

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE – PRE-PROFESSIONAL CHIROPRACTIC
DONALD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

UPDATED: April 2022

You are responsible for ensuring that your registration is complete and appropriate and that your course choices comply with the program to which you have been admitted at Red Deer Polytechnic and/or to the university to which you wish to transfer (if applicable). You are cautioned that any changes to your courses, your major or your transfer destination may adversely affect your transferable credit (if applicable), admission requirements for future programs, or eligibility to graduate from Red Deer Polytechnic. Please consult with an Advisor if you have any questions.

Students in university transfer programs are strongly advised to refer to the calendar of the university to which they wish to transfer and should contact appropriate university departments as required.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- See the Academic Calendar of your goal institution for admission requirements to their program

WHAT IS THIS GUIDE?

- This is an Academic Planning Guide, prepared by the Student Connect Centre to help you register for courses towards your desired program.
- If you are transferring to another institution to complete your degree, we strongly advise that you read the Academic Calendar of your destination institution for full information.

WHAT IS THE PRE-PROFESSIONAL CHIROPRACTIC PROGRAM AT RDP?

- The Pre-Professional Chiropractic program at Red Deer Polytechnic (RDP) is essentially the first year of a Bachelor of Science degree.
- There are many different Chiropractic schools, all with varying entrance requirements.
 - Some schools require specific courses, while others require a certain number of post-secondary years completed.
- Overall, the majority of Chiropractic institutions recommend students have a well-rounded education that includes courses in Biology, Chemistry, Anatomy/Physiology and Psychology.
 - However, this is not a universal requirement, and therefore it is important for students to familiarize themselves with the entrance requirements of their future Chiropractic school.
- At RDP, we recommend students pursue an undergraduate degree to help compliment their studies.
 - This is especially important as it can take two or three years (depending on the institution) before students are eligible to apply for admission into Chiropractic Medicine.
- It is not uncommon for students to complete a 4-year undergraduate degree before gaining admission into a Chiropractic school.
 - Undergraduate degrees can be completed in many areas, such as Science, Kinesiology, Arts, Education, etc.

HOW SHOULD I GET STARTED?

1. Identify a chiropractic school you eventually want to attend. Below are some examples of Chiropractic Schools RDP students have worked towards:
 - [Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College](#)
 - [New Zealand College of Chiropractic](#)
 - [Palmer College of Chiropractic](#)
2. Identify the admission requirements for the Chiropractic School you are interested in. This will help you identify what courses you should take at RDP.

Not sure where to start? Page 3 of this guide will go over a general recommendation to get you started.

I SEE YOU HAVE SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF CHIROPRACTIC (NZCC)? WHY IS THAT?

- RDP has a transfer path in place with the [New Zealand College of Chiropractic](#) (NZCC).
- This route potentially allows students to be admissible after one year of study but requires completion of specific courses. NZCC will admit students every January.
- Students interested in NZCC should get into contact with the NZCC admissions/recruitment office ASAP. They are a big help in helping students navigate the application process: recruitment@nzchiro.co.nz
- Page 4 has more information on the courses required.

WHAT IS A TERM? TERMS ARE THE PERIOD IN WHICH YOUR STUDIES TAKE PLACE. AT RDP, WE OFFER FOUR TERMS.

- Fall term (September through December)
- Winter Term (January through April)
- Spring term (May through June): Spring term is an optional, condensed term. Course offerings are limited.
- Summer Term (July through August): Summer term is an optional, condensed term. Course offerings are limited.

HOW MANY COURSES SHOULD I TAKE A TERM?

- The traditional path you will see is 5 courses per term, 10 total (5 in the Fall, 5 in the Winter).
- However, you may have flexibility depending on your ultimate transfer destination/program.
 - Some students will complete 10 courses in a year by taking 4 in the Fall, 4 in the Winter, and 2 in the Spring (or some mixture).
- Some students will take 3-4 courses per term (6-8 per year) and take 5-6 years to complete their degree.
- When determining your course load keep your funding in mind, if applicable. For course load requirements for funding purposes, please visit www.rdpolytech.ca/psfunding.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I TAKE LESS THAN THE RECOMMENDED COURSE LOAD?

- Basic rule of thumb: If you take less than 10 courses per year, you may need an extra term or year to complete your degree, or to be eligible to apply into your future Chiropractic program.

WHAT IF I COMPLETED COURSES AT ANOTHER POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION?

Once you are admitted to RDP, you can then apply to have your post-secondary courses assessed for transfer credit through our [Recognition of Prior Learning Office](#). Once admitted to RDP you can complete an [RPL application form](#), provide the Polytechnic Assessors with any and all transcripts, course outlines/descriptions, or other documentation necessary to support your PLAR application.

NOTE: To qualify for a Red Deer Polytechnic program credential, students must complete at least 50% of the credit requirements for the credential through enrolment in RDP courses.

REGISTRATION AND PROGRAM AUDIT

- Refer to the **Registration** tab on your Loop account to view **Registration Tips and Tricks** for information on:
 - Registering in classes
 - Waitlisting
 - Checking Prerequisites and Corequisites
 - Courses listed as **prerequisites** must be completed before you start the course in question.
 - Courses listed as **co-requisites** must be taken at the same time as the course in question.
 - Viewing Your Schedule
 - And much more!
- After you have completed your registration, if you would like an advisor to review your registration please submit a [Registration Review Form](#).

SAMPLE GENERAL CHIROPRACTIC SCHEDULE

The schedule below is a recommendation that can help you get started if you are unsure about a transfer university/Chiropractic School, or an undergraduate degree you would like to work towards.

