual practice of medicine, so that they are better prepared for their chosen profession and have the experience they need for a competitive med/health school application.

Our undergraduate population is around 900 students. Because of its small size, there are numerous opportunities to get involved in student government, clubs, societies, volunteer service, and an active Caltech PreMed Association. Taking advantage of such opportunities gives students the chance to gain valuable leadership experience, improve communication skills, influence others, and make decisions—all traits that medical/health schools look for when selecting the students they believe will make the best future medical professionals.

### Schools accepting Caltech Graduates 2002-2011

#### include:

- *Harvard*
- *Stanford*
- *Yale*
- *UCSF*
- *UCLA*
- *UCSD*
- *USC*
- *Duke*
- *Penn*
- *Columbia*
- *Cornell*
- *Baylor*
- *Northwestern*
- *University of Michigan*
- *University of Washington*
- *Johns Hopkins University*
- *Washington University of St. Louis*



CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

*Career Development Center*

Prehealth Advisor: James Berk, M.S.MFT  
Center for Student Services  
414 S. Holliston Ave., 3rd Floor  
Pasadena, CA 91125  
Phone: (626) 395-6361  
career@caltech.edu

<http://www.career.caltech.edu/>

Walk-in hours for students 9-11AM, 1-4PM  
every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

## Prehealth Career Advising

Easy access to individual counseling sessions from enrollment at Caltech to matriculation in graduate health program

Appointments for academic advising, application review and interview practice

Workshop training including writing personal statements, mock interviews, application tips

Professional Forum series featuring distinguished speakers from health related careers

Committee letter for med school application as requested