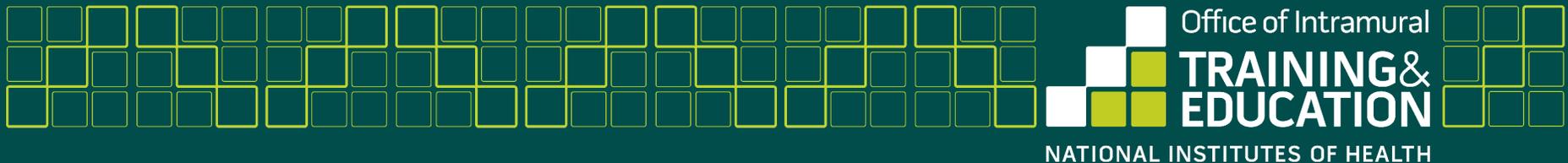

Applying to Medical School: Assessing your application

William J. Higgins



1/25/2012

Why are we here?

- Today, I plan to:
 - Review the application process
 - Examine & evaluate YOUR application
 - Discuss how to improve the elements of your application
 - **Answer your questions**

Disclaimer

No absolutes in this process, but
the data don't lie!

**Always listen to good
advice...**



Fact: you must apply early!

No exceptions, no way, no how!

<https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/deadlines/>

All deadlines are set by individual medical schools. Submit materials as early as possible to avoid processing delays and missed deadlines. Materials received during peak periods may take considerably longer to process. Further, processing does not begin until AMCAS receives all required official transcripts and the completed application. The deadlines posted on this site and in the MSAR are subject to change during an application cycle. The most up-to-date information is available in the Medical Schools section of the AMCAS application. **AMCAS does not grant deadline extensions for any reason. Applicants seeking a deadline extension must contact the medical schools directly.**

"Keep in mind the importance of getting in your application as early as possible," he says. "The admissions process works on a rolling basis, with available seats going to successful applicants as they are chosen. If you wait until later in the admissions cycle, there may not be any seats left. It is to your advantage to get in the admissions process as early as possible."

Contributed by Senior Consultant Dr. Wayne Shelton. Wayne served on the admissions committee at Albany Medical College for 12 years and has been an adjunct faculty member at Weill Cornell Medical College since 2007.

http://www.admissionsconsultants.com/medical/apply_early.asp

The cost of applying

- AMCAS
 - \$160. for one + \$33. for each additional School
- MCAT - \$240.
 - MCAT Prep course? - \$1,000 - \$1,700.
- Secondary applications
- Interviewing clothes
- Interviewing

For applications to 12 schools and four interviews,
average cost could easily be > **\$5,000.**

The cost of attending medical school:

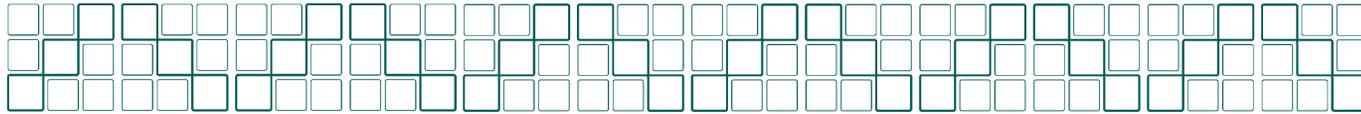
NOT IMPORTANT

What % of applicants
matriculate?

43.8%

19,230 matriculants out of 43,919 applicants in 2011

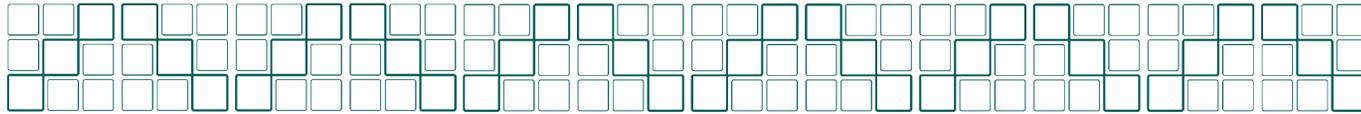
<https://www.aamc.org/44826/search.html?q=applicant+data&x=11&y=11>



U.S. Medical School Total Applicants, 2001-2011

Year	Total	% change from prior year
2001	34,860	-6.0%
2002	33,624	-3.5%
2003	34,791	+3.5%
2004	35,735	+2.7%
2005	37,372	+4.6%
2006	39,108	+4.6%
2007	42,315	+8.2%
2008	42,231	-0.2%
2009	42,268	+0.1%
2010	42,741	+1.1%
2011	43,919	+2.8%

Source: AAMC Data Warehouse: Applicant Matriculant File



U.S. Medical School First-Year Enrollment, 2001-2011

Year	Total	% change from prior year
2001	16,365	+0.4%
2002	16,488	+0.8%
2003	16,541	+0.3%
2004	16,648	+0.6%
2005	17,003	+2.1%
2006	17,361	+2.1%
2007	17,759	+2.3%
2008	18,036	+1.6%
2009	18,390	+2.0%
2010	18,665	+1.5%
2011	19,230	+3.0%

Source: AAMC Data Warehouse: Applicant Matriculant File

Overview of application process

You **MUST** identify the strengths and weaknesses of your application before you begin!

