

*Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences  
Biomedical Sciences Program*

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**2021-2022  
STUDENT HANDBOOK**



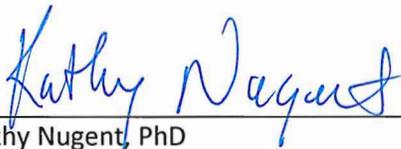
**UAB SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL AND DIAGNOSTIC SCIENCES**  
**BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM**  
**2021-2022 ACADEMIC HANDBOOK**



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8.2.2021

Date



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6-2-2021

Date



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8/25/2021

Date

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## INTRODUCTION

### DEAN'S WELCOME MESSAGE

Welcome to the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Health Professions! We are pleased you chose to join one of our many excellent programs, which in combination have established us as a national leader in health professions education.

We are home to one of the largest health professions schools in the nation with more than 30 programs at the certificate, baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels, with more than 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students enrolled.

Moving into a post-COVID environment is a new start for everyone in health care, and you are in the best place to begin your personal journey toward joining this dynamic field. We are all committed to providing you a world-class education, and to support your pursuit of knowledge and your strong desire to serve others as a healthcare professional.

The pandemic has challenged all of us in many ways, and your entry into one of our professional programs demonstrates one of the most precious personal qualities one can have: resilience. That resilience has brought you here today and will continue to serve you well during your journey at UAB.

We recognize that healthcare needs - even outside of a pandemic - are constantly changing. That is why we continue to add innovative programs to our academic portfolio, and to enhance and revitalize ongoing programs. We also offer graduate programs you will only find in Alabama at UAB, such as Genetic Counseling, Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, Low Vision Rehabilitation, Healthcare Quality and Safety, doctoral-level Rehabilitation Science, and Biomedical and Health Sciences.

Our degrees and programs are fully accredited by their respective professional organizations. This means you will be eligible for licensure, national certification or registration and enjoy being in high demand within the job market. Our first-time student exam pass rate on many credentialing exams is an astounding 98 percent or higher.

Graduating from the School of Health Professions means you will acquire an esteemed degree, have a host of job opportunities in healthcare – an industry that continues to grow rapidly – and be well prepared to make a difference in your community. And, we look forward to maintaining our relationship with you when you join our alumni community.

Our alumni give advice to current students that is worth repeating: “learn your craft, be a better professional for your patients, be open minded to future possibilities, and remember to have a healthy work/ life balance”.

I look forward to seeing you grow in your respective field and watching you become the leader we know you can be.



Andrew J. Butler, PhD, FAPTA

## OVERVIEW OF THE SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

A leader in federally funded research, the UAB School of Health Professions (SHP), is one of the largest academic institutions of its type in the United States and currently boasts several nationally ranked programs. What began in the 1950's as a collection of training programs in various para-professional disciplines has grown into an internationally recognized center of academic excellence.

The SHP initially took shape in 1969 as UAB gained autonomy within the University of Alabama System. Originally christened the School of Community and Allied Health Resources (SCAHR), the school incorporated the School of Health Services Administration and the Division of Allied Health Sciences from the College of General Studies with parts of the Department of Public Health and Epidemiology from the medical school. An innovative facility designed to meet the growing needs of the health care industry, the SCAHR was divided into four academic divisions that functioned like regular academic departments: Health Services Administration, Public Health and Environment, Allied Health Sciences, and the Regional Technical Institute for Health Occupations.

Throughout the 1970's and 80's the school's offerings were amended to reflect the changing health care industry. As a result of the changes, SCAHR became the School of Public and Allied Health (SPAHE). Next it became the School of Community and Allied Health (SCAH) and later the School of Health Related Professions (SHRP). During this time, the school added several new areas of study including a nationally ranked program in Nutrition Sciences. Through the leadership and guidance of early visionaries, the school experienced unparalleled success, which continues to date.

Today, the School of Health Professions is comprised of more than 30 programs – at the certificate, baccalaureate, master's and doctoral levels – across five academic departments: Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences, Health Services Administration, Nutrition Sciences, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy. The school is housed in three buildings, the Susan Mott Webb Nutrition Sciences Building, the Learning Resource Center Building, and the School of Health Professions Building (SHPB).

With more than 2,200 faculty, staff, and students, SHP is one of six schools comprising the world-renowned UAB Academic Health Center. Students have access to vast academic resources, state-of-the-art facilities, and progressive research.

SHP is proud of many accomplishments including:

- U.S. News & World Report ranks SHP programs in the nation's top 25
- Research funding is over \$14 million and growing
- The school is at the top of the list in research funding from the National Institutes of Health for schools of its type and has been either first or second in funding received since 1969

Under the current leadership of Dean Andrew Butler, the school has never been stronger, or better positioned as a national leader in health professions education.

## SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS CONTACT INFORMATION

In addition to your program director and program faculty, the following individuals may be able to provide assistance with questions and issues related to your school and program activities.

**Kristin Chapleau, Director of Student Services and Advising**

205-996-4721; [kjohnsto@uab.edu](mailto:kjohnsto@uab.edu)

**Mary Foster, Dean Butler's Executive Assistant**

205-934-5149; [fostermg@uab.edu](mailto:fostermg@uab.edu)

**Samantha Giordano-Mooga, PhD, Director of Undergraduate Honors Program**

205-996-1399; [sgiordan@uab.edu](mailto:sgiordan@uab.edu)

**Donna Slovensky, PhD, Senior Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs**

205-934-1679 ; [donnaslo@uab.edu](mailto:donnaslo@uab.edu)

**Kevin Storr, Director of Communications**

205-934-4159; [storr@uab.edu](mailto:storr@uab.edu)

**Lee Test, Director of Academic and Faculty Operations**

205-975-8034; [ltest@uab.edu](mailto:ltest@uab.edu)

**Marci Willis, Director, Learning Resource Center**

205-934-9472; [mbattles@uab.edu](mailto:mbattles@uab.edu)

## SECTION 1 – SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

### ACADEMIC CALENDAR

All dates related to registration, payments of tuition and fees drop/add dates, other administrative requirements, and official school holidays are recorded on the UAB Academic Calendar available at [www.uab.edu/academiccalendar](http://www.uab.edu/academiccalendar).

### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY CODE

The University established a new Academic Integrity Code effective August 23, 2021. This Code, which applies to undergraduate, graduate, and professional students as well as all academic activities, defines academic misconduct and outlines procedures for breaches of the code. Policies are established for resolution of charges of academic misconduct, and these processes are managed by the Academic Integrity Coordinator (AIC). In the School of Health Profession, the AIC is the Senior Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs, Dr. Donna Slovensky. Dr. Slovensky's office is located in SHPB 660. The full text of the Academic Integrity Code is available at:

[https://www.uab.edu/compliance/images/FINAL\\_Academic\\_Integrity\\_Code\\_2021-June-22.pdf](https://www.uab.edu/compliance/images/FINAL_Academic_Integrity_Code_2021-June-22.pdf)

### ADVISING

Undergraduate student advising is provided through the Student Services and Advising unit, which is housed in the SHPB 230 suite of offices, near the elevators on the 2nd floor. Walk-ins are accepted, but appointments are preferred. Contact information for individual advisers is listed below.

Kristin Chapleau, Director of Student Services and Advising - 205-996-4721; [kjohnsto@uab.edu](mailto:kjohnsto@uab.edu)

Carla Crews-McGirt, Academic Advisor II –934-4194; [ccrewmc@uab.edu](mailto:ccrewmc@uab.edu)

Eileen Hatfield, Academic Advisor II - 205-934-4185; [mehatfie@uab.edu](mailto:mehatfie@uab.edu)

Rachel Mars, Academic Advisor II – 205-996-0867; [rmars@uab.edu](mailto:rmars@uab.edu)

Adam Pinson, Academic Advisor II – 205-975-4194; [apinson@uab.edu](mailto:apinson@uab.edu)

Graduate student advising is provided through the SHP graduate programs.

### ASKIT

AskIT is the technology help desk for faculty, staff, and students. They provide free support via telephone, email, or in-person. You will be asked to supply your BlazerID when you request assistance.

Phone: (205) 996-5555 Email: [askit@uab.edu](mailto:askit@uab.edu) Website: [https://uabprod.service-now.com/service\\_portal](https://uabprod.service-now.com/service_portal)

## ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is expected in all SHP programs. Specific class, laboratory or clinical site attendance requirements may be more stringent than university guidelines. Refer to the program requirements in this handbook and in course syllabi for policies. The UAB policy for undergraduates follows.

The University of Alabama at Birmingham recognizes that the academic success of individual students is related to their class attendance and participation. Each course instructor is responsible for establishing policies concerning class attendance and make-up opportunities. Any such policies, including points for attendance and/or participation, penalties for absences, limits on excused absences, total allowable absences, etc., must be specified in the course syllabus provided to students at the beginning of the course term. Such policies are subject to departmental oversight and may not, by their specific prescriptions, negate or circumvent the accommodations provided below for excused absences.

The University regards certain absences as excused and in those instances requires that instructors provide an accommodation for the student who misses assignments, presentations, examinations, or other academic work of a substantive nature by virtue of these excused absences. Examples include the following:

Absences due to jury or military duty provided that official documentation have been provided to the instructor in a timely manner in advance.

Absences of students registered with Disabilities Services for disabilities eligible for "a reasonable number of disability-related absences" provided students give their instructors notice of a disability-related absence in advance or as soon as possible.

Absences due to participation in university-sponsored activities when the student is representing the university in an official capacity and as a critical participant, provided that the procedures below have been followed:

Before the end of the add/drop period, students must provide their instructor a schedule of anticipated excused absences in or with a letter explaining the nature of the expected absences from the director of the unit or department sponsoring the activity.

