

Vision, Mission, and Goals

Vision: The Academic Advising Center promotes student success through exemplary developmental academic advising focused on student learning and engagement. We aspire to provide advising leadership at the institutional, regional, and national levels.

Mission: The Academic Advising Center strives to help each student make a successful transition to the university, explore their interests and possibilities, develop an appropriate academic plan, and engage in educationally meaningful experiences. We do this through one-on-one advising and by advocating for and developing programs, policies, and procedures that create an environment that supports student success. We aim to create an inclusive environment where all students feel welcome and valued.

Program Goals: Provide students with academic advising, support, and programming. Educate students on the tools and resources available to them to successfully manage their college experiences. Specifically, advising includes:

- Teaching students how to navigate the university, make informed decisions, and take an active role in planning their educational experiences.
- Guiding students in using tools and resources to understand their interests and abilities, identify academic goals and develop appropriate academic plans.
- Encouraging students to challenge themselves in their growth and development.
- Engaging students in conversation and reflection to understand the purpose and value of their educational experiences.
- Helping students understand that their well-being is related to their success in college.
- Challenging students to cultivate their curiosity.
- Encouraging students to identify and participate in educationally meaningful co-curricular activities.

Promote and contribute to a diverse, inclusive, and equitable campus community. Specifically, advisors:

- Create a welcoming, inclusive, and accessible environment.
- Commit to ongoing learning and development of our staff.
- Advocate for inclusive and equitable practices across campus.

Promote and advocate for institutional programs, policies, requirements, and procedures that enrich the student experience and facilitate student persistence to graduation.

u/ho u/e Serve

- Every first-year student with a declared major in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS)
- Every Open major
- Every Pre-Health and Pre-Law student
- Economics, Enterprise Leadership, and Interdepartmental Studies majors through graduation
- Every CLAS student with the goal of earning undergraduate admission into the Colleges of Business, Engineering, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health
- Every first-year student with a declared major in Education Studies and Human Relations (ESHR) in the College of Education or ESHR Interest student in CLAS
- · All MAUI Advising users

Academic Advising in the AAC is:

- Caseload-based Students are assigned to an AAC advisor based on their major.
- **Mandatory** Students must be authorized to register by an advisor.
- **Proactive** Advisors contact students about course planning, academic performance, cocurricular opportunities, campus resources, and more.
- **Teaching-oriented** Advisors teach students how to plan their academic programs of study, select courses each semester, explore possible majors, and seek information and resources.
- The AAC is a resource for any student who is **exploring academic programs** and seeking information.



2023/2024 by the Numbers

Student Traffic Numbers:

SOAR Advising Appointments: 4,319

Total Office Visits: 40,025

Fall Success Meetings: 175 meetings with 1,988

students attending.

Academic Advising Center Caseload

Primary Advisees 6,766 Non-Primary Advisees 2,709 Total Advisees 9,475

Student Count by Academic Interest

Group	Student Count
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Declared Majors	3224
Pre-Med, Pre-Dent, Pre-PT, & Pre-PA	2628
Pre-Business Majors	1541
Enterprise Leadership & Interdepartmental Studies Majors	717
Pre-Law	631
Open Majors	589
Nursing Interest Majors	584
Non-UI Pre-Health	261
Radiation Science and Nuclear Med Interest	142
College of Education Interest Majors	139
Non-Degree	137
Certificate	126
Engineering Interest Majors	96
Col <mark>le</mark> ge of Medicine Undergraduate Program Majors	89
University College	<mark>76</mark>
Pre-Pharmacy Majors	72
Public Health Interest Majors	46
High School	45

Academic Advising Cycle

Each academic year follows the same basic pattern.

STUDENT ONLINE ADIVING & REGISTRATION

SOAR advising typically takes place from late May through mid-July. Using MAUI Advising and MyUI, advisors prepare in advance to SOAR/ Summer Session meet with each student, reviewing student records and communicating relevant course suggestions. Advisors meet with students individually on Zoom to review requirements, help them build and choose schedules, and register for classes.