Homework:

[www.aamc.org/students/
amcas](http://www.aamc.org/students/amcas)

American Medical College Application Service

www.aamc.org/students/mcat

Medical College Admission Test

https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/

American Medical College
Application Service

AMCAS



AMCAS® is a program
of the Association of American Medical Colleges

Considering
a Medical Career

Applying
to Medical School

Succeeding
as a Medical Student

Managing
Your Residency

Share |

AMCAS Home

How to Apply

FAQ

Participating Medical Schools

Medical School Deadlines

AMCAS Resources

MCAT®



Visit MCAT® (Medical College
Admission Test®) >

American Medical College Application Service® (AMCAS®)



Welcome to the American Medical College Application Service® (AMCAS®) Web site. AMCAS is a non-profit, centralized application processing service that is only available to applicants to the first-year entering classes at participating U.S. medical schools. Most medical schools use AMCAS as the primary application method. Advanced standing and transfer applicants should contact the medical schools directly for assistance.

Regardless of the number of medical schools to which you apply, you submit just one online application to AMCAS. AMCAS does not render any admission decisions and does not advise applicants where to apply.

Sign in to the AMCAS Application

The AMCAS application year corresponds to the year you would matriculate to medical school. Use the 2012 AMCAS application if you would begin medical school in the fall of 2012.

- [2012 Application](#)
- [2011 Application](#)

[2012 AMCAS Sign In](#)

First-time Applicants

Get a head start on preparing to apply to medical school.

AMCAS for Admission Officers

Learn about AMCAS products and services for medical schools, including technical resources and important communications.

Pre-health Advisors

Access the AAMC Advisor Information System, AMCAS Letter Writer Application, and more.

Fee Assistance Program

For AMCAS applicants and MCAT® examinees with extreme financial need.

Connect with AMCAS

[Like AMCAS](#)

https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/

Services | Calendar | Publications | HOME | SIGN IN | Search

AAMC Association of American Medical Colleges

Tomorrow's Doctors, Tomorrow's Cures®

Considering a Medical Career | **Applying to Medical School** | Succeeding as a Medical Student | Managing Your Residency

+ Share | f t e

Applying Home

- Admission Requirements
- Medical School Programs

Find Medical Schools

The Medical School Directory has information on the U.S. and Canadian medical schools and undergraduate/M.D. combined programs listed in MSAR®.

Applying to Medical School

You've decided to dedicate your life to the practice of medicine. Now you need to:

- Find the medical school programs that are right for you.
- Take the MCAT® (Medical College Admission Test®)
- Apply to medical school through AMCAS® (American Medical College Application Service) or other service.

There are a lot of steps, but this site can guide you through the process.

Featured Resources

- Application and Admission Timeline
- Admission Requirements
- Financing Your Medical Education
- Transfer Policies

MCAT®

Visit MCAT® (Medical College Admission Test®) >

AMCAS® (American Medical College Application Service®) >

Find Medical Schools

- Medical School Directory
- U.S. and Canadian Medical School Admissions Offices
- Medical Career Fairs

Medical School Admission Requirements (MSAR®)

<https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/>

Featured Resources

- ▣ [Application and Admission Timeline](#)
- ▣ [Admission Requirements](#)
- ▣ [Financing Your Medical Education](#)
- ▣ [Transfer Policies](#)
- ▣ [Financial Aid Fact Sheets](#)

Programs and Services for Applicants

- ▣ [Medical College Admission Test® \(MCAT®\)](#)
- ▣ [American Medical College Application Service® \(AMCAS®\)](#)
- ▣ [Fee Assistance Program](#)
- ▣ [The Medical Minority Applicant Registry \(Med-MAR\)](#)
- ▣ [Financial Information, Resources, Services and Tools \(FIRST\)](#)
- ▣ [Early Decision Program \(EDP\)](#)

<https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/>

What are your peers asking about?

Transcripts

Should I wait to send my transcript(s) until my Spring quarter or Summer session grades are available?

Returned Applications

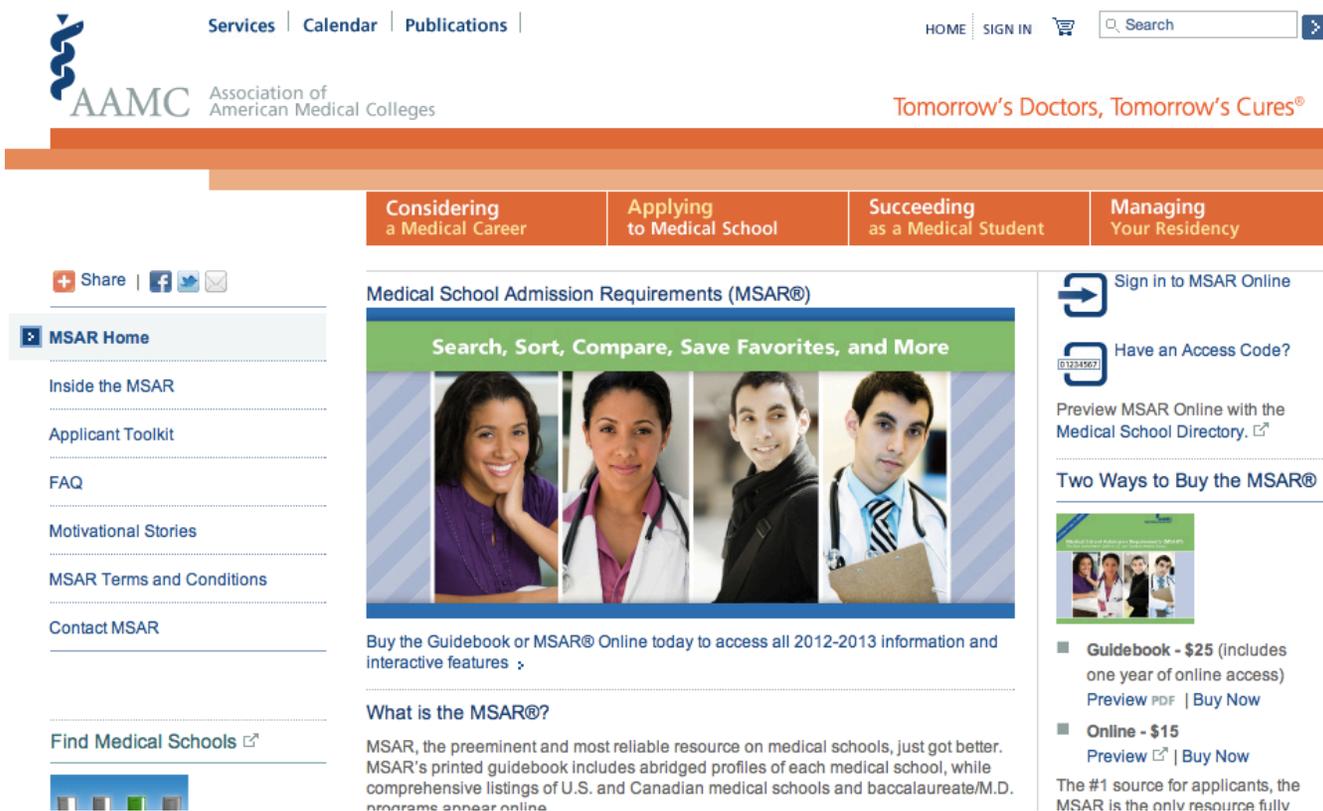
What are the reasons my application may be returned?