If a change in the schedule occurs, students are responsible for providing their instructors with advance written notification from the sponsoring unit or department.

Absences due to other extenuating circumstances that instructors deem excused. Such classification is at the discretion of the instructor and is predicated upon consistent treatment of all students. In these instances, instructors must devise a system for reasonable accommodation including, for example, policies allowing for dropped exams/quizzes, make-up exams, rescheduling of student classroom presentations or early or later submission of written assignments.

## AWARDS AND HONOR SOCIETIES

All students in the School of Health Professions are eligible for consideration for the following awards or society memberships.

- Alfred W. Sangster Award for Outstanding International Student – This award is presented annually to an international student in recognition of his or her academic and non-academic achievements.
- Alpha Eta Society – The UAB Chapter of this Society recognizes students registered in the final term of a baccalaureate or graduate health professions program. Inductees must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (4.0 = A), and be in the upper 10% of their program. Nominations are made by program directors in spring and summer terms.
- Cecile Clardy Satterfield Award for Humanism in Health Care – This award is made annually to recognize one outstanding student for humanitarianism, professionalism, and commitment to health care. Nominations are coordinated by program directors, but may also be made by faculty, students, patients, or preceptors.
- Charles Brooks Award for Creativity – This award is made annually in recognition of creative accomplishments such as written publications or artistic contributions which complemented the student’s academic activities. Nominations are made by program directors.
- Dean’s Leadership and Service Award – Presented to a maximum of three outstanding SHP students annually, this award recognizes leadership to the School, UAB, and the community. Nominations are made by program directors or faculty.
- Phi Kappa Phi – This is the oldest, and most selective, all-discipline honor society in the nation. Membership is by invitation to the top 7.5% of junior students and the top 10% of seniors and graduate students. Nominations are made by program directors.

Please refer to the program section of this handbook for awards and honors available to students in individual programs.

## BACKGROUND CHECK

SHP students in clinical programs are required by policy, to undergo a background check using the school’s approved vendor, CastleBranch <https://discover.castlebranch.com/>, at the time of program admission, and again, prior to placement in a clinical rotation. In addition, some sites are requiring the social media background check. This package code is different than the initial package code given. Instructions for requesting the background check and appropriate consent forms are provided to students by their programs. Please refer to the policy section of this handbook for the policy statement.

## BLAZERID / BLAZERNET / EMAIL

**BLAZERID:** All students receive a unique identifier, the BlazerID, established at: [www.uab.edu/blazerid](http://www.uab.edu/blazerid). Your BlazerID is required for accessing BlazerNET and other campus resources. To activate one’s BlazerID, select “Activate Accounts.”

**BlazerNET** is the official portal of the UAB information network and is accessible from any Internet-accessible computer, on- or off-campus. Access BlazerNET from UAB home page [www.uab.edu](http://www.uab.edu) then choose UAB Quicklinks.

**Email: [uab.edu](http://uab.edu)** Monitor your email regularly. Your UAB email is the official communication medium for courses, news, information and announcements. UAB student email is provided through Microsoft

Office 365, a cloud based system. Students have 50 GB of email space and 25 GB of free file 1 TB storage.

## **BLAZER EXPRESS**

The UAB Blazer Express Transit System provides transportation throughout the UAB campus. With a valid UAB ID badge, students can enjoy fare-free bus transportation. All buses are ADA-accessible and can seat approximately 35 riders. For an updated schedule, route maps, and hours of operation please go to [www.uab.edu/blazerexpress/](http://www.uab.edu/blazerexpress/).

## **BOOKSTORE**

There is one bookstore located on the UAB campus, offering a wide variety of products and services to students, including online purchasing and shipping. The bookstore stock UAB memorabilia and college wear in addition to all required textbooks and course material.

### **UAB Barnes and Noble Bookstore**

Location: 1400 University Blvd, 35233

Hours: M – F 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 pm.; Sat Closed; Sun Closed

Telephone: (205) 996-2665      Website: <https://uab.bncollege.com/shop/uab/home>

## **CAMPUS ONECARD**

The UAB OneCard is the official university identification card. It is used for personal identification, for entry to campus events and the recreation center, for library checkout, and other UAB services. It also serves as a declining balance card for the UAB meal plans and for Blazer Bucks accounts. Additional information is available at [www.uab.edu/onecard](http://www.uab.edu/onecard).

## **CAMPUS MAP**

UAB's campus map can be found at the following: [www.uab.edu/map/](http://www.uab.edu/map/)

## **CANVAS LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

The Canvas Learning Management System is the platform used for managing instructional materials online. Canvas course sites are accessed through BlazerNET or at [www.uab.edu/elearning/canvas](http://www.uab.edu/elearning/canvas). Students should monitor their course sites routinely for communication from faculty and manage course assignments.

## **COUNSELING SERVICES**

The Counseling and Wellness Center offers no cost, confidential counseling for UAB students related to physical, emotional, social, intellectual, or spiritual concerns. The Center is located in Student Health Services at 1714 9th Ave. South. For more information, call 205-934-5816 or <https://www.uab.edu/students/counseling/>

## COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

The COVID-19 pandemic necessitated many changes in our academic and administrative operating practices. While we anticipate a return to regular operations in fall term 2021, we remind students that certain precautions are still recommended. These recommendations include:

- **Masking – masking is required in all UAB spaces.**
- If you are not vaccinated, we highly encourage you to obtain the COVID vaccine – students may receive the vaccine at no cost through Student Health Services, at walk-up clinics, or through UAB Medicine. Scheduling information is available at <https://www.uab.edu/uabunited/covid-19-vaccine>
- If you are vaccinated, please upload an image of your vaccination card through the Student Health Patient Portal at [https://studentwellness.uab.edu/login\\_directory.aspx](https://studentwellness.uab.edu/login_directory.aspx).
- Students who experience COVID symptoms should not come on campus or clinical sites, and should contact Student Health immediately for further instruction.
- Maintain hand hygiene with frequent handwashing and disinfectant solutions.
- Clean your work areas with disinfectant solution regularly.
- Eat only in designated spaces. Student may consume water in classrooms, but should comply with any restrictions on food and other beverages that may be in place.

Official information about COVID-19 and University guidelines is available at:

<https://www.uab.edu/uabunited/>

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION (DEI)

The mission of DEI is to “... champion equity and inclusion and, in particular, to advocate for inclusive excellence and equity so that UAB students, faculty, staff, community partners and friends can flourish and excel.” Inspired by “... what we value, what we learn from research and what we teach and share with the world.” DEI’s goal is “... to inspire our people to take a courageous step to inspire equity and inclusive excellence throughout our state, nation and world, every day.” Dr. Paulette Patterson Dilworth is the Vice President responsible for the activities of this office. Information: <http://www.uab.edu/dei/>

## DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS)

“DSS provides an accessible university experience through collaboration with UAB partners. These partnerships create a campus where individuals with disabilities have equal access to programs, activities, and opportunities by identifying and removing barriers, providing individualized services, and facilitating accommodations.”

“DSS serves as the university-appointed office charged with providing institution-wide advisement, consultation, and training on disability-related topics which include legal and regulatory compliance, universal design, and disability scholarship.”

To apply for accommodations, contact DSS. **Note:** *You must have your Blazer ID and password.*

Telephone: (205) 934-4205 or (205) 934-4248 (TDD) Fax: (205) 934-8170

Email: [dss@uab.edu](mailto:dss@uab.edu) Website: [www.uab.edu/students/disability/](http://www.uab.edu/students/disability/)

## DRUG SCREENING

By policy, SHP students in programs requiring fieldwork/internship placement are required to undergo a routine drug screen using the school's approved vendor, CastleBranch, [www.castlebranch.com](http://www.castlebranch.com), at the time of program admission and again prior to placement in a clinical rotation. Instructions for requesting the drug screen and appropriate consent forms will be provided to students by their programs. Please refer to the policy section of this handbook for the school and university policy statements. If you have questions, please contact (205) 934-4194 or [shp@uab.edu](mailto:shp@uab.edu) or visit room 230 in the School of Health Professions Building. For more information visit: [Students - School of Health Professions | UAB](#)

## EMERGENCIES

Report suspicious or threatening activity to the UAB Police Department immediately. Law officers are available 24 hours, seven days a week. Also, more than 300 emergency blue light telephones connected directly to the police dispatch are located throughout campus.

**UAB Police:** Dial 911 *from a campus phone* or call: 934-3535; 934-HELP (4357); or 934-4434

Emergencies affecting campus are communicated via the following:

Weather & Emergency Hotline: (205) 934-2165 • University home web page: [www.uab.edu](http://www.uab.edu)

- Webpage: [www.uab.edu/emergency](http://www.uab.edu/emergency)
- Announcements on BlazerNET
- Twitter@UABALERT: [www.twitter.com/uabalert](http://www.twitter.com/uabalert)
- [facebook.com/UABALERT](https://www.facebook.com/UABALERT)
- Cell phone messages and SMS text – register for B-ALERT notices via <https://idm.uab.edu/ens/b-alert>

## FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 provides protection for all educational records related to students enrolled in an educational program. Information about your rights and protection of your records is available at the following sites:

<https://sa.uab.edu/enrollment/services/ferpa/>; If you have questions or concerns about FERPA issues, you may email [FERPA@uab.edu](mailto:FERPA@uab.edu), or contact (205) 934-4194 or [shp@uab.edu](mailto:shp@uab.edu).

