

# NCTC Advising FAQ for Biology, Chemistry, Kinesiology, and Pre-Professional Programs (Dental, Med, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy and Veterinary Science)

## [Math and Science Related Pathways](#)

### 1. What degrees and pathways are offered?

While we offer multiple pathways, which one you will follow and how closely you stick to it is dependent on the requirements for your intended transfer program. This is affected not only by specific major, but on transfer institution. Here are the links for these six pathways:

- **Biology:** <http://www.nctc.edu/catalog/degree-transfer-pathways/associate-of-science/biology.pdf>
- **Chemistry:** <http://www.nctc.edu/catalog/degree-transfer-pathways/associate-of-science/chemistry.pdf>
- **Kinesiology:** <http://www.nctc.edu/catalog/degree-transfer-pathways/association-of-arts/kinesiology.pdf>
- **Pre-Med/Pharmacy/Dental:** <http://www.nctc.edu/catalog/degree-transfer-pathways/association-of-arts/premed-predental-prepharm.pdf>
- **Pre-Vet:** <http://www.nctc.edu/catalog/degree-transfer-pathways/associate-of-science/pre-veterinarian.pdf>
- **Animal Science (NON Pre-Vet):** <http://www.nctc.edu/catalog/degree-transfer-pathways/association-of-arts/animal-science.pdf>

### 2. Is this degree transferable?

Yes! All of these pathways are intended for transferring to a traditional 4-year degree at a university. However, they may need to be tailored for the specific program you are wanting to go into to-working with both your advisor at NCTC and a transfer advisor at your transfer institution is important to make sure the process is as seamless as possible. For Pre-Professional Health Sciences students, you will also need to check the requirements and transfer policies of the school(s) you are wanting to apply to for your Professional training. If you are wanting to go into Chiropractic Medicine or Pharmacy, it may be possible to complete most (if not all) of your required 90 hours of pre-requisites at NCTC, without having to get a 4-year degree at a university first.

### 3. Does this degree or program require pre-requisites?

Every one of these pathways have Math pre-requisites as listed below, and until you have met the Math pre-requisites, you will be placed under General Studies as a major.

General Kinesiology (not Pre-PT) and Animal Science are the only exceptions. Math pre-requisites listed below. Until you have met the Math Pre-requisites, you will be placed under General Studies as a major.

- Biology: College Algebra
- Chemistry: College Algebra and either Pre-Calculus or Trigonometry
- Kinesiology: None. This pathway only requires Statistics.
- Pre-Med/Pharmacy/Dental: College Algebra
- Pre-Vet: College Algebra
- Animal Science: none

Also note that we do have pre-requisites for the following science classes:

- Chemistry I (CHEM1411): College Algebra (MATH1314) or Business (MATH1324)
- College Physics I (PHYS1401): College Algebra (MATH1314) and either Pre-Calc or Trig (MATH2412 or MATH1316)
- University Physics (PHYS2425): Concurrently enrolled in Calculus I (MATH2413) at NCTC or have already completed Calculus I at NCTC or another institution

#### **4. Do I have to take my classes in sequence?**

Yes! Many classes in the science fields have foundational skills you need to learn before moving into more advanced courses. For example, you have to take CHEM1411 before CHEM1412. The same applies to pre-requisite Math classes. This is why it is very important to create an academic plan and stick to the course sequencing, otherwise you could end up spreading your classes out over additional semesters and delay your graduation or transfer date.

#### **5. What is the difference between AA and AS, and why are some of these pathways under the Associates of Arts (AA) instead of Associates of Science (AS)? Does it affect transferability?**

The difference between an AA and AS depends on the Math credits required and how many lab sciences (for science majors) you take. For the sake of these pathways, the science classes are the main deciding factor, as the AS requires that you take 4 lab science classes as well as 2 algebra-based Math courses-not every major requires this much advanced Math or science. Regardless of your plan being under an AA or AS, this does NOT affect transferability! You just need to make sure you are taking the individual classes required for the program at your intended transfer institution.

## 6. Pre-Vet or Animal Science?

Those wanting to pursue a degree in Animal Science in preparation for Veterinary school will need to see what the requirements are at your intended transfer institution as well as any unique requirements for the Veterinary program at that school. For those institutions with a more agriculture-based Animal Science program, it is possible that Animal Science may be a better fit for you than Pre-Vet or Biology. Please make sure you are working with your advisor to create the best Academic Plan for you and your goals.

## 7. Are there additional courses I need to take or can take beyond what is on the degree plan?

Yes! First, you will likely be having to take Math pre-requisites, which will add to the number of credit hours you need to take. Only those who have received credit for those Math classes through either AP, CLEP, or IBD testing (with adequate scores) will be exempt from those pre-requisites. Here is a chart listing exam scores needed to receive credits, and what credits you could/would receive: <https://www.nctc.edu/catalog/admissions-information/advanced-placement-examination/credit-by-exam-chart.html>.

Next, for most of these pathways, there are additional courses you are able to take that are not explicitly listed on the degree path. However, this does depend on your transfer institution, the courses required by their degree plan, and their policy on transfer credits. If your intended transfer school will accept additional courses beyond degree completion, we do offer more sciences than we can fit onto a single degree plan or major, and it may be possible that you complete more than one pathway.