Letters of Evaluation

What are the differences between a committee letter, letter packet, and an individual letter?

[More FAQ >](#)

MSAR Web Site: an important resource



The screenshot shows the MSAR website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Services', 'Calendar', and 'Publications'. On the right, there are links for 'HOME', 'SIGN IN', and a search box. The AAMC logo (Association of American Medical Colleges) is on the left, with the tagline 'Tomorrow's Doctors, Tomorrow's Cures®'. Below the navigation bar, there are four main categories: 'Considering a Medical Career', 'Applying to Medical School', 'Succeeding as a Medical Student', and 'Managing Your Residency'. The 'Applying to Medical School' section is highlighted. Below this, there is a section for 'Medical School Admission Requirements (MSAR®)' with a sub-header 'Search, Sort, Compare, Save Favorites, and More'. This section features a collage of four medical students. Below the collage, there is a call to action: 'Buy the Guidebook or MSAR® Online today to access all 2012-2013 information and interactive features'. To the right of this section, there are links for 'Sign in to MSAR Online' and 'Have an Access Code?'. Below these links, there is a section for 'Two Ways to Buy the MSAR®' with two options: 'Guidebook - \$25 (includes one year of online access)' and 'Online - \$15'. Both options include 'Preview' and 'Buy Now' links. At the bottom left of the screenshot, there is a sidebar with a 'Share' button and social media icons, and a list of links including 'MSAR Home', 'Inside the MSAR', 'Applicant Toolkit', 'FAQ', 'Motivational Stories', 'MSAR Terms and Conditions', and 'Contact MSAR'. There is also a 'Find Medical Schools' link with an external icon.

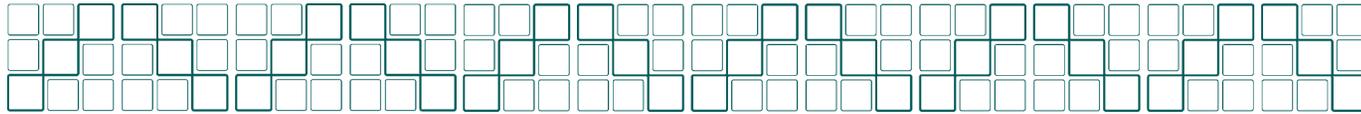
<https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/requirements/msar/>

MSAR: an important resource

MSAR Online or MSAR Guidebook

Wondering which MSAR® has the information you'd like? Deciding between MSAR Online or the Guidebook?

Available Features	MSAR Online	Guidebook
Format	1 year of online access	Guidebook + 1 year of online access
School-specific admission requirements	●	●
Applicant and acceptee statistics	●	●
Medical education process information		●
How to choose the right school for you		●
Price	\$15	\$25



MSAR




Search, sort, compare, save favorites, and more.

All of the Information. All of the data.

Upgrade to MSAR®.

Search

All Schools & Programs | My Favorites

Search For: Schools Programs Both

School Name:

Location:

School Type: Public Private

Results (196)

Sort by...

