

A doctor of Chiropractic Medicine (D.C.) is a specialist primarily concerned with the spine and how its interplay with the nervous system affects other body functions. He/she uses modern techniques to examine and diagnose conditions. Once a diagnosis is reached, the chiropractor may use any one of many techniques to treat the problem, including dietary guidance and manipulation of the spine and musculature.

Education

The educational requirements for chiropractors specify a minimum of 2 years of pre-chiropractic study and 4 years of chiropractic school, after which the degree Doctor of Chiropractic is awarded. However, the majority of successful applicants have completed 3 or 4 years of college work before entering chiropractic school.

Basic Requirements

One Year of English	WRI 10 – College Reading and Composition and WRI 100 – Advanced Writing or WRI 116 – Science Writing in Natural Sciences or LIT 20 – Introduction to World Culture and Literature I or LIT 30 – Introduction to American Literature I or LIT 40 – Introduction to British Literature I or LIT 50 – Introduction to Hispanic Literature I
One Year of General Chemistry w/lab	CHEM 2 – General Chemistry I (includes lab) and CHEM 10 – General Chemistry II (includes lab)
One Year of Organic Chemistry	CHEM 8 – Principles of Organic Chemistry (includes lab) and CHEM 100 – Organic Synthesis and Mechanism with CHEM 100L – Organic Chemistry Lab
One Year of Biology with lab	BIO 1/L – Contemporary Biology and BIO 2/L – Introduction to Molecular Biology
One Year of Physics	PHYS 8 – Principles of Physics I or ICP 1B – Integrated Calculus and Physics: Physics or PHYS 18 – Principles of Physics I for Biological Sciences and PHYS 9 – Introductory Physics II or PHYS 19 – Introductory Physics II for Biological Sciences
Courses in Psychology	PSY 1 – Introduction to Psychology (check with individual schools)
Courses in Humanities and Social Sciences	Check with individual schools on specifics

NOTE: The requirements of each chiropractic school may differ; check individual school catalogs/websites for specific course requirements.

Applications

Write to each chiropractic school for their application materials, preferably one year before the projected date of entrance. There are usually 3-4 classes admitted per calendar year. Check individual schools for application deadline information.

Entrance Exam

There is no entrance exam required for admission into chiropractic school.

Letters of Recommendation

Two or three letters of recommendation are usually required. They should be from faculty (at least one science professor) and also from a health science professional, preferably a chiropractor who can evaluate your potential in the field.

Work Experience

All chiropractic schools advise that you obtain practical experience with a health professional, preferably a chiropractor. This experience will provide you with a better understanding of chiropractic medicine and help you answer the commonly asked question, "Why do you want to become a chiropractor?" The Career Services Center may be helpful in arranging volunteer experience.

Chiropractic Schools in California

Life Chiropractic College West

Los Angeles College of Chiropractic of the Southern California University of Health Sciences

Palmer College of Chiropractic West

Cleveland Chiropractic College – Los Angeles