OCS Premed/Pre-Health Advising Guidelines

**Get Special Premed Information** — Select the “Preadmissions/Pre-health” interest area in the preferences section at the bottom of the “This Week at OCS” newsletter to receive special announcements.

**Half-hour Pre-Health Appointments** — You can make an appointment with a Pre-Health Adviser for a half-hour slot through Crimson Careers. It is rare for students to need more than 2 appointments per semester. Once you have been seen in a half-hour appointment, please stay with that adviser for future appointments and related follow up emails, rather than switching to another member of the Pre-Health team. This will provide for better advising continuity. (Freshmen see below.*)

**Pre-Health Drop-ins** — These 10-minute drop-in appointments are Wednesday and Thursday from 3-4 pm. Questions that are not premed specific such as resume reviews, questions about summer internships, research opportunities and funding should be answered by attending the OCS Undergraduate General Drop-Ins—Monday-Friday, 1:00-4:00. No sign up needed. (Freshmen see below.*)

**Pre-Health Start-of-Term Office Hours** — These 10-minute office hour appointments are held for the first week of each term leading up to Study Card day. Questions should primarily be about course planning for the coming semester and other quick premed/pre-health-specific questions. Sign up is required for these appointments, and instructions are on our website.

**When to use Email** — Short questions can be sent to premed@fas where they will be answered by one of the advisers.

- Please do not ask for information that can be found on the Premed section of the OCS website (http://ocs.fas.harvard.edu/medical-health) or the AMCAS website (aamc.org).
- Students asking questions which require a more nuanced response or more than a few sentences to answer will be directed to bring their questions to an advising appointment or drop-in.
- Please do not send email questions to an individual adviser’s email address unless the issue is a follow up to a prior conversation. Please do not send the same email to multiple recipients.

**Special Advice for Current Applicants** — Junior, senior, or alumni applicants planning to apply in the 2018 cycle should sign up for the OCS Medical School Applicant listserv (https://lists.fas.harvard.edu/mailman/listinfo/harvardocs-medschool-applicants-list) to get information about the application process throughout the year. Applicants should review the archived posts which may answer other important questions. Premedical House Tutors are also an important resource for the application process. Alumni unable to sign up for an appointment through Crimson Careers should call the front desk at 617-495-2595 for assistance with scheduling a half-hour advising conversation.

*Appointments and office hours are open to freshmen after October 16, and after they have attended a Pre-Health 101.