## 8. Can I transfer before completing my degree at NCTC?

You are able to transfer at any point in time, pending the policies of your transfer institution. In some cases, it is even advisable to transfer sooner rather than later so you can get a head start on your upper level coursework. It is also possible for you to be enrolled concurrently which means you are attending both NCTC and your transfer university at the same time! Talk to your advisor for more information about this option.

## 9. How long will it take me to complete one of these majors/programs?

The listed suggested pathway is for 2 years. However, this depends on whether or not you need to take pre-requisites or extra courses, how many credit hours you take per year (or semester), and sequencing of courses (as some courses are only offered during certain semesters). While they can certainly be completed within 2 years, it is not uncommon for these degree pathways to take up to 3 years, even as a full-time student. The goal is to make sure you are taking your classes in a way that you can be successful, and for many students that means not rushing through Math and science requirements.

## 10. How can I complete one of these majors/programs? Can it be done online and/or are they campus specific?

Generally, none of these pathways can be done completely online. However, most of your general education credits can be taken online, limiting the amount of time spent on campus if needed. While there is some flexibility on where and how you take your classes, there will be some required courses that are only offered at certain campuses.

- Math classes of Calculus II and above, any Physics courses, and Organic Chemistry are taught on the Corinth Campus
- Agriculture/Animal Science and some Physical Education classes are taught at the Gainesville Campus
- For the rest of your science and Math courses, you generally have a choice between the Gainesville, Corinth, and Flower Mound campuses.
- General Education courses can usually be taken either online or in-person at any of our six campus locations

## 11. Can I use my Financial Aid for these majors?

Absolutely! As long as you are working with your advisor to stay on plan and take classes within your major. Pending the requirements of your transfer institution and your immediate academic goals, it is possible that you may put on a different pathway in order to complete the best sequence of courses needed for your Academic Plan.

## 12. Will the credits I have from another college be applied to this degree, and how?

This will vary, pending on where and when you took them, and whether or not the courses you took apply to your degree pathway. For example, an Acting class may transfer in as credit, but may not count towards your Computer Science degree requirements. To have your transcripts evaluated and any applicable credits transferred in, you will need to complete a [Transcript Evaluation Request](#). Transfer credits are NOT automatically evaluated and applied. While you are waiting on your transcripts to be evaluated, you are able to work with your advisor to verify pre-requisites and to pick classes you don't possibly have credit for already.

## 13. Which universities offer my major and how do I view their requirements?

Here is a list of universities and links to their transfer guides. Please note this is not an exhaustive list, there are many, many more schools that may have your program/major. Locations for undergraduate studies are listed first, and then a list of schools for professional training that you will do after your undergraduate studies (for Pre-Physical Therapy, Pre-Med, Pre-Pharmacy, Pre-Dental, and Pre-Vet students).

**Undergraduate:**

- University of North Texas (UNT): [Transfer Guides | Office of the Registrar](#)
- Texas Women’s University (TWU): <https://twu.edu/transfer-resources/texas-community-college-transfer-guides/>
- University of Texas – Arlington (UTA): <https://www.uta.edu/admissions/apply/transfer/transfer-guides/2020-2021>
- University of Texas – Dallas (UTD): <https://www.utdallas.edu/enroll/transfer/plans/>
- Texas A&M University (TAMU): <https://admissions.tamu.edu/transfer/majors>
- University of Texas – Austin (UT): <https://admissions.utexas.edu/apply/transfer-resources/tccn-transfer-guides>
- Texas Tech University (TTU): <https://catalog.ttu.edu/content.php?catoid=13&navoid=1468>
- Baylor Pre-Health Sciences: <https://www.baylor.edu/prehealth/index.php?id=36342>

**Graduate/Professional Training:**

- UNT Health Science Center: <https://www.unthsc.edu/academics/>
- UT Southwestern: <https://utswmed.org/academics/>
- TTU Health Science Center: <https://www.ttuhscc.edu/>
- Baylor Medical School: <https://www.bcm.edu/education/schools>
- Parker University: <https://www.parker.edu/admission-requirements/>
- TTU Veterinarian School: <https://www.depts.ttu.edu/vetschool/admissions/>
- TAMU Veterinarian School: <https://vetmed.tamu.edu/dvm/admissions/>
- TWU Physical Therapy: <https://twu.edu/physical-therapy/graduate-programs/doctor-of-physical-therapy-dpt/>
- TAMU School of Dentistry: <https://dentistry.tamu.edu/admissions/questions.html>
- OU School of Dentistry: <https://dentistry.ouhsc.edu/Prospective-Students>

**15. Which [NCTC advisor](#) or faculty can I contact for more information?**

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**16. Where can I access the recording of the Biology, Chemistry, Kinesiology, and Pre Professional Programs Q&A session with NCTC advisors and faculty?**

Just click the image below or visit [NCTC Student Life on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1t3t3t3t3t3t3t3t3t3t3t) to locate any number of great videos!