Albany Medical College
 Albany, New York · Private Institution

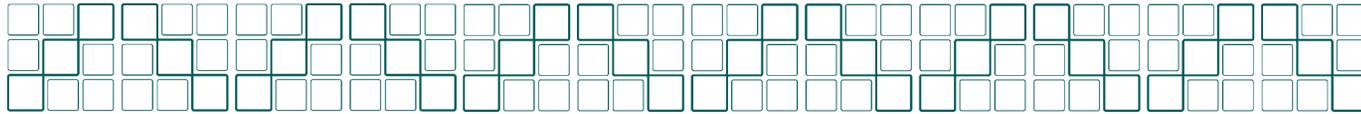


First Year Class/Total Enrollment: 137 / 573
 Tuition and Fees Resident/Non-resident: \$48,241 / \$48,241
 Primary Application: AMCAS, Latest Application Filing Date: November 1, 2011
 Additional Programs:
 MCAT® Range, 10th-90th Percentile:
 GPA Range, 10th-90th Percentile:

Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University
 Bronx, New York · Private Institution



First Year Class/Total Enrollment: 183 / 780
 Tuition and Fees Resident/Non-resident: \$42,863 / \$42,863
 Primary Application: AMCAS, Latest Application Filing Date: November 1, 2011
 Additional Programs:
 MCAT® Range, 10th-90th Percentile:
 GPA Range, 10th-90th Percentile:



MSAR



[School Details](#) · [Back to search results](#)

Albany Medical College

Albany, New York Private Institution

- About >
- Education
- Student Life
- Research
- Facilities
- Financial
- Combined Degrees and Special Programs
- Matriculant Demographics
- Specialty Choice
- Selection Factors



Founded 1839	First Year Class 137	Total Enrollment 573	Classes Begin August 2012
Est. Number of New Entrants 140	Early Decision Program 0	Special Programs 0	

About this Medical School

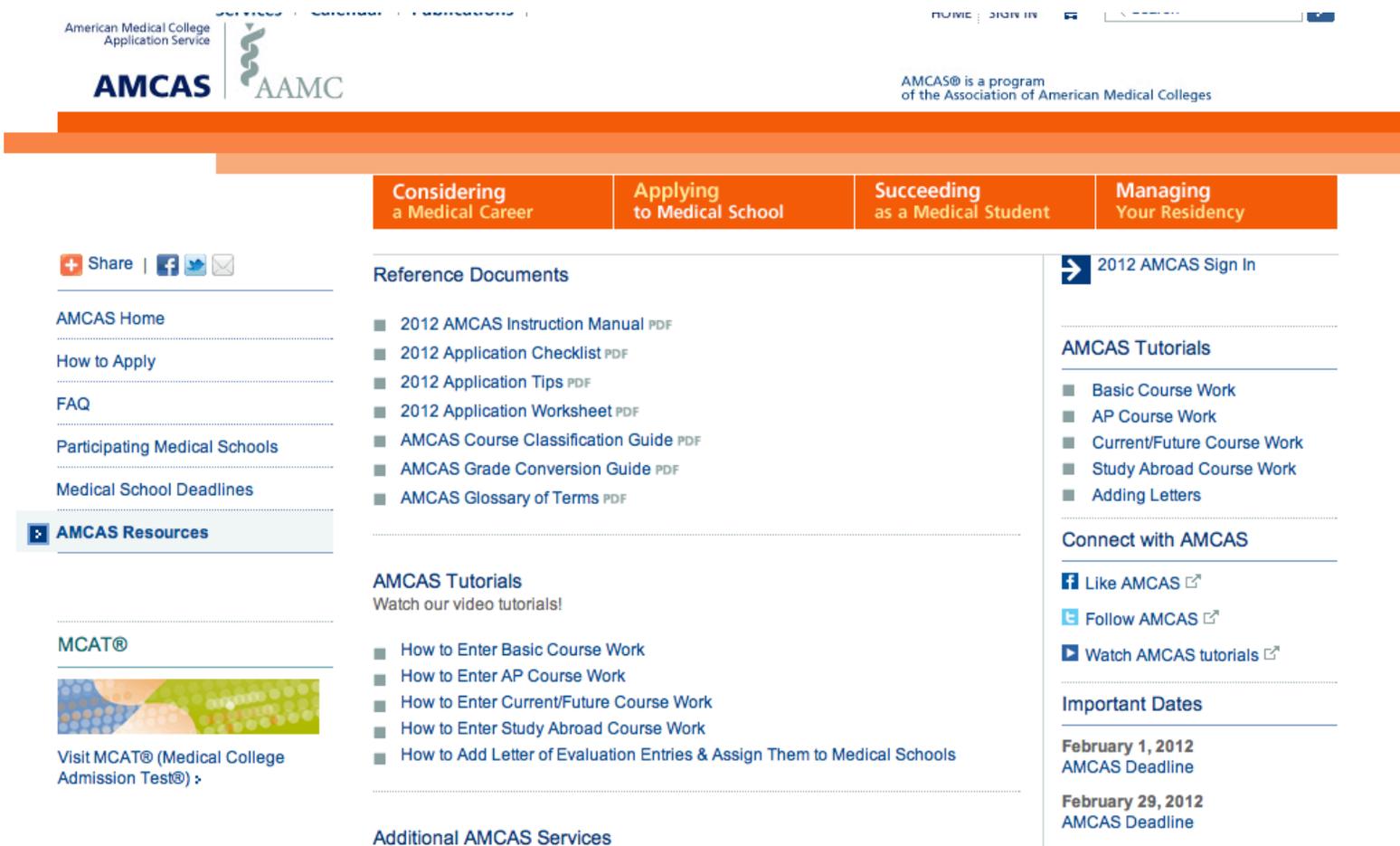
General Information

Founded in 1839, Albany Medical College is one of the oldest medical schools in the country and one of the largest teaching hospitals in New York State. The college is coeducational, nondenominational, and privately supported. The college and the 650-bed Albany Medical Center Hospital comprise Albany Medical Center. Patient care, from primary to tertiary, is provided for over 2.5 million residents of eastern New York and western New England.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Albany Medical College is to: educate medical students, physicians, bio-medical scientists, and other health professionals from demographically diverse backgrounds to meet future primary and specialty health care needs; foster biomedical research that leads to scientific advances and improvement of public health; and provide a broad range of patient services.