## FINANCIAL AID

The Office of Financial Aid is located at 1700 University Blvd., Lister Hill Library, Room G20. Hours of Operation are from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday thru Friday. Phone: (205) 934-8223; Fax: (205) 975-6168. Additional information can be located on the website [www.uab.edu/students/paying-for-UAB](http://www.uab.edu/students/paying-for-UAB).

## FOOD SERVICES

Dining facilities available on campus closest to the SHP buildings include the Commons on the Green – located on the Campus Green, south of 9th Avenue and the Campus Recreation Center. Vending machines are located in the basement of the Learning Resource Center and on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the Webb Building. Additional information about meal plans and campus dining facilities is available at [www.uab.edu/dining](http://www.uab.edu/dining).

## GRADUATE SCHOOL

The UAB Graduate School offers doctoral programs, post-master's specialist programs, and master's level programs. Graduate programs in SHP are coordinated through the Graduate School and students must adhere to the Graduate School policies and procedures. Graduate School information for current students is available at [www.uab.edu/graduate/](http://www.uab.edu/graduate/).

## GRADUATION

All students must complete an application for degree six months prior to graduating and not later than the deadline in the academic calendar. <https://www.uab.edu/commencement/faqs>. The University holds commencement every semester. Check the commencement website for the most current information: <https://www.uab.edu/commencement/>

## MEDICAL CLEARANCE

SHP students in programs that are on campus (not fully online), are required to receive medical clearance at the time of program admission. UAB Student Health Services utilizes a secure web-based process for the storage of required documents accessed through BlazerNET. More information is available at the Student Health Services website: [www.uab.edu/students/health/medical-clearance/immunizations](http://www.uab.edu/students/health/medical-clearance/immunizations).

## IMMUNIZATION POLICY

To provide a safe and healthy environment for all students, faculty and staff at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), first-time entering students, international students and scholars, and students in clinical programs, provide proof of immunization against certain diseases: <https://www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-AD-POL-0000086.aspx>

## INSURANCE WAIVERS

To ensure that all students have adequate health care coverage, including ongoing primary and specialty care, the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) requires all eligible students to have major medical health insurance. Students can provide proof of their own private coverage or be enrolled in the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP). The SHIP is a 1-year commercial policy provided by United HealthCare and is re-negotiated annually. This policy is a comprehensive health insurance policy at an affordable cost that is specifically designed to meet the needs of UAB Students. If you are required to have insurance but have sufficient coverage on another plan and wish to opt out of the SHIP, you are required to submit a waiver to Student Health Services at the beginning of every semester. More information including submitting a waiver can be found at this website: <https://www.uab.edu/students/health/insurance-waivers/waivers>

## HIPAA TRAINING

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act includes significant requirements for protecting individual privacy of health information. All students in the School of Health Professions must complete

an online tutorial and be tested on HIPAA regulations at the time of program admission. A BlazerID is required to access the training site, located at [www.uab.edu/learningsystem](http://www.uab.edu/learningsystem). Compliance with the training requirement is monitored monthly.

## **INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD FOR HUMAN USE (IRB)**

Student researchers must comply with all requirements for protection of human subjects. Detailed information is available on the IRB website [www.uab.edu/irb](http://www.uab.edu/irb)

## **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Intellectual property refers to an asset that originated conceptually, such as literary and artistic works, inventions, or other creative works. These assets should be protected and used only as the creator intends. Training materials defining inventor status, patent criteria, and other intellectual property issues is available at [www.uab.edu/research/administration/offices/OSP/Pages/Training.aspx](http://www.uab.edu/research/administration/offices/OSP/Pages/Training.aspx).

## **LACTATION CENTERS**

Through the work of the UAB Commission on the Status of Women, the University has provided several lactation centers for students, faculty, and staff across the campus. Locations of the centers are available at <https://www.uabmedicine.org/-/lactation-consultants-help-moms-navigate-breastfeeding-journey>. The School of Health Professions' lactation room is in the Susan Mott Webb Nutrition Sciences Building at 1675 University Boulevard, room 219A. Female students enrolled in the School of Health Professions have access to the room via their student ID/OneCard. If you cannot access the room, contact the building administrator, Andrew Eaton at (205) 934-4133.

## **LIBRARIES AND LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER**

UAB's libraries house excellent collections of books, periodicals, microforms, and other media. have online remote access to catalogs and online collections. Computers are available for student use during regular hours of operation. <https://library.uab.edu/locations>

### **SHP Learning Resource Center (LRC)**

The School of Health Professions Learning Resource Center (LRC) provides a unique set of enterprise solutions that promote an exciting, intriguing and innovative learning environment. It provides a state-of-the-art media studio; audio/visual support; and information technology management of public, classroom and testing labs. Web: <http://www.uab.edu/lrc/>

Located: 1714 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue S. Phone: (205) 934-5146 Email: [shplrc@uab.edu](mailto:shplrc@uab.edu)

Hours: Monday – Thursday 7:00 am – 8:00 pm; Friday 7 am – 5:30 pm;

Saturday - closed; Sunday - closed

### **Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences**

This is the largest biomedical library in Alabama, and one of the largest in the south. Located across the crosswalk from the School, the LHL has extension libraries in

University Hospital and The Kirklin Clinic. Dedicated librarians hold “office hours” in the Learning Resource Center weekly.

Location: 1700 University Boulevard Website:

<https://library.uab.edu/locations/lister-hill>

Phone: (205) 934-2230

### **Mervyn H. Sterne Library**

A collection of more than one million items supporting teaching and research in the arts and humanities, business, education, engineering, natural sciences and mathematics, and social and behavioral sciences.

Location: 913 13<sup>th</sup> Street South

Website: <https://library.uab.edu/locations/sterne>

Phone: (205) 934-6364 (Reference) (205) 934-4338 (User Services)

## **ONESTOP STUDENT SERVICES**

If you have questions or need assistance with an academic or administrative process, the UAB OneStop is where to go! Advisers will help you solve your problem or do the legwork for you if another UAB resource is needed. OneStop is located in the Hill Student Center 1400 University Blvd. You may contact the OneStop office by phone or email at (205) 934-4300; 855-UAB-1STP; (855) 822-1787; [onestop@uab.edu](mailto:onestop@uab.edu). Additional information is available at [www.uab.edu/onestop](http://www.uab.edu/onestop).

## **PARKING**

Student vehicles must be registered with UAB Parking and Transportation Services, located at 608 8<sup>th</sup> Street South. The office is open Monday – Friday from 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Parking is allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Parking fees are established by location, payable by semester or year, and are billed to the student’s account. Additional information is available at [www.uab.edu/parking](http://www.uab.edu/parking).

## **PATIENT CARE PARTNERSHIP**

Students in health professions programs learn general information about the health care industry as well as knowledge and skills specific to their chosen profession. The American Hospital Association (AHA) ([www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org)) is an excellent resource for industry information. One role fulfilled by the AHA is that of patient advocate. The Patient Care Partnership brochure (link below) outlines rights and responsibilities of patients during hospital stays.

[www.aha.org/aha/issues/Communicating-With-Patients/pt-care-partnership.html](http://www.aha.org/aha/issues/Communicating-With-Patients/pt-care-partnership.html).

## **PLAGIARISM AND TURNITIN**

Plagiarism is academic misconduct that will result in a grade of zero and may result in dismissal from the School of Health Professions and UAB (see Grievance Procedures for Violations of Academic Standards). All papers submitted for grading in any SHP program may be reviewed using the online plagiarism monitoring software. Please note that all documents submitted to *Turnitin.com* are added to their database of papers that is used to screen future assignments for plagiarism.

## RECREATION CENTER

The campus Recreation Center, located at 1501 University Blvd, Birmingham, AL 35294, is open to faculty, staff, students, and their families. A valid student identification card or membership card is required for access. Facilities include basketball courts, racquetball courts, weight rooms, swimming pools, exercise rooms, and indoor track. Check the website for information about hours and services at [www.uab.edu/campusrecreation](http://www.uab.edu/campusrecreation).

## SCHOLARSHIPS: BLAZER SCHOLARSHIP MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCE TOOL (B-SMART)

The SHP has several scholarship opportunities for students enrolled in SHP programs. The Scholarship Committee, comprised of faculty and administrators, review and select awardees.

Scholarships available to students in any SHP program are the following:

*Carol E. Medders Endowed Scholarship* – Funding for students enrolled in a graduate program in the School of Health Professions. Awards are based on academic achievement and unmet financial need.

*Ethel M. and Jessie D. Smith Endowed Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship* – Funding for students enrolled in SHP programs with GPA 3.0 or above and unmet financial need. Student must be a resident of the state of Alabama at the time of enrollment.

*Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation Scholarship* – Funding for female students from selected states (AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN) enrolled in SHP programs. Award amounts are variable and are based on unmet financial need.

*National Alumni Society Dean's Scholarship* – Funding from the UAB National Alumni Society for two scholarships per year, one to a graduate student and one to an undergraduate student.

*Sandra Dunning Huechtker Endowed Memorial Award* – Funding for students enrolled in SHP program with GPA 3.0 or above and unmet financial need.

*SHP Dean's Scholarship* – Funding to recruit or retain outstanding students. Awards are based on academic achievement, and unmet financial need.

