Preparing for Your First Advising Session

Science in the Evening Provides individual advising. New SIE students are required to either attend an Advising-Information Session or schedule an advising appointment before registering for SIE courses. Enrolled SIE students may also schedule an advising appointment as necessary.

To make your advising appoint 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? Advising-Information Sessions are held several times a year to introduce prospective and admitted students to the program. Upcoming Advising-Information Sessions are posted on the SIE website. You will also find a power point presentation used at these sessions. This document contains a great deal of information about the program. You should review this document before attending an information session.

What courses are offered and at what times? SIE course sections may be viewed via Testudo (the online schedule of classes), www.testudo.umd.edu. Testudo lists all UMD courses by semester/year. SIE course sections are indicated by SEF*(fall) or SES (spring) section numbers. SIE course sections 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 to SIE?

1. A completed undergraduate bachelor’s degree,
2. A GPA of 2.5 or higher, and
3. A complete set of original transcripts.

Qualified students receive provisional admission which requires taking the math placement test and achieving a minimum score and completing academic advising. All science courses at UMD require that a student qualified to take a calculus level math course. The score on the Math Placement Exam indicates this readiness. For information on the about provisional admission requirements, including the MPE and advising, visit the SIE Application Information web page.

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. The SIE Website included recommended schedules for preparation for medical and dental school application, as well as information for a variety of health-related professional schools. Visit Professional Schools for more information.
How large are SIE courses?
SIE evening sections are smaller than daytime sections; SIE lecture sessions generally have 20-40 enrolled students. Small discussion and state-of-the-art lab sections ensure interactive instruction.

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

Does SIE offer test preparation courses for the MCAT and DAT? Whereas UMD does not offer test preparation for the DAT, the University does offer the UMD MCAT Preparation Program, designed to guide you towards mastery of the high level concepts expressed in the MCAT. For more information, visit the MCAT website.

Does SIE provide application support and a committee letter process? The Reed-Yorke Health Professions Advising Office (HPAO) has a comprehensive process for preparing students for the application cycle. Contact HPAO no later than January of the year you will apply to medical or dental school to initiate the process. SIE students planning to utilize the HPAO credentials process and seek a committee letter for their application must have 24 science credits at UMD and a 3.0 GPA in courses at UMD. For complete information, visit www.prehealth.umd.edu.