Let's go, Huskies!

# 2021 Cycle Application Orientation

Health Professional Schools



# Agenda

I. HousekeepingIII.Application servicesIIII.Application componentsIV.Composite letters & processV. The portal

VI.What happens after?

**VII.Resources** 

How I think I look explaining the premed process to my bartender at 3:00 am vs how I actually look.







# Two overall goals tonight

- 1. Inform you about the application process to health professional schools and our composite letter process
- 2. Use this information to gauge whether you truly feel ready to apply to health professional schools this cycle



# I. Housekeeping

- ListServ/Weekly newsletter
- Email us and request to be added
- ➤ Main place for 2021 cycle information

<u> premed predental@uconn.edu</u>



# I. Housekeeping

#### **Advisors**

- Pre-Medical
- Keat Sanford, PhD
- Arlene Albert, PhD
- Pre-Dental
- Thomas Abbott, PhD
- Staff
- Krista Rogers, MA
- Susan Ruggiero, MS

















### Web platforms

- ➤ <u>AMCAS</u>: primary app for MD schools
- ➤ <u>CAS</u>: primary apps for AACOMAS, AADSAS, CASPA, OPTOMCAS, AACPMAS, PHARMCAS, SOPHAS, GRADCAS...
- ➤ TMDSAS: primary app for Texas public med/dent/vet schools



### MD schools (allopathic medicine)

- ➤ <u>AAMC</u>: Association of American Medical Colleges (also administers the MCAT)
- ➤ <u>AMCAS</u>: American Medical College Application Service
  - 2021 Cycle AMCAS Applicant Guide



### MD schools (allopathic medicine)

### 2021 cycle dates:

- > 5/4/20 primary app opens
- > 5/28/20 submission button available
- ➤ 6/26/20 first day verified apps sent to individual schools
  - > Schools begin to notify applicants of acceptances on 10/15 and continue until their classes are full.

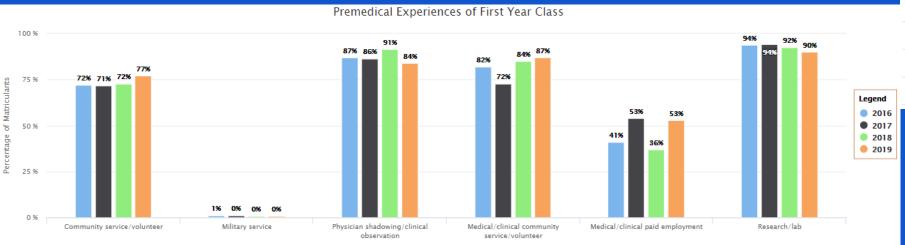


MD schools (allopathic medicine)
2021 cycle fees:

- ➤ AMCAS application fee (one school included): \$170
- ➤ Each additional school: \$41



- ➤ Medical School Admission Requirements (MSAR)
- ➤ 1-year subscription: \$28
- > 2-year subscription: \$36



#### Matriculation Data for First Year Class 😯

Categories	In-state	Out-of-state	International	Total
Verified Applications	530	2502	254	3286
Interviewed	224	104	3	331
Deferred	1	1	0	2
Early Assurance Program	0	0	0	0
Early Decision Program	0	0	0	0
Baccalaureate/MD	0	0	0	0
MD/PhD	2	2	2	6
Matriculated	83	24	3	110



ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

PRE-MEDICAL AND DENTAL CENTER



# Applying to Medical School 2019 AMCAS® Medical School Applications by the Numbers



American Medical College Application Service®

#### **AMCAS OPERATIONS**



Staff spent **22,622 hours** verifying ,125,832 application data points.

#### **DOCUMENTS HANDLED**





recommendation

#### AAMC SERVICES CONTACT CENTER\*



#### APPLICANTS AND ENROLLEES







#### APPLICANTS

Average GPA 3.59



#### **ENROLLEES**

Average GPA 3.73





#### WHO ENROLLED?



2,920



**36** Enrollees with DACA status

4,687 Enrollees who received a Pell Grant before

#### SELF-IDENTIFICATION\*\*

Multiple Race/Ethnicity 10.0% Black or African American 7.4%

Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish Origin 6.5%



4.9% Unknown Race/Ethnicity

1.7% Other Race/Ethnicity 0.2% American Indian or Alaska Native

0.1% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 1.2% Non-U.S. Citizen and