You may visit the Blazer Scholarship Management and Resource Tool (B-SMART) to apply <http://www.uab.edu/students/paying-for-college/>. Many programs in SHP also have scholarships available to currently enrolled students in those programs. Please see the program section of this handbook for that information.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media can serve as useful communication tools. However, health professions students should use the forums judiciously. The School's official sites are the following:

- Twitter: [https://twitter.com/uab\\_shp?lang=en](https://twitter.com/uab_shp?lang=en)
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UABSHP](http://www.facebook.com/UABSHP)
- YouTube: [www.youtube.com/uabshp](http://www.youtube.com/uabshp)
- Vimeo: <http://vimeo.com/uabshp>
- LinkedIn: [UAB SHP LinkedIn](http://www.linkedin.com/company/uabshp)
- Website: [www.uab.edu/shp](http://www.uab.edu/shp)

The School's Academic Affairs Committee published the following guidelines:

The Academic Affairs Committee proposes the following for social networking vehicles. Online communities like provide opportunities to share and explore interests that enrich the higher education learning experience. However, use them with discretion. UAB social media users are expected to act with honesty, integrity, and respect for others.

**Professional Use** - Only UAB employees authorized by their departments may use social networking Web sites to conduct University business. The authorized employee/position will serve as the point of contact for the web site. In keeping with University policy<sup>1</sup>, the authorized employee may post on a social network profile: the University's name, school, department, and/or unit information, a University email address or University telephone number for contact purposes, or post official department information, resources, calendars, and events. The employee should use care that any personal opinions or opposition to the University either by direct statement or perception not be published.

**General Use** - The following guidelines are strongly suggested:

1. Use networking sites legally and appropriately. Consider your personal obligation as a citizen of the university. Use proper conduct in your posts regarding the university and your colleagues/fellow students.
2. Consider the use of a student, staff or faculty member to monitor any departmental social pages. All parties need to understand the guidelines presented.
3. Remember, you cannot ensure who does and does not have access to your information. Any text or photo placed online is available to anyone in the world – even if you limit access to your site.
4. Information that you post online may continue to stay on the World Wide Web even after you erase or delete that information from your profiles or blog. Do not post anything that could reflect negatively on you, your family, your friends, and the university.
5. Do not post any confidential or sensitive information online.
6. By agreeing to the terms of use, online communities have your permission to republish your content worldwide and share information with advertisers, third parties, law enforcement, and others.
7. You are legally responsible for your posts on the social networking sites. Be discreet, respectful, and as accurate/factual as you can be in any comments or content you posted online.
8. Potential employers, admissions officers, and scholarship committees often search social networking sites to screen candidates. Your profile will be a part of how others know you.

## STUDENT ADVOCACY, RIGHTS AND CONDUCT (SARC)

Student Advocacy, Rights and Conduct (SARC) is responsible for upholding the integrity and purpose of the university through the fair and consistent application of policies and procedures to students' behavior to ensure a community that respects the dignity and right of all persons to reach their highest potential. SARC delivers programs and services in order to promote student safety and success, the

pursuit of knowledge, respect for self and others, global citizenship, personal accountability and integrity, and ethical development. More about SARC can be found here: [Student Advocacy, Rights & Conduct - Student Affairs - News | UAB](#) The UAB student conduct code may be accessed online: [Student Conduct Code \(uab.edu\)](#).

## STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

The University provides prevention, counseling, and treatment services to students through Student Health Services located at 1714 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. The clinic is open from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday; 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Friday, but is closed between noon and 1:00 p.m. daily. Detailed information about services and operating practices is located on the SHS website at [www.uab.edu/studenthealth](http://www.uab.edu/studenthealth). Appointments may be scheduled by calling 205-934-3580.

## TUITION AND FEES

Tuition and fees for the University are published annually under the “Current Students” tab of the UAB website. They may be paid through BlazerNET. There are two tuition rates: Alabama resident (in-state) and Non-resident (out-of-state). Currently, non-resident students who register for online course sections pay resident tuition. Non-resident tuition is charged for on-site courses such as: clinical practicums, independent study courses, and project courses. SHP programs have specific fees attached to programs, courses or laboratories. See the school fees at <https://www.uab.edu/students/paying-for-college/detailed-tuition-and-fees>

Payment deadlines for each semester are published on the official academic calendar and on the UAB website at [www.uab.edu/whentopay/](http://www.uab.edu/whentopay/). Please note that failure to meet payment deadlines can result in being administratively withdrawn from courses.

## WEATHER

Severe weather situations that may affect the safety of students, faculty, and staff are communicated through the same channels as other emergencies. Severe weather precautions are published at [www.uab.edu/emergency/preparedness](http://www.uab.edu/emergency/preparedness). Other information sources include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Webpage: <a href="http://www.uab.edu/emergency">www.uab.edu/emergency</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• B-ALERT system: <a href="http://www.uab.edu/balert">www.uab.edu/balert</a></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hotline: (205)- 934-2165</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WBHM Radio (90.3 FM)</li></ul>

## WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSE / PROGRAM

Withdrawal from a course or from your program is an official process and should be discussed with your academic advisor and / or program director. Most programs in the School are full-time and the curricula specifically sequenced. Withdrawal from a course may risk your wait time to register for the class again. You might have to wait for a full year before resuming enrollment in the program. Withdrawals are made through the UAB registration system via the Student Resources tab in BlazerNET. Notice of program withdrawal should be given in writing to the program director. Please refer to the following link

for additional information on withdrawal guidelines: <https://www.uab.edu/students/one-stop/classes/add-drop-and-withdrawal-policy>

## SECTION 2 – SHP AND UAB POLICIES

### SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS POLICIES

#### BACKGROUND CHECK AND DRUG SCREEN

##### POLICY

With the exceptions noted below, students admitted to clinical programs in the School of Health Professions (SHP) will complete a routine drug screening and criminal background check using the vendor(s) with which the School has a current agreement for those services. These screenings should be completed prior to the end of the first term of enrollment. A second routine drug screening and criminal background check using the approved school vendor, or a vendor required by the assigned clinical facility, will be completed prior to placement in a clinical rotation. Any required additional screenings, and/or those specified by waived programs, will be at the discretion of the program.

Students enrolled in SHP programs requiring an internship or other site placement as a component of degree requirements will complete a learning module in the campus learning management system by the end of the first semester of enrollment. They will submit the results of a drug screening and criminal background check from an approved vendor, prior to the end of the semester, immediately preceding the semester for which the internship or site placement occurs.

- School-negotiated fees for these screenings will be the responsibility of the student.
- Students who have completed the screenings as a condition of enrollment in a previous SHP program, are waived from the requisite unless the current program of enrollment also includes an internship or clinical placement component for degree completion.
- Drug screening and background check results performed by an approved vendor, within the most recent twelve months, may fulfill the SHP requirement.
- The rules and regulations governing individual placement sites may include additional provisions and/or more stringent guidelines which supersede this policy. Fees for these screenings are the responsibility of the student.
- Should you fail the drug screening or your background check contains issues that may prevent you from receiving or sitting for licensure, a representative from the Office of the Senior Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs will contact you. Depending upon the outcome, you may be dismissed from the program. See your program's guidelines regarding specific consequences.

Programs requiring a background check and drug screening by the end of the first semester of enrollment and again, prior to clinical placement are the following:

Doctor of Physical Therapy

Occupational Therapy Doctorate – (entry level)

Master of Science in Biotechnology

Master of Science in Clinical Laboratory Science  
Master of Science in Genetic Counseling  
Master of Science in Health Administration (Residential)  
Master of Science in Health Physics  
Master of Science in Nuclear Medicine Technology  
Master of Science in Nutrition Sciences – Dietetic Internship Clinical Track  
Master of Science in Nutrition Sciences – Dietitian Education Program  
Graduate Certificate in Dietitian Education  
Master of Science in Nutrition Sciences – Prior Learning Clinical Track  
Master of Science in Occupational Therapy – (entry level)  
Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies

Programs requiring the background check and drug screening learning module during the first semester of enrollment, a criminal background check and drug screening by the end of the semester immediately preceding clinical placement or internship are the following:

Bachelor of Science in Health Care Management  
Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences  
Bachelor of Science in Biobehavioral Nutrition and Wellness Major

\*Programs waived from the Background Check and Drug Screening requirement are the following:

Doctor of Philosophy in Administration Health Services – all concentrations  
Doctor of Philosophy in Rehabilitation Sciences  
Doctor of Science in Healthcare Leadership  
Graduate Certificate in Biotechnology Regulatory Affairs  
Graduate Certificate in Clinical Informatics  
Graduate Certificate in Health Care Quality and Safety  
Graduate Certificate in Low Vision Rehabilitation  
Master of Science in Health Administration (International and Executive tracks)  
Master of Science in Health Care Quality and Safety  
Master of Science in Health Informatics  
Master of Science in Healthcare Simulation  
Master of Science in Nutrition Sciences - Research Track  
Master of Science in Nutrition Sciences – Lifestyle Management and Disease Prevention Track

**Attachments:**

- Procedure for Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening
- Student Instructions
- Consent to Drug Testing and Release of Drug Test Results
- Consent to Criminal Background Check and Release of Results

**Note:** Replaces Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening Policy 2012

\* Students enrolled in exempt programs who participate in a course(s) incorporating community, corporate or other high impact, out-of-classroom activities such as service learning, capstone projects or other hands-on learning experiences, may be required by placement sites to submit background check and drug screening results. Students are responsible for the fees associated with such screening

### **Attachment 1: Procedure for Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening**

1. Program directors (or designees) provide all accepted students with instructions for completing a background check and drug screening.
2. Students request the specified package on the approved SHP vendor website and pay the required fees.
3. Assigned designee(s) in the SHP Office for Student Recruitment, Engagement and Success (OSRES) review and provide compliance reports for programs.
4. In the event a report reveals information which may prevent a student from being placed in a clinical rotation or internship site or potentially makes them ineligible for professional certification or licensure, the OSRES contacts the individual student to discuss the implications of said information in the report. If such information exists, the student must acknowledge in writing their decision to continue in the program's didactic phase with the understanding that a degree cannot be awarded without completion of required clinical practice or internship placement.
5. Prior to clinical placement, program directors (or designees) will provide students with instructions to complete a repeat background check and drug screening. In addition, some sites require a social media background check. The package code for this is different than the initial drug screen and background package code. If a vendor is specified by the placement site or preceptor, the preceptor (or designee) will provide students with instructions.
6. Students will follow the instructions provided by sites or placements if they go beyond those of the School.
7. Students are responsible for fees required for screenings.
8. OSRES designee discusses with individual students' implications for information which may inhibit placement at a clinical or internship site.
9. Students provide preceptors or internship supervisors with the required information from the results of their background check and drug screening reports.