<https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/amcasresources/>



The screenshot shows the AMCAS website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the AMCAS logo and the text "AMCAS® is a program of the Association of American Medical Colleges". Below this is a main navigation menu with four categories: "Considering a Medical Career", "Applying to Medical School", "Succeeding as a Medical Student", and "Managing Your Residency".

On the left side, there is a sidebar with a "Share" button and social media icons, followed by a list of links: "AMCAS Home", "How to Apply", "FAQ", "Participating Medical Schools", "Medical School Deadlines", and "AMCAS Resources" (which is highlighted).

The main content area is divided into three columns:

- Reference Documents:** A list of PDF documents including "2012 AMCAS Instruction Manual", "2012 Application Checklist", "2012 Application Tips", "2012 Application Worksheet", "AMCAS Course Classification Guide", "AMCAS Grade Conversion Guide", and "AMCAS Glossary of Terms".
- AMCAS Tutorials:** A section titled "Watch our video tutorials!" with a list of video topics: "How to Enter Basic Course Work", "How to Enter AP Course Work", "How to Enter Current/Future Course Work", "How to Enter Study Abroad Course Work", and "How to Add Letter of Evaluation Entries & Assign Them to Medical Schools".
- Additional AMCAS Services:** A section for further resources.

On the right side, there is a "2012 AMCAS Sign In" button and a section titled "AMCAS Tutorials" with a list of tutorial topics: "Basic Course Work", "AP Course Work", "Current/Future Course Work", "Study Abroad Course Work", and "Adding Letters". Below this is a "Connect with AMCAS" section with social media links for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. At the bottom right, there is an "Important Dates" section listing "February 1, 2012 AMCAS Deadline" and "February 29, 2012 AMCAS Deadline".

Overview of application process

- MCAT
 - Sign up dates
 - Before June if at all possible!
 - No 'practice' attempts!
- AMCAS
 - Begin accepting ~ 1 June; submit ASAP !
- Your institution's pre-professional office
 - Letters
 - Transcripts & judicial clearance
- Secondary applications
- Interviews

A School's Selection Criteria from the MSAR

- Numbers!
 - In State and Out Of State
- Clinical experience
- Research
- Graduates' specialties
- Other factors

[FACTS Home](#)

[Applicants and Matriculants](#)

[Enrollment, Graduates, and MD/PhD](#)

[ERAS Data](#)

[Glossary](#)

Applicants and Matriculants Data

By Institution

1. [U.S. Medical School Applications and Matriculants by School, State of Legal Residence, and Sex, 2009](#)
2. [Undergraduate Institutions Supplying Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools, by Applicant Race and Ethnicity, 2009](#)

By Legal Residence, Age, Sex

3. [Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools by State of Legal Residence, 1998-2009](#)
4. [Matriculants to U.S. Medical Schools by State of Legal Residence, 1998-2009](#)
5. [Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools by In or Out-of-State Matriculation Status, 2009](#)
6. [Age of Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools at Anticipated Matriculation by Sex and Race and Ethnicity, 2006-2009](#)
7. [Applicants, First-Time Applicants, Acceptees, and Matriculants to U.S. Medical Schools by Sex, 1998-2009](#)

By Race and Ethnicity

8. [Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools by Race, Selected Combinations within Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, and Sex, 2009](#)
9. [Matriculants to U.S. Medical Schools by Race, Selected Combinations within Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, and Sex, 2009](#)
10. [Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, Non-Hispanic or Latino Race, and State of Legal Residence, 2009](#)
11. [Matriculants to U.S. Medical Schools by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, Non-Hispanic or Latino Race, and State of Legal Residence, 2009](#)
12. [Applicants, First-Time Applicants, Acceptees, and Matriculants to U.S. Medical Schools by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, Non-Hispanic or Latino Race, and Sex, 2006-2009](#)
13. [Race and Ethnicity Responses of Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools, 2002-2009](#)
14. [Race and Ethnicity Responses \(Alone and In Combination\) of Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools, 2002-2009](#)
15. [Race and Ethnicity \(One Race Response\) of Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools, 2002-2009](#)
16. [Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools by Race and Ethnicity, Selected Combinations, 2002-2009](#)

Related

[U.S. Medical School Applicants and Students \(PDF\)](#) These charts include longitudinal data back to 1982.

For MCAT examinee data, see "MCAT Exam Statistics" on [For Admissions Officers and Pre-Health Advisors](#).

Contact FACTS

For additional data on medical school applicants, matriculants, enrollment, and graduates, please e-mail facts@aamc.org.

<https://www.aamc.org/44826/search.html?q=applicant+data&x=11&y=11>

Numerical Selection Criteria

Table 17: MCAT Scores and GPAs for Applicants and Matriculants to U.S. Medical Schools, 1999 -2010



Average MCAT scores and GPAs for applicants and matriculants are displayed below. Please e-mail us at facts@aamc.org if you need further assistance or have additional inquiries.

