



PROGRAM OFFERED

- ◆ Master of Science in Orthotics and Prosthetics (el-MSOP)

If you enjoy working with people, designing things, working with your hands, and have a passion for helping others, you may want to consider a career as an ortho-prosthetist. Ortho-prosthetists work in a variety of settings; private practice, nursing homes, rehabilitation facilities, specialty clinics, home health settings, and hospitals. An ortho-prosthetist creates, designs, and custom-fits artificial limbs and orthopedic braces; professionally these devices are referred to as prostheses and orthoses. Such bio-mechanical interventions require extensive patient evaluation, follow-up care and continued interaction with patients and technological advancements and research. As an ortho-prosthetist, you can be the difference in someone's life every day.

Job Opportunities and Earnings

Job opportunities abound throughout the country, and the need for skilled ortho-prosthetists is on the rise. Ortho-prosthetic education is a national priority according to the U. S. Department of Education. The demand for an ortho-prosthetist will increase yearly by about 20% through 2028, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The salaries of American Board Certified Ortho-Prosthetists (CPO) range between \$65,000 - \$85,000 a year depending on geographical location, experience, and size of practice.

The Program

The entry-level Master of Science in Orthotics and Prosthetics (el-MSOP) program offered at Loma Linda University, accepts both non-bachelor and bachelor-prepared students alike. For the non-bachelor prepared students, a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences and a Master of Science in Orthotics and Prosthetics are awarded. The bachelor-prepared students will be awarded a Master of Science in Orthotics and Prosthetics degree only. The el-MSOP program is CAAHEP and NCOPE accredited.

Admissions Requirements

To be eligible for admission to the el-MSOP program, the applicant must have completed a minimum of 64 semester credits or 96 quarter units at a regionally accredited college or university and have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in both science and non-science courses. There are distinct prerequisites for both non-bachelors prepared and bachelors-prepared applicants. Applicants who have received

a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university need to complete only the pre-requisites denoted with an asterisk (*). Applicants are required to complete an eighty (80) observation field experience at two or more orthotic and prosthetic facilities of his or her choice with a letter of documentation for the hours of observation by the facility owner or supervisor prior to the start of the program.

Application Process

Application opens October 1 and closes September 1.

Non-bachelor prepared applicants must submit official copies of high school and college transcripts for all credits being transferred. Bachelors-prepared applicants must submit official transcripts from all schools attended in accomplishing the degree. Transcripts must be from regionally accredited institutions in order to be honored by Loma Linda University.

TOEFL or IELTS (or equivalent English language proficiency examination) scores for applicants whose native language is not English or whose secondary education was received outside the United States is required (refer to: <https://alliedhealth.llu.edu/admissions/international-students>)

Outcomes

Satisfactory completion of the el-MSOP degree requirements qualifies the student to enter a NCOPE accredited residency site of his or her choice. After completing either a twelve (12) month prosthetic and a twelve (12) month orthotic or an (18) month combined ortho-prosthetic residency, the resident then is eligible to sit for the certification exams offered by the American Board of Certification (ABC) in Orthotics and Prosthetics. Passing the ABC exams will award either a certification in orthotics (CO), a certification in prosthetics (CP), and/or a dual certification as a Certified Prosthetist-Orthotist (CPO). In addition to certification, depending on the state the certified practitioner intends to practice in, it might be necessary to pass a State Licensure Exam in order to practice the profession.

Loma Linda University Requirements: For graduate students (with a bachelor's degree) the items listed below with an asterisk (*) are the only prerequisites required. For undergraduate transfer applicants to be eligible for admission, the applicant must complete a minimum of 96 quarter/64 semester units at an accredited college or university. The minimum subject requirements are:

HUMANITIES & RELIGION: (total 20 qtr/14 sem. units min.)
Select courses from at least three areas listed below:

Humanities: (The department recommends additional electives in this area.)

History – 1 course required
Philosophy – 1 course required

Select additional units from:

Art/Music (Performing Arts limited to 4 qtr hrs), Literature,
Foreign Language/American Sign Language

Religion: (4 quarter units/year)

(Religion courses are required **ONLY** if a student attended a Seventh-day Adventist College or University.)

NATURAL SCIENCES: (units may vary)

*Anatomy & Physiology/lab OR Biology/lab (full sequence for either) - required

*Intro or General Chemistry/lab (one course)- required

*Intro or General Physics/lab (one course) - required

*Statistics - required

SOCIAL SCIENCES: (2 areas, 12 qtr/8 sem. units, minimum)
(The department recommends additional electives in this area.)

General Psychology - required

*Growth & Development OR Abnormal Psychology - required

Select additional credits from:

Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, Political Science

COMMUNICATION: (9 qtr/6 sem units)

Freshman English, complete sequence (CLEP not accepted) - required

Select additional units from:

Speech or computer

HEALTH AND WELLNESS:

(The department recommends additional electives in this area.)

2 PE Activity Courses - required

ELECTIVES

To meet the minimum total requirements of 96 quarter units/64 semester units. Maximum of 105 quarter/70 semester units transferred from junior/community colleges.

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Eighty (80) work/observation hours under the supervision of a CPO practitioner at two or more orthotic and prosthetic facilities of his or her choice are required.

PLEASE NOTE THAT C MINUS (C-) GRADES ARE NOT TRANSFERABLE FOR CREDIT

You can find the courses we recommend for your college by accessing the "Transfer Patterns" on our website at: <http://www.llu.edu/llu/sahp/transfer/index.html>

Financial Aid

Apply early for financial assistance - even before receiving your acceptance into the program. You should begin your financial aid process by January 1. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) can be found online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. It's best to apply before March each year. You will need your previous year's tax information as part of the application.

Applications for Cal Grants (California residents only) must be postmarked no later than March 2.

LLU's Student Financial Aid office will help you obtain the necessary applications and guide you through the process of applying for aid. Contact them at:

Office of Financial Aid
Loma Linda University
Loma Linda, CA 92350
(909) 558-4509

Housing

On-campus housing is available for men and women. For information on the men's dormitory (Daniell's Residence), call (909) 558-4562. For information on the women's dormitory (Lindsay Hall), call (909) 558-4561.

Contact Information

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Ortho-prosthetists: The few, being the difference in the lives of many.



LOMA LINDA
UNIVERSITY

LLU at a Glance

>> Founded in 1905 >> A Seventh-day Adventist institution integrating health, science, and Christian faith >> Offers over 200 programs in the health sciences >> Houses eight schools: Allied Health Professions, Behavioral Health, Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, and Religion >> About 4,000 students >> Over 1,300 faculty >> 2,000 professional researchers >> \$46 million dollars in private and public grants generated each year >> Many service learning opportunities

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