## Attachment 2:



### STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

#### SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

#### About CastleBranch.com

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CastleBranch is a secure platform that allows you to order your background check & drug test online. Once you have placed your order, you may use your login to access additional features of CastleBranch, including document storage, portfolio builders and reference tools. CastleBranch also allows you to upload any additional documents required by your school.

#### Order Summary

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##### Required Personal Information

- o In addition to entering your full name and date of birth, you will be asked for your Social Security Number, current address, phone number, and e-mail address.

##### Drug Test (LabCorp or Quest Diagnostics)

- o Within 24-48 hours after you place your order, the electronic chain of custody form e-chain will be placed directly into your CastleBranch account. This e-chain will explain where you need to go to complete your drug test.

##### Payment Information

- o At the end of the online order process, you will be prompted to enter your Visa or MasterCard information. Money orders are also accepted, but will result in a \$10 fee and additional turn-around-time.

#### Place Your Order

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Go to: [www.castlebranch.com](http://www.castlebranch.com) and enter package code:

AH01 - Background Check and Drug Test

You will be required to enter your program under "Student Information" classification

You will then be directed to set up your CastleBranch profile account.

#### View Your Results

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Your results will be posted directly to your CastleBranch profile account. You will be notified if there is any missing information needed in order to process your order. Although 95% of background check results are completed within 3-5 business days, some results may take longer. Your order will show as "In Process" until it has been completed in its entirety. Your school's administrator can also securely view your results online with their unique username and password. If you have any additional questions, please contact the Service Desk at 888.723.4263 x 7196 or visit the website to submit your question at: <https://www.castlebranch.com/contact-us>.

**Attachment 3**

**UAB School of Health Professions**

**Consent to Drug Testing and Release of Drug Test Results**

For and in consideration of my participation in clinical education experiences, I understand that I will be required to submit to drug testing as a prerequisite to my assignment to a clinical site. I hereby consent to be tested for drugs and consent to the release of any such drug test results to the Office of academic and Faculty Affairs, my Program Director, and the subsequent release of such drug test results to the clinical site to which I am assigned.

I understand that any clinical site to which I am assigned has the right to require additional drug testing as a condition of my placement. I hereby consent to any facility-required drug testing and consent to the release of such drug test results to my Program Director.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian  
(required only if student is under 19)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Attachment 4**

**UAB School of Health Professions**

**Consent to Criminal Background Check and Release of Results**

For and in consideration of my participation in clinical education experiences, I understand that I will be required to submit to a criminal background check as a prerequisite to my assignment to a clinical site. I hereby consent to have a criminal background check and consent to the release the results to the Office of Academic and Faculty Affairs, my Program Director, and the subsequent release of the results to the clinical site to which I am assigned.

I understand that any clinical site to which I am assigned has the right to require additional background check as a condition of my placement. I hereby consent to any facility-required background check and consent to the release of the results of the check to my Program Director.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian  
(required only if student is under 19)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## COVID-19 CAMPUS ENTRY

UAB is committed to making our campus among the safest in America as students return at the right time and under the right conditions.

- Students admitted to the School of Health Professions will follow university guidelines for COVID-19 entry found at: [Students Overview - United | UAB](#)
- Guidelines include wearing a mask while on campus; maintaining proper social distancing; washing hands often; cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces; and completing required training and reporting tasks.
- All UAB students coming to campus for the fall semester 2021 will have access to a free COVID-vaccination through Student Health Services. See information at <https://www.uab.edu/uabunited/covid-19-vaccine>
- Vaccinated students should upload an image of their vaccination card through the Student Health Patient Portal at [https://studentwellness.uab.edu/login\\_directory.aspx](https://studentwellness.uab.edu/login_directory.aspx).
- Prior to placement in clinical settings, SHP students will follow the UAB School of Health Professions Plan/Checklist for Students entering Clinical Experiences.

## EMERGENCY PLAN - SHPB

[https://www.uab.edu/shp/home/images/PDF/SHPB\\_BUILDING\\_EMERGENCY\\_PLAN\\_2019.pdf](https://www.uab.edu/shp/home/images/PDF/SHPB_BUILDING_EMERGENCY_PLAN_2019.pdf)

## FINAL COURSE GRADE APPEAL PROCESS

[www.uab.edu/shp/home/images/PDF/grievance\\_procedures.pdf](http://www.uab.edu/shp/home/images/PDF/grievance_procedures.pdf)

## PLAGIARISM

[www.uab.edu/shp/home/images/PDF/Plagiarism\\_Policy.pdf](http://www.uab.edu/shp/home/images/PDF/Plagiarism_Policy.pdf)

*Please note that all papers submitted for grading in any SHP program may be reviewed using the online plagiarism monitoring software, Turnitin.com. All documents submitted to Turnitin.com are added to their database of papers used to screen future assignments for plagiarism.*

# UAB POLICIES

## CLASSROOM BEHAVIORS

### ATTENDANCE / ABSENCE (UNDERGRADUATE)

<http://catalog.uab.edu/undergraduate/progresstowardadegree/#enrollmenttext>

## HEALTH

### AIDS AND HIV INFECTION

[www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-HS-POL-0000252.aspx](http://www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-HS-POL-0000252.aspx)

### BODY FLUID EXPOSURE

[www.uab.edu/humanresources/home/employeehealth/reportingexposures](http://www.uab.edu/humanresources/home/employeehealth/reportingexposures)

### IMMUNIZATIONS

[www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-AD-POL-0000086.aspx](http://www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-AD-POL-0000086.aspx)

## SUBSTANCE USE/ABUSE

### ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, USE AND CONSUMPTION

[www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-AD-POL-0000071.aspx](http://www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-AD-POL-0000071.aspx)

### DRUG FREE CAMPUS (GENERAL POLICY)

<https://www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-UC-POL-0000804.html>

### NONSMOKING

[www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-HS-POL-0000110.aspx](http://www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-HS-POL-0000110.aspx)

## TECHNOLOGY GUIDELINES

### COMPUTER AND NETWORK RESOURCES (ACCEPTABLE USE)

[www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-IT-POL-0000004.aspx](http://www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-IT-POL-0000004.aspx)

### COMPUTER SOFTWARE COPYING AND USE

[www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-IT-POL-0000028.aspx](http://www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-IT-POL-0000028.aspx)

## INCLUSIVENESS

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND DISCRIMINATORY HARASSMENT

[www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-BT-POL-0000052.aspx](http://www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-BT-POL-0000052.aspx)

## **RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES**

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY CODE**

[https://www.uab.edu/compliance/images/FINAL\\_Academic\\_Integrity\\_Code\\_2021-June-22.pdf](https://www.uab.edu/compliance/images/FINAL_Academic_Integrity_Code_2021-June-22.pdf)

### **ETHICAL STANDARDS IN RESEARCH AND OTHER SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES**

[www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-RA-POL-0000263.aspx](http://www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-RA-POL-0000263.aspx)

### **PATENT (INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY)**

[www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-RA-POL-0000115.aspx](http://www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-RA-POL-0000115.aspx)

### **FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, AND OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPONS**

[www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-HR-POL-0000257.aspx](http://www.uab.edu/policies/content/Pages/UAB-HR-POL-0000257.aspx)

*Note: Additional university policies may be located by searching the UAB Policies and Procedures Library available online at [www.uab.edu/policies/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.uab.edu/policies/Pages/default.aspx).*

## SECTION 3 – DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

### WELCOME

Welcome to the UAB **Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences (BMD) Program**. This student handbook has been compiled to provide you with information to help you as you progress through your program. Here are some of the reasons you made the right choice in selecting the B.S. in Biomedical Sciences.

- The Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences program prepares graduates for health-related graduate and professional study or for entry into the biomedical science workforce.
- This program is built on a strong biomedical sciences curriculum that includes advanced coursework in physiology, pharmacology, clinical biochemistry, medical microbiology and immunology, and the pathological basis of disease; all taught in an integrated systems-based approach that focuses on human health, disease, and wellness.
- Numerous elective options allow students to incorporate many of the prerequisites for graduate program admission into the biomedical sciences program of study.
- This program allows students to create a tailored undergraduate educational experience to prepare for further study in an area of choice; such as physician assistant studies, medicine, dentistry, optometry, physical therapy, biotechnology, clinical laboratory science, genetic counseling, and many more.

Please take the time to read the student handbook and use it as your guide as you matriculate through the Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences program. Where appropriate, the contact for more detailed information on various subjects has been included. The UAB web page links are included for some of the sections of this handbook and you are encouraged to review the links for information you may need. The UAB and School of Health Professions (SHP) pages have search engines to allow you to input keywords and find information. The campus directory and calendars are located on the main UAB page: [www.uab.edu](http://www.uab.edu). If you need further explanation of any matter contained in this handbook, please contact the BMD program.

## FACULTY & STAFF

The faculty and staff of the Biomedical Sciences program are prepared to deliver high quality education to all BMD students, and are committed to the growth of future professionals. The Biomedical Sciences program draws faculty from many disciplines and professional programs in the School of Health Professions.