Nonpermanent Resident

#### MCAT® SCORES 528 High 512

483 Average Low



of courses taker

Average number of research lab hours

American Medical College Application Service is a program of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

aamc.org/amcas



\*Based on AAMC applicant matriculant data file; includes data from AAMC-member medical schools that do not participate in AMCAS

Table A-23: MCAT and GPA Grid for Applicants and Acceptees to U.S. Medical Schools, 2017-2018 through 2019-2020 (aggregated)



The table below displays the acceptance rates at different MCAT and GPA levels for applicants and accepted applicants from 2017-2018 through 2019-2020. The frequencies are combined totals of both years. Please email datarequest@aamc.org if you need further assistance or have additional inquiries.

	Total MCAT Scores						All					
Acceptance R	ate for Applicants	Less than 486	486-489	490-493	494-497	498-501	502-505	506-509	510-513	514-517	Greater than 517	Applicants
Total GPA												
Greater than 3.79	Acceptees	4	9	58	298	1,007	2,603	4,945	6,573	6,312	6,893	28,702
	Applicants	159	320	726	1,584	3,272	5,435	7,957	8,778	7,711	7,848	43,790
	Acceptance rate %	2.5	2.8	8.0	18.8	30.8	47.9	62.1	74.9	81.9	87.8	65.5
3.60-3.79	Acceptees	3	8	55	300	1,017	2,181	3,770	4,670	3,526	2,364	17,894
	Applicants	382	613	1,313	2,492	4,251	6,291	7,565	7,228	4,793	2,924	37,852
	Acceptance rate %	0.8	1.3	4.2	12.0	23.9	34.7	49.8	64.6	73.6	80.8	47.3
3.40-3.59	Acceptees	5	10	53	266	748	1,340	2,034	2,290	1,552	881	9,179
	Applicants	570	846	1,593	2,683	4,023	5,059	5,472	4,497	2,494	1,252	28,489
	Acceptance rate %	0.9	1.2	3.3	9.9	18.6	26.5	37.2	50.9	62.2	70.4	32.2
3.20-3.39	Acceptees	1	6	35	155	424	683	865	865	571	252	3,857
	Applicants	705	835	1,474	2,183	2,821	3,176	2,921	2,170	1,123	443	17,851
	Acceptance rate %	0.1	0.7	2.4	7.1	15.0	21.5	29.6	39.9	50.8	56.9	21.6
3.00-3.19	Acceptees	3	7	17	94	226	327	359	339	168	100	1,640
	Applicants	777	743	1,030	1,433	1,596	1,591	1,411	1,004	408	201	10,194
	Acceptance rate %	0.4	0.9	1.7	6.6	14.2	20.6	25.4	33.8	41.2	49.8	16.1
2.80-2.99	Acceptees	5	3	14	30	67	126	132	86	48	24	535
	Applicants	673	549	659	700	756	737	565	324	169	58	5,190
	Acceptance rate %	0.7	0.5	2.1	4.3	8.9	17.1	23.4	26.5	28.4	41.4	10.3
2.60-2.79	Acceptees	0	4	2	11	34	44	33	21	23	6	178
	Applicants	468	320	396	354	401	267	186	113	57	18	2,580
	Acceptance rate %	0.0	1.3	0.5	3.1	8.5	16.5	17.7	18.6	40.4	33.3	6.9
2.40-2.59	Acceptees	0	1	3	8	5	12	17	12	4	-	64
	Applicants	331	176	175	170	124	93	69	46	16	-	1,206
	Acceptance rate %	0.0	0.6	1.7	4.7	4.0	12.9	24.6	26.1	25.0	-	5.3
2.20-2.39	Acceptees	0	0	0	2	5	8	5	3	-	-	29
	Applicants	194	96	83	61	44	39	32	21	-	-	579
	Acceptance rate %	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	11.4	20.5	15.6	14.3	-	-	5.0
2.00-2.19	Acceptees	0	0	1	0	-	1	-	-	-		3
	Applicants	107	30	29	20	-	13	-	-	-		221
	Acceptance rate %	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.0	-	7.7	-	-	-		1.4
Less than 2.00	Acceptees	0	1	1	0		-	-	-			2
	Applicants	51	14	14	10		-	-	-			94
	Acceptance rate %	0.0	7.1	7.1	0.0		-	-	-			2.1
All Applicants	Acceptees	21	49	239	1,164	3,533	7,325	12,160	14,859	12,209	10,524	62,083
	Applicants	4,417	4,542	7,492	11,690	17,297	22,703	26,187	24,186	16,779	12,753	148,046
	Acceptance rate %	0.5	1.1	3.2	10.0	20.4	32.3	46.4	61.4	72.8	82.5	41.9