Applicants, 1999 - 2010		1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
MCAT VR	Mean	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.7	8.6	8.9	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.1
	SD*	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.1
MCAT PS	Mean	9.0	8.9	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.0	9.2	9.3	9.2	9.4
	SD	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
MCAT BS	Mean	9.3	9.3	9.2	9.3	9.2	9.3	9.4	9.5	9.6	9.8	9.8	9.8
	SD	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.1
Total MCAT	Mean	26.9	26.9	26.8	27.0	26.8	27.1	27.3	27.4	27.7	28.1	27.9	28.3
	SD	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.5
MCAT WS	Median	P	P	P	O	P	O	O	O	O	P	O	P
	Mean	3.34	3.35	3.36	3.36	3.36	3.36	3.37	3.38	3.39	3.40	3.41	3.43
GPA science	SD	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.44	0.44	0.43
	Mean	3.55	3.56	3.58	3.59	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.61	3.62	3.63	3.64	3.65
GPA non-science	SD	0.35	0.35	0.34	0.34	0.33	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.31	0.31	0.30
	Mean	3.43	3.44	3.45	3.46	3.47	3.47	3.48	3.48	3.49	3.50	3.51	3.53
GPA total	SD	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.35	0.34
	Total Applicants	38,443	37,088	34,860	33,624	34,791	35,735	37,372	39,108	42,315	42,231	42,269	42,742

* SD = standard deviation

Matriculants, 1999 - 2010		1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
MCAT VR	Mean	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.7	9.7	9.8	9.9	9.9	9.8	9.9
	SD*	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7
MCAT PS	Mean	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	9.9	9.9	10.0	10.1	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.4
	SD	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9
MCAT BS	Mean	10.2	10.2	10.1	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.5	10.6	10.7	10.8	10.8
	SD	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Total MCAT	Mean	29.7	29.7	29.6	29.6	29.6	29.9	30.2	30.3	30.8	30.9	30.8	31.1
	SD	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1
MCAT WS	Median	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Q
	Mean	3.53	3.54	3.54	3.54	3.55	3.56	3.56	3.57	3.59	3.60	3.60	3.61
GPA science	SD	0.36	0.35	0.35	0.36	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.34	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.32
	Mean	3.66	3.67	3.68	3.69	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.71	3.73	3.73	3.74	3.75
GPA non-science	SD	0.30	0.29	0.28	0.27	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.24
	Mean	3.59	3.60	3.60	3.61	3.62	3.62	3.63	3.64	3.65	3.66	3.66	3.67
GPA total	SD	0.30	0.30	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.27	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26
	Total Matriculants	16,221	16,301	16,365	16,488	16,541	16,648	17,003	17,361	17,759	18,036	18,390	18,665

Source: AAMC: DW: Applicant Matriculant File as of 10/19/2010.

© 2009 Association of American Medical Colleges. This data may be reproduced and distributed with attribution for educational, noncommercial purposes only.

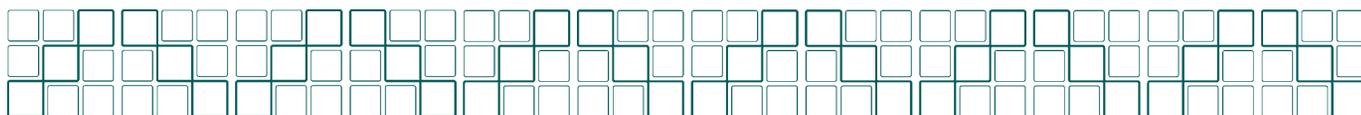


Table 24: MCAT and GPA Grid for Applicants and Acceptees to U.S. Medical Schools, 2009-2011 (aggregated)



The table below displays the acceptance rates at different MCAT and GPA levels for applicants and accepted applicants from 2009 to 2011. The frequencies are combined totals of all three years. Please email us at facts@aamc.org if you need further assistance or have additional inquiries.

Acceptance rate for applicants, 2009-2011 (aggregated)	Total MCAT Scores										All Applicants	
	5-14	15-17	18-20	21-23	24-26	27-29	30-32	33-35	36-38	39-45		
Total GPA												
3.80-4.00	Acceptees	1	8	80	355	1,373	4,028	6,197	5,159	2,956	1,171	21,328
	Applicants	70	180	480	1,368	3,290	6,048	7,550	5,986	3,290	1,280	29,542
	Acceptance rate %	1.4	4.4	16.7	26.0	41.7	66.6	82.1	86.2	89.8	91.5	72.2
3.60-3.79	Acceptees	1	13	105	414	1,284	3,777	5,654	3,878	1,602	563	17,091
	Applicants	174	380	1,001	2,245	4,588	7,458	7,889	4,853	1,895	429	30,912
	Acceptance rate %	0.6	3.4	10.5	18.4	28.0	50.6	71.7	79.9	84.5	84.6	55.3
3.40-3.59	Acceptees	4	15	114	428	1,053	2,456	3,523	2,225	832	161	10,811
	Applicants	296	508	1,186	2,559	4,584	6,734	6,558	3,329	1,139	206	27,099
	Acceptance rate %	1.4	3.0	9.6	16.7	23.0	36.5	53.7	66.8	73.0	78.2	39.9
3.20-3.39	Acceptees	2	5	88	267	596	1,099	1,496	917	302	60	4,832
	Applicants	360	518	1,130	2,102	3,327	4,238	3,843	1,767	490	96	17,871
	Acceptance rate %	0.6	1.0	7.8	12.7	17.9	25.9	38.9	51.9	61.6	62.5	27.0
3.00-3.19	Acceptees	2	15	59	168	328	554	517	331	100	16	2,090
	Applicants	441	516	950	1,481	2,013	2,281	1,725	784	225	32	10,448
	Acceptance rate %	0.5	2.9	6.2	11.3	16.3	24.3	30.0	42.2	44.4	50.0	20.0
2.80-2.99	Acceptees	.	4	27	89	156	152	184	86	30	10	738
	Applicants	364	393	645	831	989	976	741	265	90	20	5,314
	Acceptance rate %	.	1.0	4.2	10.7	15.8	15.6	24.8	32.5	33.3	50.0	13.9
2.60-2.79	Acceptees	.	4	16	32	56	64	64	33	8	3	280
	Applicants	299	239	375	461	522	436	290	132	38	13	2,805
	Acceptance rate %	.	1.7	4.3	6.9	10.7	14.7	22.1	25.0	21.1	23.1	10.0
2.40-2.59	Acceptees	.	.	4	8	13	17	19	13	2	.	76
	Applicants	197	145	184	211	214	168	100	57	15	1	1,292
	Acceptance rate %	.	.	2.2	3.8	6.1	10.1	19.0	22.8	13.3	.	5.9
2.20-2.39	Acceptees	.	.	2	3	9	6	1	3	1	.	25
	Applicants	142	71	88	74	79	56	30	19	4	1	564
	Acceptance rate %	.	.	2.3	4.1	11.4	10.7	3.3	15.8	25.0	.	4.4
2.00-2.19	Acceptees	.	1	.	1	1	.	1	1	.	.	5
	Applicants	70	43	32	26	19	19	13	2	.	1	225
	Acceptance rate %	.	2.3	.	3.8	5.3	.	7.7	50.0	.	.	2.2
1.47-1.99	Acceptees	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1
	Applicants	36	12	7	9	8	9	6	1	.	.	88
	Acceptance rate %	.	.	.	.	12.5	.	.	.	.	.	1.1