### Biomedical Sciences Program Faculty and Staff



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## PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

The Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences program at The University of Alabama at Birmingham was established in July of 2013. Its faculty and staff are committed to providing high quality educational opportunities that prepare students for health-related graduate and professional study or for entry into one of the fastest growing occupational sectors.

This program is built on a strong biomedical sciences curriculum that includes coursework in physiology, pharmacology, clinical biochemistry, medical microbiology, immunology, and the pathological basis of disease. An undergraduate degree in Biomedical Sciences prepares students for a wide variety of opportunities which have a basis in cellular and molecular biology, human anatomy and physiology. In addition to enrolling in required courses, students will have opportunities to engage in elective courses in specialty areas of clinical and diagnostic sciences. In this process, students are able to tailor their educational experiences to specific career objectives. The curriculum will prepare graduates to pursue further studies in professional schools for medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, and optometry, as well as other programs such as physician assistant and physical therapy. This degree will also prepare students for graduate studies in the biomedical sciences as well as for employment in a variety of innovative and developing fields in biotechnology.

The basic biomedical science curriculum meets many requirements for entrance into professional schools. Experiential learning opportunities are encouraged and could include participating in laboratory research, teaching/tutoring in selected courses, volunteer experiences and leadership positions within student club(s), internships, and honors curriculum. These opportunities are encouraged with the student's interests and career goals as the focus.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Obtain a solid background in anatomy and physiology and be able to integrate knowledge from the molecular to the systemic level
- Demonstrate strong writing and oral communication skills
- Develop scientific hypotheses and experiments to test them
- Work effectively in teams
- Think critically and logically

## BMD PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

*Our mission is to provide a human-based science education to a set of diverse, qualified and motivated undergraduate students in an inclusive community using clinical perspectives to develop critical thinking, teamwork and communication skills. We offer expert faculty and staff who are approachable and committed to preparing students for an assortment of careers in healthcare and the biomedical sciences.*

## BMD PROGRAM GOALS

The Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences Program goals are as follows:

1. To deliver an academically sound program of study that develops the knowledge and skills required of students entering graduate or professional study in biomedical sciences.
2. To recruit and retain highly motivated diverse students.
3. To employ teaching formats and instructional media appropriate to achieve desired learning outcomes.

## Admission to the Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences Program

Admission options are based on the student's previous academic work and personal interests. Students intending to enroll in the Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences (BMD) program must meet all UAB undergraduate admission and academic requirements. The following requirements apply and must be met prior to enrolling into the BMD program.

1. Students must declare the Biomedical Sciences major and meet with a BMD advisor prior to enrollment in the BMD program. Health-related information is required at the time of enrollment (see below) is required prior to any practicum or lab placements. A background check and drug screen may be required prior to any practicum, shadowing or lab placement.
2. Program Admission from High School.
  - Must be a graduate of an accredited high school with a grade point average of a 2.75 or higher on a 4.0 scale for admission.
  - Achieved an ACT Composite Score of 22 or higher.
  - Able to place in College English 101 or higher.
  - Achieved an ACT Math Sub-score of 22. A math placement test prior to student orientation will determine math placement.
  - Must meet all UAB undergraduate admission and academic requirements.
  - If accepted, complete the UAB medical history questionnaire and physical, provide proof of required immunizations, and receive satisfactory screening by the UAB Medical Center Student Health Service.
3. Program Admission from Community College or University, including UAB.
  - Must be a graduate of an accredited high school.
  - Must meet all UAB undergraduate admission and academic requirements.
  - If accepted, complete the UAB medical history questionnaire and physical, provide proof of required immunizations, and receive satisfactory screening by the UAB Medical Center Student Health Service.
  - Must hold a 2.75 or higher Overall GPA on a 4.0 scale for admission to the Biomedical Sciences Program.
  - Must be in or have completed college English 101 or higher and Pre-calculus MA 105 or higher.

4. Other Biomedical Sciences Program Requirements.
  - All prerequisite Area V and BMD course work must be completed with a grade of C or better.
  - A minimum 2.75 Overall GPA and 2.00 UAB institutional GPA must be maintained to remain enrolled in the B.S. in Biomedical Sciences program.

**Overall Application Procedure:**

Applications are accepted at any time, and students may be enrolled during any term. Applicants should submit the following materials:

**To the UAB Undergraduate Admissions Office:**

- Completed UAB undergraduate application form, indicating SHP as the school and BMD as major, and application fee, if applicable (if enrolled at UAB in another major, complete a Change of School/Major Request using the online form available on [BlazerNET](#)).
- Official transcripts from each college or university attended.

**To the Biomedical Sciences Program Office in the School of Health Professions:**

- The student should request an appointment with a Biomedical Sciences program advisor prior to the term of initial enrollment. It is essential to have transcripts of previous coursework available during the enrollment meeting.

## CURRICULUM

Students in the undergraduate Biomedical Sciences Program complete specific courses according to a planned and structured program of study. Students fulfill both core degree requirements and major/professional curriculum requirements in a logical sequence. The sequence is intended to facilitate success in the overall degree requirements.

Through the curriculum, students develop communication skills and develop critical thinking and problem solving skills applicable to scientific, public and clinical issues. Students also develop their ability to acquire and evaluate new knowledge and perspectives critically, and to communicate their ideas to others effectively.

Graduates should demonstrate achievement of the following professional curriculum goals:

- Communicate effectively in speaking and writing
- Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge in the biomedical sciences
- Solve problems by generating, evaluating, and selecting alternative solutions
- Acquire and synthesize knowledge from diverse sources

### **UAB Core Curriculum Requirements for the Biomedical Sciences Program**

<b>UAB/Program Core Curriculum (UAB Equivalents)</b>	<b>Semester Hours</b>
Area I. Written Composition (6 hours) English Composition I, II (EH 101,102)	<b>6</b>
Area II. Humanities and Fine Arts (12 hours) Literature <sup>1</sup> Fine Arts Elective Electives <sup>1</sup>	<b>3-6</b> <b>3</b> <b>6-9</b>
Area III. Natural Sciences and Mathematics (11 hours) Pre-Calculus (MA 106) or higher <sup>2</sup> General Chemistry I and II (CH 115/116, 117/118)	<b>3-4</b> <b>8</b>
Area IV. History, Social, & Behavioral Sciences (12 hours) History <sup>1</sup> Social & Behavioral Sciences (Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology) <sup>3</sup> Elective <sup>1</sup>	<b>3-6</b> <b>6-9</b> <b>3</b>
Area V. Pre-professional, Major, & Elective Courses (19-23 hours) Freshman Year Experience (HRP 101 or equivalent) Introductory Biology I and II (BY 123, 124) Organic Chemistry I and II (CH 235/236, 237/238) Statistics (HCM 360, MA 180, or PY 216) Research Methods (BMD 380 or HCM 460 or PY 315)	<b>2</b> <b>8</b> <b>8</b> <b>3-4</b> <b>3</b>

<sup>1</sup> A 6-semester hour sequence either in literature or in history is required; if a second literature is chosen, it will apply as 3 of the elective hours in Area II Humanities and Fine Arts; if a second history is chosen, it will apply as 3 of the elective hours in Area IV History, Social, and Behavioral Sciences.

<sup>2</sup> Calculus I (MA 125) may be required by some post-graduate programs and is highly recommended.

<sup>3</sup> Should be chosen based on post-graduate program pre-requisite requirements. Psychology and Sociology electives are highly recommended.

## Suggested Biomedical Sciences (BMD) 4-Year Curriculum Guide

### Freshman Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
EH 101 English Composition I	3	EH 102 English Composition II	3
MATH 106 Pre-Calculus or higher (MATH 125 Calculus I highly recommended)	3-4	BY 123/L Introductory Biology I/Lab	4
CH 115/116 or 114/R Introductory Chemistry I/Lab/Recitation	4	CH 117 or 119/118/R Introductory Chemistry II/Lab/Recitation	4
PY 101 Introduction to Psychology or PY 201 Honors (or equivalent Core IV elective)	3	Core IV History	3
HRP 101 Freshman Year Experience Course or equivalent	2	BMD 150 Introduction to the Biomedical Sciences	1
Total Credits:	15-16	Total Credits:	15

### Sophomore Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
CH 235/236 or 234/R Organic Chemistry I/Lab/Recitation	4	CH 237/238 or 239/R Organic Chemistry II	4
BY 124/L Introductory Biology II/Lab	4	Core II or Core IV (based on sequence)	3
Core II Literature	3	NTR 222 Nutrition and Health	3
PY 212 Developmental Psychology (or equivalent Core IV elective)	3	BMD 310 Clinical Anatomy and Histology	4
BMD 201 Contemporary Issues in Biomedical Sciences	2	BMD 202 Survey of Biomedical Sciences Literature	1
Total Credits:	16	Total Credits:	15

### Junior Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
BMD 315 Clinical Physiology and Pharmacology for Health Professions I	4	BMD 317 Clinical Physiology and Pharmacology for Health Professions II	4
BMD 320 Survey of Cell Biology for Health Professions	3	BMD 330 Clinical Microbiology for Health Professions	3
CMST 101 Public Speaking (or equivalent Core II elective)	3	Core II or IV History or Literature sequence	3
HCM 360 Statistics for Managers, MA 180 Introduction to Statistics, or PY 216 Elementary Statistical Methods	3-4	BMD 380 Research Methods and Scientific Literacy for the Biomedical Sciences or HCM 460 Research Methods or PY 315 Methods Psychological Research	3
PH 201 or PH 221 College or General Physics I /Lab/ Recitation or BMD Elective	3-4	PH 202 or PH 222 College or General Physics II /Lab/ Recitation or BMD Elective	3-4
Total Credits:	16-18	Total Credits:	16-17

### Senior Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
BMD 410 Clinical Biochemistry for Health Professions	3	BMD 475 Capstone Experience in the Biomedical Sciences	4
BMD 420 Pathophysiology for Health Professions	4	BMD 440 Human Genetics for Health Professions	3
BMD 430 Clinical Immunology for Health Professions	3	Core II Fine Arts	3
BMD Elective	3	BMD Elective	3
BMD Elective	3	BMD Elective	3
Total Credits:	16	Total Credits:	16

**Total Credits for Degree: 123-127**

English/Math determined by Placement or AP credit.