### DO schools (osteopathic medicine)

- ➤ AACOM: American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
- ➤ <u>AACOMAS</u>: American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service
  - AACOMAS Applicant Help Center



DO schools (osteopathic medicine)

### 2021 cycle dates:

- > 5/5/20 primary app opens for submission
- ➤ 6/15/20 first day verified apps sent to individual schools



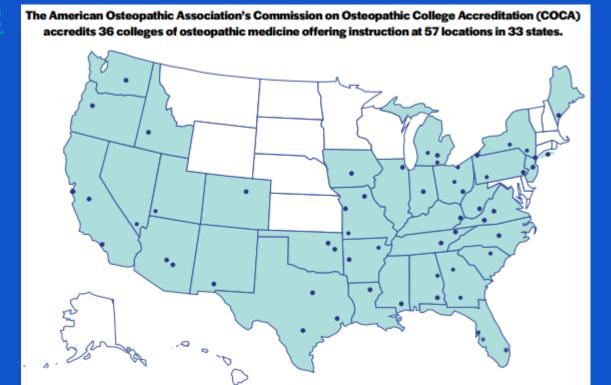
DO schools (osteopathic medicine)
2021 cycle fees:

- ➤ AACOMAS application fee (one school included): \$196
- ➤ Each additional school: \$46



- ➤ Choose DO Explorer
- ➤ 2020-2021 Student Guide to Osteopathic Medical

Colleges





#### Mean Grade Point Averages (GPAs) for Entering Students

Baccalaureate GPA							
Group	2016	2017	2018	2019			
Science	3.45	3.43	3.43	3.39			
Non-Science	3.64	3.64	3.65	3.60			
Mean GPA	3.54	3.53	3.54	3.48			

#### Mean Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) Scores for Entering Students

MCAT2015	2017	2018	2019
Psychological, Social, & Biological Foundations of Behavior	126.2	126.5	126.31
Biological & Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems	126.0	126.2	125.75
Chemical & Physical Foundations of Biological Systems	125.7	125.8	125.42
Critical Analysis & Reasoning Skills	125.2	125.4	125.01
TOTAL MCAT	503.1	503.9	501.49

For more applicant and matriculant information, the 2019 applicant and many other reports are available at <a href="https://www.aacom.org/research">www.aacom.org/research</a>.



### **Dental schools**

- ➤ ADEA: American Dental Education Association
- <u>AADSAS</u>: Associated American Dental Schools Application Service
  - AADSAS Applicant Help Center



#### **Dental schools**

# 2021 cycle dates:

- > 5/12/20 primary app opens
- > 6/2/20 submission button available
- Schools begin to notify applicants of acceptances on 12/1 and continue until their classes are full.



#### **Dental schools**

### 2020 cycle fees:

- ➤ AADSAS application fee (one school included): \$251
- ➤ Each additional school: \$108