REQUIREMENT		PREREQUISITE(S)	COMMENTS	DONE
TERM 1				
BIOL 217 (3 credits)	Introduction to Cell Biology	BIOL 30 & CHEM 30	Can be taken either term	
CHEM 211 (3 credits)	General Chemistry I	CHEM 30 & MATH 30-1		
ENGL 219 (3 credits)	Essay Writing and Critical Reading	ELA 30-1		
KNSS 200 or Art/Science Elective (3 Credits)			Seats in KNSS 200 may be initially restricted to Kinesiology majors. This course typically has more openings for non-Kinesiology students in the Spring term, but it is available in Fall as well.	
PSYC 260 (3 Credits)	Principles of Psychology			
REQUIREMENT		PREREQUISITE(S)	COMMENTS	DONE
TERM 2				
BIOL 218 (3 credits)	Evolution & Biological Diversity	BIOL 30	Can be taken either term	
CHEM 212 or CHEM 351 (3 credits)	General Chemistry II	Prerequisite for CHEM 212: CHEM 211 Prerequisite for CHEM 351: CHEM 211 or CHEM 102		
ENGL 220 (3 Credits)	Literary Analysis	ENGL 219		
Art or Science Elective				
Art or Science Elective				

PATTERN OF COURSES FOR YEAR 2

When starting year 2, students should be pursuing their undergraduate degree to aid with course selection. In addition, it is recommended to identify a Chiropractic school (or schools) that you would like to apply to and contact that university for future admission and application requirements. This is important as this information will help you identify what requirements you may need to complete, which will help you complete your schedule.

NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF CHIROPRACTIC

Red Deer Polytechnic has enjoyed a great relationship with NZCC for many years, and together the institutions provide a pathway for students to start at RDP, and transfer to NZCC to pursue Chiropractic study. Before registering for courses, please take a look at the broader NZCC Entry requirements. We also recommend getting in touch with their Recruitment office (sooner the better) if you are interested in NZCC.

NZCC Entry Requirements: www.chiropractic.ac.nz/study-with-us/apply/entry-requirements/

NZCC Recruitment Contact: recruitment@nzchiro.co.nz

Academically, NZCC is looking for students to present 8 required pre-requisite courses as part of the admission process, however, RDP still recommends students pursuing this route to take a full 10 courses if possible. This allows flexibility in the event admission into NZCC is not granted or you change your mind on program/institution.

Enrolment in some of the required courses at RDP may be limited due to availability, and in that event, students can opt to complete the requirements over three terms instead of two.

NZCC PRE-REQUISITE REQUIREMENT	RDP EQUIVALENT
Anatomy & Physiology (2 courses)	KNSS 200 & PSIO 258 OR Complete at Athabasca University: BIOL235
Biological Chemistry (1 course)	BIOL 217
Microbiology (1 course)	BIOL 301 or BIOL 360
Biophysics (1 course)	PHYS 205
University Transferable Electives (3 Courses)	Arts and Sciences Electives Recommended

CHECKLIST

REQUIREMENT	PREREQUISITE(S)	COMMENTS	DONE
TERM 1			
BIOL 217 (3 credits)	Introduction to Cell Biology	BIOL 30 & CHEM 30	Can be taken either term
CHEM 211 (3 credits)	General Chemistry I	CHEM 30 & MATH 30-1	
PHYS 205 (3 Credits)			
Art/Science Elective or PSIO 258 (3 Credits)			See Important Note 1 below

Arts/Science Elective or KNSS 200 (3 Credits)			See Important Note 1 below	
REQUIREMENT		PREREQUISITE(S)	COMMENTS	DONE
TERM 2				
BIOL 301 or BIOL 360 (3 Credits)	Molecular Cell Biology or Principles of Microbiology	Prerequisite for BIOL 301: BIOL 217 Prerequisite for BIOL 360: BIOL 217 and CHEM 251 or CHEM 351 (Prerequisite waiver may be possible. Contact your instructor)	BIOL 301 is typically only available in Fall, while BIOL 360 is available in Winter. Students could also complete BIOL 301 in Fall term of Year 2, as NZCC will be admitting January of each year.	
CHEM 351 (3 Credits)	Organic Chemistry I	CHEM 211 or CHEM 102		
Art or Science Elective (3 Credits)				
Art or Science Elective (3 Credits)				
Art or Science Elective (3 Credits)				

IMPORTANT NOTE

1. RDP Anatomy and Physiology requirements

- We recommend you complete the Anatomy & Physiology requirement with Athabasca University, by enrolling into [AU's BIOL 235](#).
- Why? KNSS 200 and PSIO 258 are initially reserved for Kinesiology students until mid-June. In addition, PSIO 258 (only offered in Fall), requires a co-, or pre-requisite of KNSS 200 (offered Fall and Spring). If you were to complete PSIO 258 and KNSS 200 in one year at RDP, you would need to take BOTH courses in the Fall term, which can result in a very heavy schedule. As such, taking the Athabasca courses will offer more flexibility for your schedule.

COURSE CATEGORIZATION/ELECTIVE LIST

- Examples of available Arts & Science Electives for the current academic year can be viewed [here](#).

TRANSFER INFORMATION

Admission Requirements	It is imperative you familiarize yourself with the admission requirements of your future Chiropractic School as they will all be different.
Minimum Transferable Grade	A minimum grade of C- is recommended to maximize transferability to most universities ("D" grades may transfer to some universities, depending on the circumstance). <i>Please talk to an Academic Advisor as soon as possible if you feel you may be in jeopardy of not getting at least a C- in a course you are enrolled in.</i>

CONTACT INFORMATION AND HELPFUL RESOURCES

Red Deer Polytechnic Student Connect Centre	studentconnect@rdpolytech.ca www.rdpolytech.ca/SCC 403.342.3254
Red Deer Polytechnic website	rdpolytech.ca
Transfer Alberta Guide	transferalberta.alberta.ca