A 6 semester hour sequence either in Literature or History is required. If a second Literature is chosen, 3 hours of HY/SBS must be taken. If a second History is chosen, 3 hours of Humanity & Fine Arts must be taken.

BMD Electives: Students may choose 16 to 18 hours of elective courses to tailor their degree to their career and educational goals. 6 hours of these electives must be in 300-level courses or higher. Students are encouraged to select electives in consultation with their academic advisor.

## BMD PROGRAM ACADEMIC AND OPERATIONAL POLICIES

The Biomedical Sciences Program policies and procedures are established to provide an inclusive and safe environment that is conducive to learning. In addition to UAB and SHP policies, the following policies include overall program operational and academic policies. Should there be a programmatic question or need not addressed in one of the published policies in this handbook, you should contact the BMD Program Director or Academic Advisor of the Program.

### ACADEMIC EXAMINATIONS AND TESTING

Students are expected to read and comply with all academic regulations as published in the UAB catalog, the SHP catalog, the UAB Class Schedule, and the BMD Handbook.

If serious circumstances, such as, illness, make absence from class unavoidable, the student is responsible for making arrangements to reschedule any missed assignments or exams within one week after the original due date. The student must obtain a signed statement from a physician or other relevant documentation and submit it to the instructor.

Quizzes and examinations may be administered through the Canvas Learn course sites, and will be given only on the scheduled dates at specified times. Scheduled examinations may be taken on an alternate date only if appropriate arrangements are made one week prior to the time of the examination. The course syllabus will note testing requirements for each course. Failure to follow this policy may result in a grade penalty or a zero for the examination.

Make-up exams for unexcused absences will be conducted at the discretion of the course instructor. An instructor may apply a penalty or a zero for the examination. In the event of illness or family emergency, the student must obtain a signed statement from a physician or other relevant documentation and submit it to the instructor.

### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- **Program of Study:** Many courses in the BMD curriculum have designated prerequisites. Students may not take courses out of sequence without permission from the BMD program director. A student's program of study is documented following transcript evaluation and initial academic advising. Students will be provided with a curriculum plan when they begin the BMD program. Failure to adhere to the program of study may result in delays towards degree completion and graduation.

- **Curriculum Progression:** The minimum level of achievement for progression to the next course in sequential courses is a course grade of “C” in BMD and Area V.

A current student who receives a “D” or an “F” in any required BMD or Area V course while admitted to the Biomedical Sciences program will be dismissed from the program unless there are extenuating circumstances. These circumstances must be extreme in order to be considered.

In the case of extreme circumstances, the student will be suspended from the program rather than expelled, and must wait until the next time the course in which the failing grade was made is offered again. The student will then be allowed to take the course again. Under the recommendation of the program director, the student may be required to take remedial courses prior to repeating a Biomedical Sciences course. If the student passes the course, then the student may petition the program director for re-entry into the program. Re-entry into the Biomedical Sciences program is NOT guaranteed. If the student takes the course again and still fails to make a grade of “C” or greater; the student will be expelled from the program.

- **Grading:** Faculty instructors in each course are responsible for grading assignments, papers, exams, and projects. Grading criteria are published in each course syllabus.
- **Course Overload Requirements:** Students wishing to register for more than 18 semester hours in a single semester will be required to have program director permission. In general, 18 or more hours per semester is discouraged and it is expected that students have at least an overall GPA of 3.0 to be considered for course overload permission from the program director.

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Maintain academic integrity by refraining from cheating. Incidents of cheating among others should be reported if and when it is witnessed.
- Check email on a daily basis.
- Turn off all cell phones and/or beepers prior to beginning class.
- Report to all class meetings on time.
- Bring all course materials to class.
- Assist in maintaining a constructive classroom environment by refraining from inappropriate disruptions or outbursts. Respectful behavior toward instructors, classmates, and guests is expected.
- Have access to a computer with MS Office software for participation in on-line work (software available through UAB at reduced cost to students.)
- Failure to meet student responsibilities may lead to counseling, reprimand, and/or probation.

## ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic Misconduct: Academic conduct generally concerns the behaviors and actions of students in the teaching/learning environment, whether on campus or at another location sponsoring a learning activity. When behaviors and actions of students are deemed unethical or inappropriate, the term academic misconduct may be applied. Examples of Academic Misconduct include, but are not necessarily limited to, Abetting, Cheating, Dishonesty, Fabrication, misrepresentation, Plagiarism, Tardiness or Unexcused Absences, and Unprofessional Behavior. A student's failure to meet technical standards shall also be handled as Academic Misconduct under this Policy.

The Biomedical Sciences Program follows and abides by the UAB School of Health Professions and UAB policies regarding Academic Misconduct

## ADVISING AND MENTORING

All students in the Biomedical Sciences (BMD) Program will be assigned an academic advisor. The advisor will serve as a consultant to the student and conduct academic progress reviews. The student should plan to meet with the advisor at least once during each semester. If a student has a problem directly relating to an individual course, it is recommended that the student meet with the instructor of the course.

Mentoring, Peer Mentoring, and Tutoring are all highly recommended for BMD students to utilize. The Biomedical Sciences Program peer mentors and tutors will consist of BMD upper-level students. Students can contact peer mentors and tutors through the BMD academic advisors.

## PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

*The Biomedical Sciences Student Organization (BMD)* is open to all BMD students. The Association was established in 2014 to build a communication forum for students and faculty. For more information regarding the BMD Student Organization, contact the Biomedical Sciences academic advisor or BMD program director.

## STUDENT HONOR CODE

In addition to the UAB Academic Honor Code, the faculty and staff of the Biomedical Sciences (BMD) Program expect an acceptable quality of work and mature behavior from every student. Students, as adults, are expected to conduct themselves accordingly and to accept responsibility for their personal behavior. In accepting this responsibility, the students in the BMD Program will not lie, cheat, or steal. A student involved in academic misconduct such as knowingly giving and/or receiving unauthorized aid in tests and examinations, plagiarizing, or any other acts of dishonesty in academic work will be recommended for immediate dismissal from the BMD Program. In addition, students who tolerate a violation of the student honor code will be subject to disciplinary action.

## DRESS CODE

Clothing should be clean, neat, in good repair, and appropriate for class. Business casual dress is preferred for class; shorts and abbreviated tops are not acceptable.

When at internship sites, clinic sites, or research labs, students are required to adhere to the attire guidelines for that facility. Please contact the BMD program director or advisor with questions.

**Students may be dismissed from the BMD program at any point during the program due to positive drug screen of illegal activity.** Please refer to the policy section of this handbook for the policy statement.

## MANDATORY COMPUTER OWNERSHIP POLICY FOR INCOMING BMD STUDENTS

Beginning with the Fall 2017, entering students in the School of Health Professions, Department of Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences, Biomedical Sciences undergraduate program will require that each BMD student have a laptop computer (no iPads or Android-based tablets) sufficiently equipped to be used to support essential online examination, classroom, and communication tasks before entering their 300-level BMD coursework. Upon arrival, students can be assisted in setting up their computers to access the School's wireless network and will later be shown how to make their computer eligible for use in computer-based exams.

Undergraduate students in the Biomedical Sciences program are required to use the technology components specified below.

Options for Satisfying the Computer Ownership Requirement:

- Purchase a recommended computer from UAB's TechConnect Store in the Hill University Student Center ([www.uab.edu/it/home/techconnect](http://www.uab.edu/it/home/techconnect)). All computers found in the UAB TechConnect store are equipped for Biomedical Sciences' requirements. Ph. 205-934-8333
- Use a laptop computer you already own (if it meets our minimum specifications). Apple or PC have laptops that will meet our specifications.

## MINIMUM SPECIFICATIONS

You are welcome to use a laptop computer that you already have, but it is important that it meet the minimum requirements to ensure that it will provide you with the type of service that you will need throughout your university career.

- i5 processor (Pentium)
- 256 hard drive
- 8 GB memory capacity

## REQUIRED SOFTWARE

- Microsoft Windows or Mac OS operating systems (no iPads or Android-based tablets allowed)
- Required software available to UAB students for FREE download at <https://uab.onthehub.com/WebStore/Welcome.aspx>
  - Microsoft 365 Office (word, excel, powerpoint)
  - Endnote (most recent edition)

- Canvas recommended browser is Google Chrome available online for FREE download at <https://www.google.com/chrome/browser/desktop/index.html>

## LAPTOP SUPPORT

The UAB IT staff is prepared to help you get your computer connected to the wireless network and prepare it for use with the Canvas Lockdown Browser for computerized examinations. However, there are some services we are not equipped to provide. Services NOT provided by UAB IT:

- Internal or external hardware repair
- Computer partitioning and reformatting
- Operating system installation and restores
- Application software installation
- Backing up and restoring personal data, including photos, videos and music files
- Support for operating systems other than Windows

However, if you purchase a laptop computer from UAB's TechConnect, then you will have laptop support services such as:

- 3-year premium warranty an accident damage protection
- Pre-loaded with program-specific software
- On-site repair service and support
- Loaner provided while in repair services

## GRADES

Final grades and credits for each student are recorded and preserved as a permanent record at UAB. The final grades for academic courses are compiled and proportioned to develop a final course grade. The course instructor will inform the students at the beginning of each term in each course syllabus of the system of proportioning of scores used to develop the course grade. Minimum performance criteria designated by the course instructor must be achieved by the student. These criteria indicate the level of competency of the individual student.