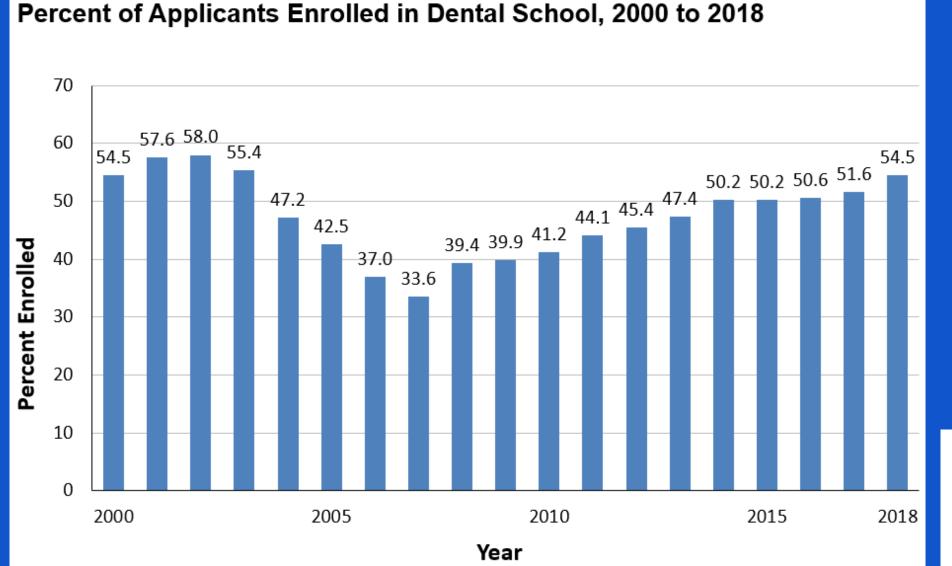
- ➤ ADEA Dental School Explorer: \$25 (1 year)
- ➤ ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools: \$40
- **>>** Bundle: \$50

DAT SCORES: FIRST-YEAR, FIRST-TIME ENROLLEES						
Score Type	Mean	5th and 95th Percentiles				
Academic Average	21.4	19-24				
Perceptual Ability	20.7	18-24				
Total Science	21.4	19-24				

#### GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA): FIRST-YEAR, FIRST-TIME ENROLLEES

Subject Matter	Mean Combined Graduate and Undergraduate	5th and 95th Percentiles Combined Graduate and Undergraduate	
Science	3.5	2.90-3.97	
Total	3.6	3.09-3.96	







Percent of Applicants and Enrollees by Range of Grade Point Averages, 2018

GPA Scores	<2.50	2.50 – 2.74	2.75 – 2.99	3.0 – 3.24	3.25 – 3.49	3.5 – 3.74	3.75+
Applicants							
Science GPA	5.5%	7.4%	12.4%	18.6%	21.3%	18.7%	16.0%
Total GPA	1.9%	3.9%	8.2%	16.9%	24.1%	25.4%	19.6%
Enrollees							
Science GPA	1.1%	3.0%	6.6%	15.7%	24.4%	25.1%	24.1%
Total GPA	0.2%	1.1%	3.6%	10.3%	22.9%	32.3%	29.5%



DAT Scores	<14	14 - 16	17 - 18	19 - 20	21+
Applicants					
Academic Average	0.6%	9.4%	23.3%	33.9%	32.8%
Perceptual Ability	0.8%	10.2%	23.1%	32.9%	33.1%
Total Science	1.6%	12.5%	23.0%	32.0%	31.0%
Enrollees					
Academic Average	0.1%	1.0%	13.8%	37.9%	47.1%
Perceptual Ability	0.2%	4.2%	18.2%	35.4%	42.0%
Total Science	0.1%	2.0%	16.0%	37.1%	44.7%



#### **Texas Medical & Dental Schools**

- ➤ Texas Health Education Service
- ➤ TMDSAS: Texas Medical & Dental Schools Application Service
  - Application Handbook EY 2020 (2021 Handbook not yet available)



#### **Texas Medical & Dental Schools**

➤ **2021 cycle dates:** 5/1/20 primary app opens for submission



#### **Texas Medical & Dental Schools**

➤ 2020 cycle fees: \$185 TMDSAS application fee (flat fee for all schools)