Applicant Facts

2011 Applicants & Matriculants by Primary Undergraduate Major

Applicants 201	Applicants	Matriculants
Biological Sciences	22,863	9,794
Humanities	1,999	989
Math and Statistics	387	190
Other	7,625	3,259
Physical Sciences	4,670	2,305
Social Sciences	5,107	2,277
Specialized Health Sciences	1,268	416
TOTAL	43,919	19,230

<https://www.aamc.org/download/161692/data/table18.pdf>

Changes in required courses may be coming!

■ Currently

- Biology with lab (2)
- General Chemistry with lab (2)
- Organic Chemistry with lab (2)
- Physics with lab (2)
- Mathematics (2; may be Calculus)
- English (2; may include 1 sem of literature)
- Biochemistry (?)

Selection Criteria

- GPA - overall and science
 - Strength of transcript
 - ALL grades reported
- MCAT scores
- Application essays
- Experience(s)
- Letters
- Interview
- State of residence

GPA for Applicants & Matriculants, 2011

	<u>Applicants</u> (43,919)		<u>Matriculants</u> (19,230)
GPA Science	3.43	<-- 0.18 -->	3.61
GPA non-science	3.65	<-- 0.1 -->	3.74
GPA Total	3.53		3.67

source: www.aamc.org/students/mcat

Selection Criteria

- GPA - overall and science
 - Strength of transcript
 - ALL grades reported
 - Repeated courses?
- MCAT scores
- Application essays
 - What do I tell the schools?
 - Are they really important?
- Experience
- Letters

MCAT Statistics, 2011

	<u>Applicants</u>	<u>Matriculants</u>
#	43,919	19,230
VR	9.0	9.8
PHYS	9.4	10.4
BIOL	9.9	10.8
Writing	P	Q

43.7%

Subject Averages 28.3 O \longleftrightarrow 31.1 Q

Applicant Facts

For more applicant data, go to:

<http://www.aamc.org/data/facts/start.htm>

Previous data and slides from:

<http://www.aamc.org/students/applying/advisors/>

toolbox.htm

Range of MCAT scores
submitted by matriculants
“never” falls below an
8!

Why is the MCAT important to medical schools?

Selection Criteria

- GPA - overall and science
 - Strength of transcript
 - ALL grades reported
 - Repeated courses?
- MCAT scores
- Application essays
 - What do I tell the schools?
 - Are they really important?
- Experience
- Letters

According to AMCAS, your personal statement,

- Attaches your personality to the rest of the application,
- Clarifies how you have prepared yourself for success in medical school,
- Explains why you want to pursue a career in medicine,
- Argues why you will make a good doctor.
- May include explanations

There are two questions you must remember to address when writing your personal statement.

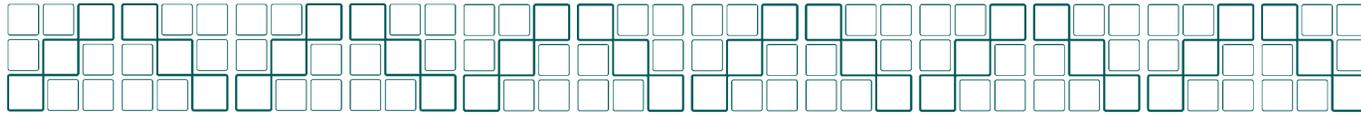
What do the admissions folks
want to know about me?

What do I want the admissions
folks to know about me?



Why do I want to become a
physician?

Why will I be a good physician?



Considerations

- You must have a theme
- Anecdotes support and illustrate the theme
 - Not the other way around!
- Be definite, use concrete language
- Excitement! No downers!
- Passion belongs in relationships but should be limited here
- The Big Question: **WHY???**
- Don't write about the patients!!! Write about the physicians!

If you do not want to talk about something in an interview, do not write about it in your Personal Statement!

Med School Admissions Articles, Advice, & Tips

[Do's and Don'ts](#)

Twenty succinct Do's and Don'ts for your AMCAS and non-AMCAS personal statements.

[Secondary Essays](#)

Make sure your secondary essays add value to your application.