END OF SEMESTER

advisors to discuss end-of-semester preparation. Advisors follow up with students to address lingering guest Students meet with academic and concerns.

REGISTRATION AUTHORIZATION

advisors authorize Academic students to register for the next semester at this mandatory meeting, which continues the conversation initiated at the planning appointment. Advisors evaluate their student's chosen courses in discussion with the student, reviewing potential schedules saved in the student's Schedule Builder. The advisor explains the registration process, noting the assigned registration date and addressing any registration restrictions. This meeting also provides an opportunity to provide referrals, answer questions, and adjust plans.

Semester

IN BETWEEN SEMESTERS

With the exception of university holidays, advisors are available to meet with students in person or remotely between semesters. During this time, advisors communicate with students previous regarding their semester outcomes and how these may affect long-term planning.

While the semester follows a general pattern, proactive and teaching-oriented advising means tailoring the advising timeline to individual student situations. Advisors welcome students at any point in the year to address individual academic concerns. During the academic semester. we encourage students to meet in person whenever possible, but remote advising is available during all university breaks (fall, winter, spring, summer).

EARLY SEMESTER SCHEDULE CHANGES

Weeks 1 & 2 – Students make appointments or drop in to discuss schedule changes and academic plans in one-on-one meetings with their advisors.

Fall Success Meetings take place during this period, for first-year students in their first fall semester at lowa. In these group meetings, advisors address topics like how to approach the first semester, how the advising process works, and how students can make the most of advising and other university resources.

PLANNING

Planning appointments take place during weeks 3-10 (September/October in fall and February/March in spring). Durina these one-on-one 30-minute meetings, advisors ask students to reflect on their classes and college experience. Advisors and students discuss the social and academic transition to college, campus resources, and students' goals, exploring immediate and longterm academic plans and reviewing possible courses for future semesters. Advisors review academic program requirements and opportunities using tools like the Degree Audit, Sample Plans, and MyPlans.

Winter Session

Students make appointments or drop in to discuss schedule changes and learn about their academic implications. The drop deadline refers to the last day to drop a semester-length course or withdraw entire registration without approval from the college dean.

DROP DEADLINE

Outreach & Programming

Planning Your Degree Sessions held during On Iowa!

Pre-Health, Allied Health, Nursing-Interest
Natural Sciences
Social Sciences
Pre-Business, Economics, Enterprise Leadership
Communication and Literature
Math Sciences
Open
Humanities, World Languages, Fine Arts

AMCAS- applying to medical school

Presentations:

Exploring Majors Workshop
Nursing Interest Information Session
Personal Statements for Medical School Applications
Pre-Health 101
Pre-Law Information Session
Pre-Law Personal Statement Workshop
Preparing for the MCAT Student Panel and Discussion
Prepping for LSAT
PTCAS- applying to physical therapy school

Courses in the AAC:

For the academic year 2023-2024 we offered:
CSI:1020 Academic Seminar I – 5 sections
CSI:1021 Academic Seminar II – 5 sections
CSI:1100 College Transition Seminar – 21 sections
CSI:1150 College Transition Workshop – 30 sections
CSI:1500 College Success Seminar – 5 sections
CSI:1550 Strategies for Academic Success – 1 section
CSI:2100 Transfer Transition – 1 section
CSI:2150 Open Minded – 5 sections





Pre-Professional Advising in the Academic Advising Center

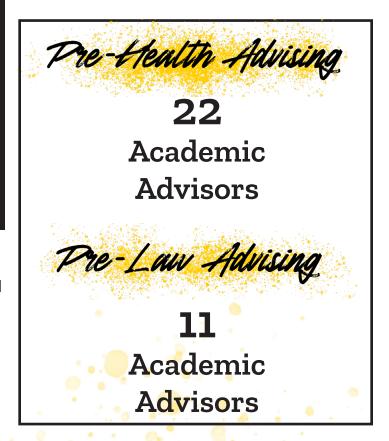
The University of Iowa Academic Advising Center (AAC) advises students in multiple pre-professional programs for the duration of their college careers. The AAC has 11 highly skilled pre-law advisors who guide approximately 800 pre-law students each year on their journey to law school, and 22 specially trained pre-health advisors who work with over 3,000 students in the following pre-health designations:

- Pre-Medicine
- Pre-Physical Therapy
- Pharmacy Interest
- Pre-Physician Assistant
- Pre-Dentistry
- Pre-Child Life

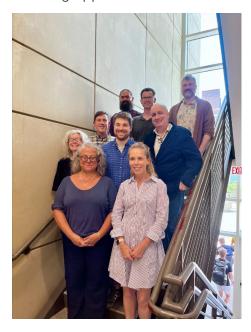
- Pre-Athletic Training
- Pre-Optometry
- Pre-Veterinary Medicine
- Pre-Podiatric Medicine
- Pre-Chiropractic Medicine
- Pre-Occupational Therapy

"My advisor is amazing. She takes into account everything I tell her and helps me think about future plans in a way that isn't stressful. She's ready to switch plans if I walk in her office with new goals and is super supportive."

Pre-professional advisors at the AAC bring a student-centered and appreciative advising philosophy to their work with students interested in health careers and the legal field. By asking appropriate questions to promote self-awareness, pre-professional advisors help students develop the attitudes, skills, and behaviors (academic and affective) that foster empowerment toward their career path. Because we see students from SOAR (Student Online Advising and Registration) through graduation, pre-professional advisors often develop close relationships with students and serve as mentors, teachers, and guides for all four years.



Many aspects of pre-professional advising are similar, whether the students' professional goals are in health fields or the legal field. Most pre-professional advising appointments include discussion of:



- Extracurricular activities
- Shadowing opportunities
- Working with faculty
- Study skills and utilizing campus resources
- Preparation for entrance exams
- Identifying programs and their admission requirements
- Understanding the application process with various centralized application services
- Finding and securing letters of recommendation
- Preparing for interview

Because pre-health students adhere to a given curriculum prescribed by their professional field's certifying body, and because admission to all health professional programs is highly competitive, pre-health advising also includes discussions of satisfactory progression in required prerequisite courses and the importance of creating parallel plans for competitive programs. Pre-law students, who often have more flexibility with their college curriculum and admissions standards, learn from their advisors about challenging,

skills-based classes that support their specific interests and goals; explore majors and other programs of study that complement their strengths and interests; and brainstorm about involvement and leadership in student organizations and the community while researching schools that could provide the best fit for their skills, interests, and credentials.

"My advisor is the best. Super helpful and very knowledgeable about my prehealth plans and how to apply to graduate school."

Pre-Professional Advising Structure at the AAC

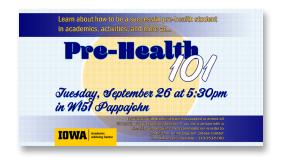
SOAR ADVISING: Guide new, first-year students into appropriate courses that match their majorspecific needs and abilities. Advisors answer questions about majors and course sequencing and provide in-depth information on campus resources, clubs, and leadership opportunities that align with professional career plans.

FIRST SEMESTER: Meet three times with students. Advisors review expectations for academic success, UI academic policies, finding campus academic resources, understanding course sequencing, general education requirements, and the registration process. Advisors spend a significant amount of time discussing extracurricular activities and helping students connect what they are learning inside and outside the classroom to their intended professional goals.

AFTER 30 SEMESTER HOURS EARNED: Meet with students once or twice a semester after they've earned 30 hours in their primary major. Advisors and students discuss academics and how their course topics connect with their pre-professional goals. Advisors also help students considering other paths. Because professional programs are competitive to varying degrees, pre-professional advisors are adept at helping students create parallel career and major plans while simultaneously encouraging the skills and mindset students need to be successful.

Outreach and Programming

In addition to advising, the AAC offers programming and outreach for pre-professional students in various stages of their academic careers.