3.80 - 3.71

3.70 - 3.61

3.60 - 3.51

3.50 - 3.41

3.40 - 3.31

3.30 - 3.21

3.20 - 3.01

3.00 - 2.76

2.75 - 2.51

2.50 - Under

Not Reported

Average

**BCPM GPA** 

Distribution

584

504

441

418

390

429

203

179

73

10%

9%

9%

8%

7%

7%

10%

7%

3%

1%

3.46

249

183

144

137

52

69

32

18

15%

11%

8%

5%

3%

4%

2%

0%

1%

3.69

	Acade	mic Sta	tistics				New MCA	T (After :	2015)		
								A1		****	
		Appli	cants	Matrio	culants			Appli	cants	Matric	culants
		#	%	#	%			#	%	#	%
	4.00 - 3.91	1060	18%	511	31%		Over 521	117	2%	28	2%
	3.90 - 3.81	777	13%	330	20%		517-521	436	8%	182	11%
	3.80 - 3.71	766	13%	277	17%		512-516	875	15%	383	23%
	3.70 - 3.61	690	12%	214	13%		507-511	1228	21%	518	31%
	3.60 - 3.51	605	10%	141	9%		502-506	1193	21%	389	24%
GPA	3.50 - 3.41	498	9%	79	5%	No. MOAT					
Distribution	3.40 - 3.31	372	6%	53	3%	New MCAT	497-501	823	14%	92	6%
Distribution	3.30 - 3.21	299	5%	22	1%	Score	492-496	456	8%	1	0%
	3.20 - 3.01	381	7%	24	1%	Distribution	487-491	255	4%	0	0%
	3.00 - 2.76	217	4%	2	0%		482-486	130	2%	0	0%
	2.75 - 2.51	80	1%	0	0%					_	
	2.50 - Under	46	1%	0	0%		477-481	55	1%	0	0%
	Not Reported	20	0%	1	0%		472-476	8	0%	0	0%
	Average	3.	58	3.	77		Not Reported**	235	4%	61	4%
					_		Average	50	5.3	50	9.9
	4.00 - 3.91	935	16%	448	27%	** Applicants with only MCAT A scores are reported as "Not Reported" in this distribution				s distribution chart	
	3.90 - 3.81	546	9%	234	14%		Applicants with	unity Proxi A scores	are reported as in	not reported in the	a distribution Chart.

New MCAT Sub-Test Averages									
	Total	CPBS	CARS	BBFL	PSBB				
Applicants	505.6	126.3	125.9	126.6	126.8				
Matriculants	509.9	127.5	126.8	127.7	127.9				



#### PA schools

- ➤ PAEA: Physician Assistant Education Association
- ➤ <u>CASPA</u>: Central Application Service for Physician Assistants
  - CASPA Applicant Help Center



PA schools

2021 cycle dates:

➤ 4/30/20 primary app opens for submission



#### PA schools

### 2021 cycle fees:

- ➤ CASPA application fee (one school included): \$179
- ➤ Each additional school: \$55



# > PAEA Program Directory

FALA Flogram Directory		All I	ogranis About				
Visit the 2019-2020 CASPA Application to view participating program pages. Each program page includes the most up-to-date information about key requirements for the current cycle. Students can create an account and view the program information even if they are not planning to apply in the current cycle.							
State	Search results: 6 programs						
Connecticut	The current directory data will be updated for the 2020-2021 admissions cycle over the next month. All data in the directory is reported directly by the programs.						
Degree offered							
	Program	State	Accreditation				
CASPA member	Quinnipiac University	Connecticut	Continuing				
•	Sacred Heart University	Connecticut	Provisional				
GRE requirement	University of Bridgeport	Connecticut	Continuing				
•	University of Saint Joseph	Connecticut	Provisional				
Health care experience	Yale University Physician Assistant Online Program	Connecticut	Provisional				
•	Yale University Physician Associate Program	Connecticut	Continuing				



### **Optometry schools**

- ➤ <u>ASCO</u>: Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry
- ➤ <u>OPTOMCAS</u>: Optometry Centralized Application Service
  - OPTOMCAS Applicant Help Center



**Optometry schools** 

2021 cycle dates:

➤ 6/30/20 primary app opens for submission



### Optometry schools

## 2020 cycle fees:

- ➤ OPTOMCAS application fee (one school included): \$180
- ➤ Each additional school: \$70



### **Podiatry schools**

- ➤ <u>AACPM</u>: American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine
- ➤ <u>AACPMAS</u>: Optometry Centralized Application Service
  - AACPMAS Applicant Help Center



## II. Application services

**Podiatry schools** 

2020 cycle dates:

>8/7/19 primary app opened for submission



#### II. Application services

#### **Podiatry schools**

#### 2020 cycle fees:

- ➤ OPTOMCAS application fee (one school included): \$185
- ➤ Each additional school: \$50



- 1. Primary application
- 2. Secondary application
- 3. Test scores
- 4. Composite [committee] letter





- ➤ A school does not typically touch any part of your application until all 4 components are received.
- Our submission of the composite letter is completely independent of your submission of the primary and secondary applications as well as test scores.