[10 Secrets of Good Writing](#)

Discover the key elements to good writing and improve anything you have to put on paper.

[Non-Science Background](#)

Your non-science background can be a tremendous advantage. Guarantee that it is by answering the 3 critical questions raised in this article.

[Research Background](#)

Take advantage of your strong science background and show that you are a well-rounded human being.

[Older Applicants](#)

Learn how to profit from your maturity while making sure you answer the unasked questions about older applicants.

[Letters of Rec](#)

Ten tips for writers of letters of recommendation.

[Residency Essays](#)

Four essential elements of an outstanding residency essay.

<http://www.accepted.com/medical/AmcasEssay.aspx>

Personal Statements: The Do's:

1. Unite your essay and give it direction with a theme or thesis. The thesis is the main point you want to communicate.
2. Before you begin writing, choose what you want to discuss and the order in which you want to discuss it.
3. Use concrete examples from your life experience to support your thesis and distinguish yourself from other applicants.
4. Write about what interests you, excites you. That's what the admissions staff wants to read.
5. Start your essay with an attention-grabbing lead--an anecdote, quote, question, or engaging description of a scene.

<http://www.accepted.com/medical/dosdonts.aspx>

Personal Statements: The Do's:

6. End your essay with a conclusion that refers back to the lead and restates your thesis.
7. Revise your essay at least three times.
8. In addition to your editing, ask someone else to critique your personal statement.
9. Proofread your personal statement by reading it out loud or reading it into a tape recorder and playing back the tape.
10. Write clearly, succinctly.

<http://www.accepted.com/medical/dosdonts.aspx>

The Don't's

1. Don't include information that doesn't support your thesis.
2. Don't start your essay with "I was born in..." or "My parents came from..."
3. Don't write an autobiography, itinerary, or resume in prose.
4. Don't try to be a clown (but gentle humor is OK).
5. Don't be afraid to start over if the essay just isn't working or doesn't answer the essay question.

<http://www.accepted.com/medical/dosdonts.aspx>

The Don't's

6. Don't try to impress your reader with your vocabulary.
7. Don't rely exclusively on your computer to check your spelling.
8. Don't provide a collection of generic statements and platitudes.
9. Don't give mealy-mouthed, weak excuses for your GPA or test scores.
10. Don't make things up.

<http://www.accepted.com/medical/dosdonts.aspx>

Edit your essay:

- Subject verb agreement
- Active voice verbs
- Definite verbs
- Avoid empty killer phrases
 - “It is
- Limit your use of “passion”
- Read it aloud!
- Outline it when you are finished

Selection Criteria

- GPA - overall and science
 - Strength of transcript
 - ALL grades reported
 - Repeated courses?
- MCAT scores
- Application essays
 - What do I tell the schools?
 - Are they really important?
- Experience
- Letters

Experience

- *Real* clinical in a hospital setting
 - Observe and talk about physicians, not patients
- Experiences with leadership and accomplishment
- Meaningful to you and as relevance in some way to your chosen career goal
- Display the *other* interests that help define who you are!

A word about recommendation
letters.....

Never underestimate the importance of your college pre-professional committee letter

Selection Criteria

- GPA - overall and science
 - Strength of transcript
 - ALL grades reported
- MCAT scores
- Application
- Letters
- Experience
- Essays
- State of residence
- Interview

To kill any chance of admission,
just ignore any below average
component in the selection criteria
list.

How many schools?

Preparing for your interview: Do your homework!

- The suit and shoes
- Know the program!
- Two lists of questions
- Know the Admissions staff members
- Review everything the you submitted
- Be familiar with the problems or issues facing the medical profession
- Personalize your conversation
- Be yourself and SMILE!!!



Is age a factor?

Early Decision?

The role of your research
experiences in your application?

Addressing weak sections of your application:

- GPA - overall and science
 - Take REAL, upper division, graded science courses!
- MCAT scores
 - Read, read, read, and read
 - Practice tests (timed!) before study!
- Application essays
 - Get help and prepare 4 - 5 drafts over 2 weeks
 - Read it aloud!
- Submit AMCAS on time!

Addressing weak sections of your application:

- Experience
 - Patient contact in a clinical setting
 - Research (look at MSAR)
- Letters
 - Rethink your assets
- Interview
 - Practice, public speaking courses/opportunities
 - Read more!
- State of residence and choice of schools

One year post bac programs?

Put July 20th on your calendar!

NIH Graduate and Professional School Fair

Higgins's Recipe for
MCAT Study
on the OITE Web site:
www.training.nih.gov

<http://www.training.nih.gov/>



Office of Intramural
TRAINING & EDUCATION
build your career, shape the future

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

home training programs events career services about OITE for NIH staff

CCSEP COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES
SUBMIT JANUARY 2011
more information ▶

CCSEP now accepting applications →

PROSPECTIVE TRAINEES CURRENT TRAINEES INVESTIGATORS & STAFF MY OITE

WHAT'S NEW
COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES
Learn more about community service activities coordinated by the NIH Postbac IRTA Committee and the NIH Graduate

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
POSTBAC JOURNAL CLUB: TOPICS IN MOLECULAR VIROLOGY
Jan 17, 2011 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

To schedule an appointment:

On line appointment system:

https://www.training.nih.gov/career_services/appointments

Other Workshops on OITE website:

- Preparing for the MCATs

- Writing your personal statement

Workshop on 29 March

- Filling out the AMCAS forms

Workshop on 24 May

- Interviewing

20 July