Grades are awarded according to the level of the student's achievement in each course. The grades for academic courses are indicated by letters:

A = Excellent

B = Above Average

C = Average

D = Inadequate (undergraduate only)

F = Failure

P = Pass

W = Withdrawal, a notation (Not a Grade) assigned by the Registrar and reflects an administrative action initiated by the student in accordance with UAB regulations.

I\* = Incomplete, a temporary notation assigned a student who has not completed course

requirements.

N = No Grade Submitted, a temporary notation made by the Registrar if the course instructor does not assign a grade prior to issuing of grade reports or when the course is designated to extend beyond a single term.

X = Absent from Final Exam

\* An “I” will be given only when an emergency or unexpected event prohibits the student from meeting course objectives in a timely manner and if there is reasonable expectation that the course requirements can be satisfactorily completed by the end of the following term. The notation of “I” will convert to an “F” unless an extension is requested specifying the date the student will complete the course requirements. Refer to the department policy for awarding a grade of Incomplete.

The student’s grade point average is calculated by dividing the total quality points earned by the semester hours attempted. Semester hours attempted is defined as the total semester hours for any course in which the student was registered on a regular basis and receives an A, B, C, D, or F. Quality points are awarded as follows:

<u>Quality Points</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
4	A
3	B
2	C
1	D
None	P, NP, or F

## **PREGNANCY POLICY**

The University of Alabama at Birmingham seeks to treat all students equally, regardless of their actual or potential parental, family or marital status. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex — including pregnancy, parenting and all related conditions — in education and in programs and activities that receive federal funding.

The University must treat pregnant students in the same way it treats similarly situated students. Thus, any accommodation provided to students who have temporary medical conditions will also be provided to pregnant students. Students seeking an accommodation due to pregnancy or a condition related to pregnancy must register with the Title IX Office.

The Title IX Office offers accommodations, options and resources to students who are pregnant, recovering from pregnancy, and/or a condition related to pregnancy. Additionally, the Title IX Office works with students, University administration, departments, faculty, staff, campus police, and other support services to ensure that University policies and programs foster a campus community free of sex discrimination.

To seek accommodations, please contact the Title IX Office by calling 205-996-1340 or emailing [titleixoffice@uab.edu](mailto:titleixoffice@uab.edu). See the <https://www.uab.edu/titleix/> for more information.

## TECHNOLOGY USE IN THE CLASSROOM

### UAB's Policy

The use of any personal computational or communications devices in the classroom, not otherwise governed by UAB or course policies, is subject to the approval of the instructor. This includes (but is not limited to) the use of calculators, computers, personal digital assistants, text pagers, and cell phones. Any use of such devices without instructor approval is not permitted. The use of such devices without permission of the instructor may be considered a violation of UAB's non-academic conduct policies. The use of such devices to facilitate an act of academic misconduct (such as cheating or plagiarism) will be considered a violation of the UAB Academic Honor Code and will be sanctioned as outlined in the Code.

<https://www.uab.edu/students/one-stop/policies/academic-honor-code>

A student must notify and receive approval of the instructor if there are circumstances that may require him/her to have access to a cell phone while in the classroom. In such cases, if permission is granted, the student must have the phone in silent mode (vibrate) and will need to exit the classroom to answer the call or respond to the text.

## GUIDELINES FOR AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT COMPLIANCE

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

#### Essential Functions and Technical Competencies

- I. Essential Components
  - A. Program Purpose

The B. S. in Biomedical Sciences prepares graduates for entry into the biomedical science workforce or for graduate and professional study in the health professions. This program is built on a strong clinically focused biomedical sciences curriculum with numerous elective options. Upper level coursework is restricted to individuals who have completed prerequisite coursework and attained the minimum cumulative grade point average as specified in the course catalog. All admission requirements are published in the UAB *Undergraduate Catalog*.

- B. Essential Functions and Technical Competencies

Education in the Biomedical Sciences requires the acquisition of academic knowledge, specialized communication skills, as well as professional attitudes and behaviors. Graduates must have the knowledge and skills to function in a broad variety of situations and environments. Three learning environments include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Didactic Courses
2. Practicum/Lab Courses
3. Distance-Accessible Courses

The technical skills and essential functions required for admission, progression and completion of the B.S. Biomedical Sciences degree relative to each of these learning environments are detailed below.

**Didactic Course Standards:**

<b>Technical Skill</b>	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Examples of Necessary Activities to be Performed (not all inclusive)</b>
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for the application and synthesis of course concepts.	Students should be able to identify problems and propose innovative solutions through applying principles learned in the classroom.
Interpersonal Behavior	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals and groups from diverse backgrounds.	Students should demonstrate an ability to establish rapport with colleagues and to work in groups on course activities.
Communication	Verbal communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in oral and written form using the English language.	Students should be able to complete written assignments, participate in classroom discussion/activities and complete group projects. Students should also be able to focus on class activities without disruptive interruptions.
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to complete class assignments.	Students should be able to access and use a computer when required and complete testing and assignments through the use of required computer systems.

**Practicum and Lab Course Standards:**

<b>Technical Skill</b>	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Examples of Necessary Activities to be Performed (not all inclusive)</b>
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Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for the application of course concepts to the laboratory or practicum environment.	Students should be able to identify problems and propose innovative solutions to situations observed in the laboratory/practicum environment. Students should also be able to apply principles learned in the classroom to situations observed in the laboratory/practicum environment.
Interpersonal Behavior	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals and groups from diverse backgrounds.	Students should demonstrate an ability to establish rapport with colleagues and members of the community.
Communication	Verbal communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in oral and written form using the English language.	Students should be able to document and maintain records of information and ideas from the laboratory/practicum experience. Students should also be able to articulate ideas effectively through oral (group discussions, public presentations) or written (scientific poster, manuscript writing, grant writing) means.

Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective use of equipment; including the ability to sufficiently use a computer and required software.	Students should have sufficient manual dexterity to calibrate and use laboratory instruments to perform protocols that require the use of fine motor skills. Students should also demonstrate an ability to complete assignments through the required computer systems.
Hearing	Ability to communicate with others in the laboratory/practicum environment; ability to hear sufficiently to provide safe and effective use of equipment.	Students should demonstrate an ability to communicate with others in the laboratory/practicum environment. Students should demonstrate an ability to monitor equipment alarms and signals. Students should also demonstrate an ability to complete online audiovisual presentations.
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in the laboratory/practicum environment.	Students should demonstrate an ability to observe their surroundings and what they are working on. Students should demonstrate an ability to monitor laboratory techniques involving reactions that generate visible results at different stages. Students should demonstrate an ability to complete reading assignments and watch audiovisual presentations.

Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for the safe and effective operation of laboratory procedures and equipment.	Students should demonstrate an ability to feel what they are working on in situations where laboratory techniques require the tactile confirmation of results.
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**Distance-Accessible Course Standards:**

Technical Skill	Standard	Examples of Necessary Activities to be Performed (not all inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for the application and synthesis of course concepts.	Students should be able to synthesize reading assignments and complete written course assignments. Students should also be able to identify problems and propose innovative solutions to those problems through applying principles learned in the course.

Interpersonal Behavior	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals and groups from diverse backgrounds.	Students should be able to effectively interact with classmates and course instructors on course related subjects and be able to work with other students on group projects.
Communication	Verbal communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in oral and written form utilizing the English language.	Students should be able to effectively communicate with faculty and other students via e-mail and electronic threaded discussions.
Motor Skills	Physical abilities sufficient to use a computer and required software.	Students should demonstrate an ability to complete written assignments and examinations through the required computer systems.

II. Methods of Assessment

Methods of assessment of a student's ability to meet the program's academic and technical standards may vary from class to class and instructor to instructor. However, all students are graded equally based on their own work.

III. Acceptable levels of Performance

Specific knowledge, principles and concepts outlined in required courses should be mastered at a minimal level.

- A. All required Biomedical Science (BMD) courses outlined in the curriculum should be completed with a minimum grade of "C".
- B. Each course requires a minimum grade of 70% on examinations or graded products; including the exit examination given in the capstone experience course.

#### IV. Disability Support Services (“DSS”) Statement

UAB is committed to providing equal opportunity to all students. All students admitted to the B.S. Biomedical Sciences program must be able to meet both the academic and the technical standards with or without accommodation(s). The B.S. in Biomedical Sciences Program in the Department of Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences will collaborate with students and UAB Disability Support Services to provide reasonable accommodations to otherwise qualified persons with disabilities. Reasonable accommodations are those that do not significantly alter the fundamental and essential requirements of the program and do not impose undue burden or hardship on UAB. It is the student’s responsibility to make a request for a reasonable accommodation. The B.S. in Biomedical Sciences Program, along with UAB DSS, will engage in an interactive process with each student on an individualized basis in considering each student’s request for accommodation.

Qualified students who wish to request an accommodation should contact the UAB DSS office at:

[dss@uab.edu](mailto:dss@uab.edu)

(205) 934-4205 (Voice)

(205) 934-8170 (Fax)

**Physical Address:**

Hill Student Center

1400 University Boulevard

Suite 409

Birmingham ,AL 35294