#### 1. Primary application

- "Common app" for each *type* of school
- > Fee assistance programs:
  - o <u>AMCAS</u>
  - o <u>AACOMAS</u>
  - o <u>AADSAS</u>
  - o <u>CASPA</u>



#### **The AMCAS Application**

- Identifying Information
- Schools Attended
- Biographic Information
- Course Work
- Work/Activities
- Letters of Evaluation
- Medical Schools
- Essay(s)
- Standardized Tests



#### **Work/Activities** • Maximum of 15 entries Add Work/Activities Applicants can enter 3 Experience Type additional date ranges for Select Experience Type repeated activities Experience Name Maximum of 3 "Most Meaningful" activity during the date range that you indicate. If this is a repeated experience, enter the total number of hours Most Meaningful Experience Summary Start Date \* End Date \* Total Hours \* This is your opportunity to summarize why you have selected this experience as one of your most meaningful. In your remarks, you might consider the transformative nature of the experience; the impact you made while engaging in the experience and the personal Select Month Select Month growth you experienced as a result of your participation. Select Years Select Years Repeated ! O Yes OND Organization Name Country Select Country City Contact Title



#### **How does AMCAS work?**



#### Application Submitted

- Applicant completes & submits AMCAS application online
- Applicant pays submission fees (or uses valid Fee Assistance Program benefits)



#### Application Processed

- Applicant arranges for all required official transcripts to be sent to AMCAS
- AMCAS performs verification of coursework and calculates AMCAS GPAs



#### Application Delivered

- AMCAS distributes verified application to designated med schools
- AMCAS delivers letters to designated med schools as they are received

#### AMCAS® Sign In »

The 2020 AMCAS application is now open. If you wish to start medical school in Fall 2020, please complete and submit the 2020 AMCAS application. Please be sure to proofread your application before submitting.

As of **February 4**, AMCAS is:

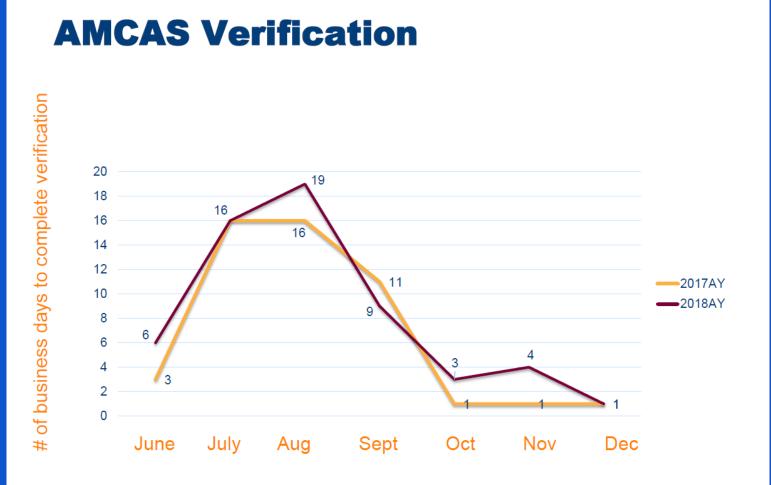
Marking transcripts as "Received" that were delivered on **February 3.** 

Processing applications that reached "Ready for Review" on **February 3.** 

Processing Academic Change Requests submitted on **February 3**.



PRE-MEDICAL AND DENTAL CENTER







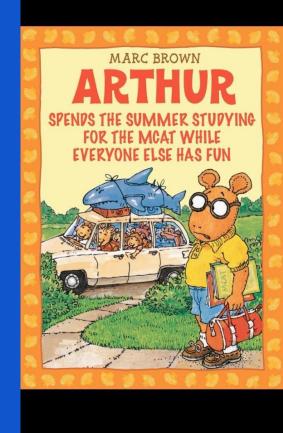
#### 2. Secondary application

- "Supplementals" for each individual school
- **➤** CASPer exam
- ➤ Secondary essay prompts database



#### 3. Test scores: MCAT

- > 7 hours, 30 minutes
- ➤ The MCAT Essentials for Testing Year 2020
- ➤ How to Create a Study Plan for the MCAT Exam
- Registration for the July-September testing dates is now open!





#### 3. Test scores: MCAT

- ➤ We <u>strongly recommend</u> that you take the MCAT <u>no later than mid/late July</u>.
- ➤ You can submit your primary application before you've even sat for the MCAT!



