The Science in the Evening Program provides individual advising for each student. New SIE students are required to either attend an Advising-Information Session or schedule an advising appointment with Dr. Joelle Presson before registering for SIE courses. Enrolled SIE students may meet with Dr. Presson when they wish.

To make your advising appointment efficient you should look carefully through the SIE website to answer common questions. Some of those questions and where to find answers are listed here. Please review this material before scheduling for an advising appointment.

**What is covered at the Advising-Information Session and when are they held?**

Dr. Presson holds several Advising-Information Sessions each year to introduce prospective students to the program. Upcoming Advising-Information Sessions are posted on the SIE website, [http://oes.umd.edu/sie-new#information](http://oes.umd.edu/sie-new#information).

In addition, you will find a power point presentation used at these sessions. This document contains a great deal of information about the program. If you cannot attend an information session or want an overview of the program before a session is held, review this document.

**What courses are offered and at what times?**

SIE courses may be viewed as follows:

- SIE Web site:
- Testudo (UMD’s online schedule of classes): [www.testudo.umd.edu](http://www.testudo.umd.edu)
  - Testudo lists all UMD courses.
  - SIE courses are indicated by SEF or SES section numbers.
  - SIE courses begin at either 6:00 or 6:30 pm. Classes are scheduled on M, Tu, W, Th. No classes are held Friday, Saturday, or Sunday.

**What are the requirements for admission?**

Admission to SIE requires:

1. A completed undergraduate bachelor’s degree.
2. A GPA of 2.5 or higher
3. Provisional acceptance until the math placement test is taken and passed. All sciences courses at UMD, including SIE courses, require that a student is ready to take a calculus level math class. The score on the Math Placement Exam indicates this readiness. For information on the about the MPE, visit [http://oes.umd.edu/sie-new/mpe](http://oes.umd.edu/sie-new/mpe).

For complete information, visit:

**How long does the program take? How many courses will I take during one semester?**

The answer depends on which courses you need to take to reach your goals. For typical schedules for preparation for medical and dental school application, visit [http://oes.umd.edu/sie-new/applying-to-professional-schools](http://oes.umd.edu/sie-new/applying-to-professional-schools).
Information about preparation for a variety of health related professional schools can be found at www.prehealth.umd.edu.

**How large are SIE courses?**
SIE courses are smaller in size than typical UMD science courses. Generally each lecture course will have 20-40 students enrolled.

**How successful are SIE students at gaining admission to professional schools?**
SIE offers post-bac students the same high quality UMD science courses that degree-seeking undergraduate students take. These courses provide excellent preparation for success in taking entrance exams and gaining admission to professional schools. Success in gaining admission to the school of your choice depends on your performance.

You should consult the professional organization website for your field to find out more about the characteristics of successful candidates.

- Medical school: www.aamc.org
- Dental School: www.adea.org
- Physician’s Assistant: http://physicianassistantrequirements.org/

**Does SIE offer test preparation courses for the MCAT and DAT?**
No.

**Does SIE provide application support and a committee letter process?**
The Health Professions Advising Office has a comprehensive process for preparing students for the application cycle. It is not just a matter of requesting a letter. Contact HPAO no later than January of the year you will apply to medical or dental school to initiate the process. For an overview of the application cycle, visit http://prehealth.umd.edu/applicantcycle.

SIE students planning to utilize the HPAO credentials process and seek a committee letter for their application must have:

- 24 science credits at UMD
- 3.0 GPA in courses at UMD