

This email was sent to students in Medical Sciences 1 on October 5, 2023

Dear Med Sci 1 student,

Requirements for Med Sci 1 students to progress to Med Sci 2 have changed.

You now have the opportunity to reduce your course load this Fall/Winter without sacrificing your eligibility for Med Sci 2. We would encourage you to maintain a full course load of 5.0 courses during the fall/winter, however, if you think you can't meet the **minimum** requirements to progress to Med Sci 2 (identified below) you have the option to drop course(s) and take them later (usually in the summer).

See the [Academic Calendar](#) or the Changes below for a summary of what has changed.

The deadline to drop a first-term half course is **Monday, November 13th**. The course will appear **exactly the same** whether you drop it today or on the drop deadline: WDN, Withdrawn without Academic Penalty.

Things to consider when dropping a course:

- Any dropped courses will likely have to be picked up next summer. **Summer tuition cost** may be a consideration.
- Reducing your course load could impact **applications for graduate or professional programs**. Do your homework - A full load of 5.0 courses during the fall/winter may be required for GPA consideration.
- There may be **financial implications** to reducing your course load, for instance eligibility for **scholarships, bursaries**, or other **financial assistance**. Refer to the experts in the Office of the Registrar before making any decisions.
- Connect with an advisor in the Academic Counselling Office https://www.uwo.ca/sci/counselling/advising_services/index.html to work out a strategy for planning your courses moving forward – especially if you are considering dropping multiple courses. They can help you **prioritize course completion** based on upper year course prerequisites and summer availability.

Consider the decision carefully - ***you have plenty of time to decide if dropping a course is right for you.***

Before making any changes, see the [Med Sci 1 FAQ page](#) for more information.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out through our Help Portal:

<https://help.sci.uwo.ca/servicedesk/customer/portal/3>.

The Changes:

Updated requirements are in the [Academic Calendar](#) and a summary of the changes is as follows:

To progress from Medical Sciences 1 to Medical Sciences 2, students must meet the following requirements **prior to the beginning (September) of Medical Sciences 2** ~~by the end of the fall/winter of Medical Sciences 1:~~

1. Achieve a minimum grade of 50% in any course(s) taken during Medical Sciences First Entry (including summer sessions);
1. ~~Successfully complete a full load of 5.0 courses during the Fall/Winter of Medical Sciences 1;~~
2. Achieve a PASS in Medical Sciences 1000Y (non-credit course);
3. Achieve a mark of at least 50% in 1.0 1000-level course(s) from either Category A or B; and

4. Achieve a mark of at least 60% in the first attempt at each of the half courses listed above in Biology, Chemistry, and mathematics (i.e., courses in Applied Mathematics, Calculus, Mathematics)
5. Achieve a mark of at least 60% in the first attempt at each of the half courses listed above in Physics or Computer Science. Students may defer the completion of these two 0.5 requirements to the Fall/Winter of Medical Sciences 2.

Best wishes and we hope you have a restful Thanksgiving long weekend.

Martha Fuller

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If you need immediate mental health support please visit: http://wec.uwo.ca/crisis_support/index.html

My working hours may not be your working hours. Please do not feel obligated to reply outside of your work schedule.

I acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous peoples whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors of our society.