#### 3. Test scores: MCAT

- ➤ You can take the MCAT...
  - up to 3 times in a single testing year
  - o up to 4 times in 2 consecutive years
  - o up to 7 times in a lifetime
- > You can reschedule 48 hours after testing





2020 Schedule for the Medical College Admission Test® (MCAT®)\*



**Score Release** 

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	FEB  SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT  1 2 3 4 5 6 7  8 9 10 11 12 13 14  15 16 17 18 19 20 21  22 23 24 25 26 27 28  29 30 31
SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
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Jan. 17	Feb. 18
Jan. 18	Feb. 18
Jan. 23	Feb. 25
March 14	April 14
March 27	May 1
April 4	May 5
April 24	May 27
April 25	May 27
May 9	June 9
May 15	June 16
May 16	June 16
May 21	June 23
May 29	June 30
June 5	July 7
June 19	July 21
June 20	July 21
June 27	July 28
July 7	Aug. 6
July 18	Aug. 18
July 23	Aug. 25
July 31	Sept. 1
Aug. 1	Sept. 1
Aug. 7	Sept. 9
Aug. 8	Sept. 9
Aug. 14	Sept. 15
Aug. 29	Sept. 29
Sept. 3	Oct. 6
Sept. 4	Oct. 6
Sept. 11	Oct. 13
Sept. 12	Oct. 13

MCAT Admin



AND DENTAL CENTER

International fee\*\*

2020 REGISTRATION FEES			
	Gold Zone (deadline is 29 days before test date)*	Silver Zone (deadline is 15 days before test date)*	Bronze Zone (deadline is 8 days before test date)*
Initial registration	\$320	\$320	\$375
Date and/or test center reschedule fee**	\$95	\$160	N/A
Cancellation refund	\$160	N/A	N/A

#### 2020 FEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FEES

	Gold Zone (deadline is 29 days before test date)*	Silver Zone (deadline is 15 days before test date)*	Bronze Zone (deadline is 8 days before test date)*
Fee assistance registration	\$130	\$130	\$185
Fee assistance reschedule**	\$50	\$75	N/A
Fee assistance cancellation refund	\$65	N/A	N/A
Fee assistance international fee**	\$115	\$115	\$115

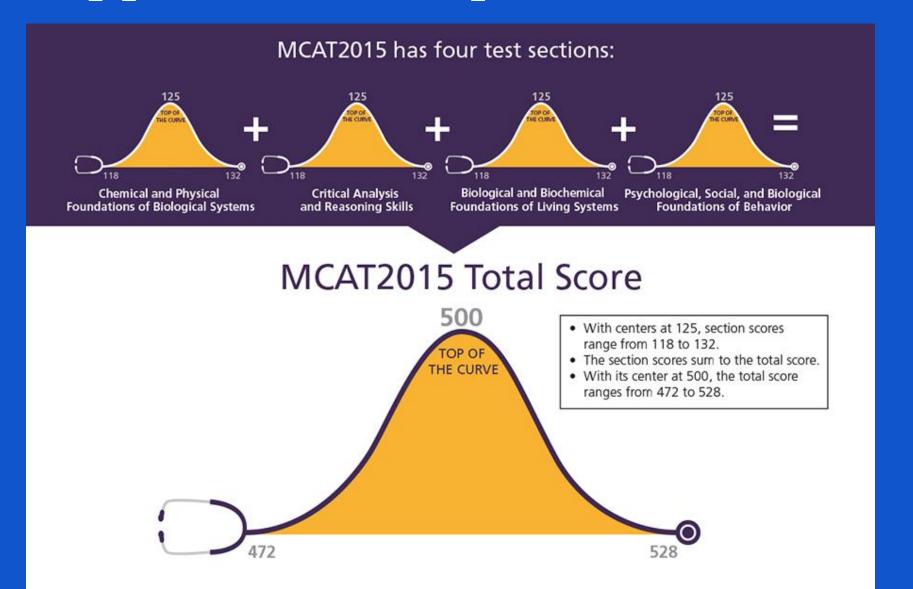
Note: All fees are in U.S. dollars.

\$115



<sup>\*</sup>All deadlines are 11:59 p.m. local test center time.

<sup>\*\*</sup>These fees are in addition to the initial registration fee and are non-refundable.





