

## Chiropractic

Chiropractic focuses on the relationship between the body's main structures – the skeleton, the muscles and the nerves – and the patient's health. Chiropractors believe that health can be improved and preserved by making adjustments to these structures, particularly to the spinal column. They do not prescribe drugs or perform surgical procedures, although they do refer patients for such services if these are medically indicated.

According to the American Chiropractic Association, the chiropractic approach to healthcare is holistic, stressing the patient's overall health and wellness. They also recommend lifestyle changes regarding exercise, eating, and sleeping habits. Chiropractors believe that health is a state of optimal well being, and involves much more than the absence of pain and disease.

## Chiropractic Work



According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are about 49,100 practicing chiropractors. Most chiropractors are in solo practice, although some work in group settings. Opportunities for chiropractors are expected to increase due to an aging population, increased public acceptance, and the ability of patients to pay for services through public or private health insurance. Median annual earnings of salaried chiropractors were \$66,490 in 2008. Self-employed chiropractors usually earn more than those on salaries.

## Additional Information

### Health Professions Advisor

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### American Chiropractic Association

1701 Clarendon Boulevard

Arlington, VA 22209

(703) 276-8800

[www.acatoday.org](http://www.acatoday.org)

### The Association of Chiropractic Colleges

[www.chirocolleges.com/](http://www.chirocolleges.com/)

### CSU Premedica Club or Pre-Physical Therapy Club

<http://hp.casa.colostate.edu/HP-clubs.aspx>

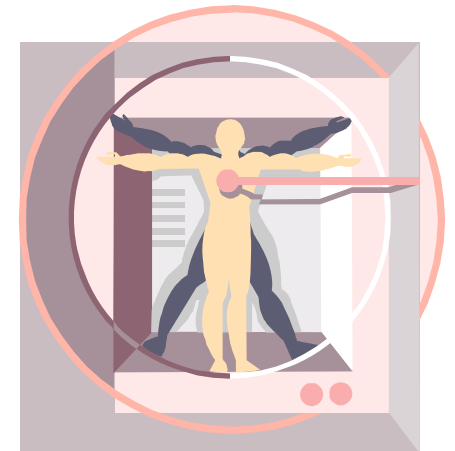
### Human Health Pre-Professional Programs

<http://hp.casa.colostate.edu/>



## Center for Advising and Student Achievement

## CHIROPRACTIC



## Health Track Advising

## Professional Programs

There are 16 accredited chiropractic programs in the U.S. Becoming a Doctor of Chiropractic (D.C.) takes at least seven years. Students must complete a minimum of 90 semester hours of undergraduate coursework (many states require a B.S. or B.A. along with the chiropractic degree in order to practice) and then four years of chiropractic training. Most chiropractic programs emphasize classroom and laboratory work in the sciences for the first two years, and then courses in manipulation and spinal adjustment as well as extensive clinical experience during the last two years.

**For more information about specific chiropractic schools see:  
[www.chirocolleges.com](http://www.chirocolleges.com)**

Last updated 8/11—Information is subject to change.

## Admissions Requirements

**Admissions requirements are GENERAL and differ from school to school. Please contact the individual schools to discuss specific admissions requirements.**

- Minimum of 90 semester credits of college education (many applicants have a bachelor's degree, and many states require D.C.s to have bachelor's degrees in order to practice)
- Competitive cumulative GPA
- Application submitted to each school
- Letters of recommendation

### Typical Academic Prerequisites

General Biology ( 2 semesters with labs)

General Chemistry (2 semesters with labs)

Organic Chemistry (1 or 2 semesters with labs)

Biochemistry

General Physics\* (1 or 2 semesters with labs)

Social Sciences/ (5 semesters- 15 Credits)  
Humanities

Composition/Lit/Communication/ (2 semesters)

Psychology (1 semester)

Highly recommended courses:

### Recommended CSU Courses

LIFE 102 and LIFE 103

CHEM 111/112 and CHEM 113/114

CHEM 245/246 **OR** CHEM 341, 343/344  
(many schools require full year of O Chem)  
BC 351

PH 121 and PH 122 **OR**  
PH 141 and PH 142

*\*Biomechanics, Kinesiology, Exercise Physiology, or Statistics may sometimes be substituted for one semester of Physics. Contact the individual chiropractic school.*

Courses from prefixes ANTH, ECON, HDFS,  
PSY, SOC, JTC, POLS, **AND** ART, D, E,  
MU,PHIL,SPCM,TH, Languages

CO 150, CO 300/301, E140, SPCM 200

PSY 100

BMS 300, BMS 301, OT 215