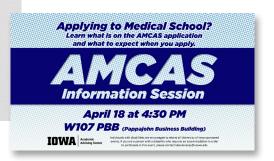




Pre-Health Outreach and Programming

- Pre-Health 101 workshop for first-year students
- Pre-Health program guides (paper and electronic) with comprehensive prerequisite information, admissions requirements, and academic guidelines for all prehealth designations
- Personal statement workshop
- Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) student panel presentation
- American Medical Colleges Application Service (AMCAS) application workshop
- Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service (PTCAS) application workshop



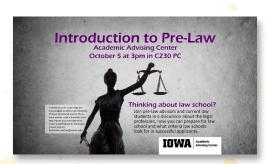


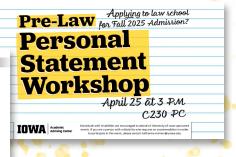
Pre-Law Outreach and Programming

- Intro to Pre-Law workshop
- Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) prep workshop
- Personal statement workshop
- Law School Admissions Council Credential Assembly Service (CAS) workshop
- A first-year seminar titled "Law School Bound," taught by an AAC pre-law advisor to 20 enrolled first-year pre-law students









Professional Development for Advisors

The AAC provides in-house training and advisor development for pre-professional advisors that includes detailed information and updates about UI majors, education about financial resources, and review of admission requirements for professional programs, particularly UI programs. To stay abreast of current information about professional schools and careers, pre-professional advisors meet and communicate regularly with admissions representatives from UI and area professional programs to discuss any changes in admissions requirements, trends in applications, and overview of the application process. For example, pre-health advisors periodically visit regional health professional programs at Des Moines University and St. Ambrose University, while pre-law advisors tour the UI College of Law and meet with regional and national admissions representatives at law school fairs.

"My advisor is really good at comforting me in times of stress. Especially surrounding the application process. I can tell that he wants the best for me and that everything is my choice!"

AAC pre-professional advisors also maintain memberships in advising and professional organizations that provide education and support in the form of conference programming, newsletters, and webinars. Pre-professional advisors have many opportunities to participate in a variety of continuing education programs through membership with these organizations.

Pre-health advisor professional organizations:

- NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising
- National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions (NAAHP)
- Iowa Academic Advising Network (IowaAAN)
- Mentoring newer pre-health advisors at the UI and other institutions through the NAAHP



"My advisor has made me feel very comfortable coming to the Academic Advising Center. I always feel supported, and I always walk out less anxious than I did walking in."

Pre-law advisor professional organizations:

- NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising
- Midwest Association of Pre-Law Advisors (MAPLA)
- The Law School Admissions Council (LSAC)
- Pre-Law Advisors National Council (PLANC)
- AccessLex Institute

AAC Committees

Advising Students who identify as LGBTQ+

AAC Website Committee

AAC Social Events and Recognition

Committee for Anti-Racist Advising (CARA)

Communication Committee

Data Group

Open Majors Committee

Pomerantz Committee

Pre-Health Subcommittee of CARA

Retreat Committee

SOAR Committee

Social Class/First Gen Committee

Social Media Committee

Staff Development Committee

Study Skills Committee

Training Committee





Campus Collaborations

Advising Council

Associate Deans and Directors

Basic Needs Committee

CLAS – UP Course Planning and Monthly Meetings

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Success
Collaborative

Early Intervention Team

Excelling@lowa Leadership Committee

First-Generation Task Force

CLAS General Education Curriculum Committee

In-App Messaging Work Group

International Student Advisory Committee

International Student Recruitment Committee

Liaisons to Offices, Departments and Colleges

MAUI Advising Joint Steering Committee

MAUI Advising Project Leadership

Orientation Advising Planning

Provost's Enrollment Management Committee

Student Mobile App Committee

Student Success Communications Work Group

Student Success Team

Success@lowa Steering Committee

UI Advise

Well-Being and Mental Health Collaborative



Staff of Office Information

2023 - 2024 Staffing

- 1 Director
- 2 Senior Associate Directors
- 2 Associate Directors
- 36 Academic Advisors/Senior Advisors
- 3 Administrative Staff
- 8 Work-Study students
- 10 Student Advisory Board Members

All advising staff members have a Master's Degree or PhD.

Office Information:

Academic Advising Center 100 Pomerantz Center, Room C210 Iowa City, Iowa 52242 319-353-5700 advisingcenter.uiowa.edu