- 3. Test scores: DAT
- ≥ 5 hours, 15 minutes
- ➤ <u>DAT 2020 Program Guide</u>
- ➤ You can retake the DAT up to 3 times
- ➤ You must wait 90 days between sittings



FEE TYPE	DESCRIPTION	FEE AMOUNT
DAT Fee	This fee includes administration and official score reporting to all dental schools selected at the time of application; an unofficial score report issued at the testing center (no other report will be sent); and score reporting to the candidate's pre-dental advisor (if selected on the application).	\$475
Score Report Fee (optional)	This fee covers score report requests made after the time of application. There is no additional charge for score report requests received at the time of application.	\$45 per recipient
Score Audit Fee (optional)	For a period of 30 days after a testing appointment, the DAT Program is willing to audit a candidate's DAT results.	\$65
Eligibility Extension Fee	Candidates can extend their eligibility period for a fee. The extension is for 45 days within the designated testing window and is available once per application.	\$125

NUMBER OF DAYS PRIOR TO TESTING APPOINTMENT	RESCHEDULE FEE
1 to 5 business days* prior to the testing appointment, and at least 24 hours before the appointment is scheduled to begin.	\$150
6 to 30 business days prior to the testing appointment.	\$60
31 or more business days prior to the testing appointment.	\$25
*Saturdays and Sundays are <b>NOT</b> business days	•



- 3. Test scores: OAT
- ≥ 5 hours, 5 minutes
- ➤ OAT 2020 Candidate Guide
- ➤ You can retake the OAT up to 3 times
- ➤ You must wait 90 days between sittings



FEE TYPE	DESCRIPTION	FEE AMOUNT
OAT Fee	This fee includes administration and official score reporting to all optometry schools selected at the time of application; an unofficial score report issued at the testing center (no other report will be sent); and score reporting to the candidate's pre-optometry advisor (if selected on the application).	\$490*
Score Report Fee (optional)	This fee covers score report requests for optometry schools or other recipients made after the time of application. There is no additional charge for score report requests received at the time of application.	\$45 per recipient
Score Audit Fee (optional)	For a period of 30 days after a testing appointment, the OAT Program is willing to audit a candidate's OAT results.	\$65
Eligibility Extension Fee	Candidates can extend their eligibility period for a fee. The extension is for 45 days within the designated testing window and is available once per application.	\$125
	*F:#+ 6 lulu 4 2040 # 10 20 2024	

<sup>\*</sup>Fee in effect from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021

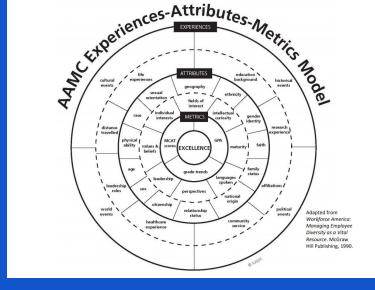
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31 or more business days prior to the testing appointment.	\$25
Saturdaya and Sundaya ara NOT hypinaga daya	

Saturdays and Sundays are NOT business days



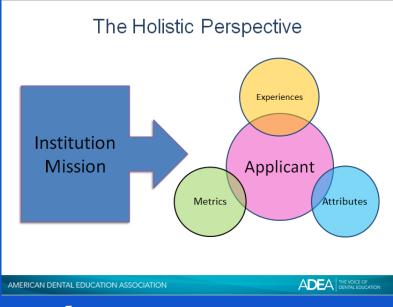
#### ➤ Holistic admissions

"Holistic review is an admissions process that considers each applicant individually by balancing their academic metrics with experiences and attributes." (AAMC)





#### **→** Holistic admissions



"Holistic review—a flexible, individualized applicant assessment tool—provides admissions committees a balanced means of considering candidates' personal experiences, attributes and academic credentials, along with qualities and characteristics that would prove valuable in both dental school and the oral health profession." (ADEA)





#### ➤ <u>AAMC's 15 Core Competencies</u>

Service orientation	Capacity for improvement
Social skills	Critical thinking
Cultural competence	Quantitative reasoning
Teamwork	Scientific inquiry
Oral communication	Written communication
Ethical responsibility to self and others	Living systems
Reliability and dependability	Human behavior
Resilience and adaptability	





ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

PRE-MEDICAL AND DENTAL CENTER

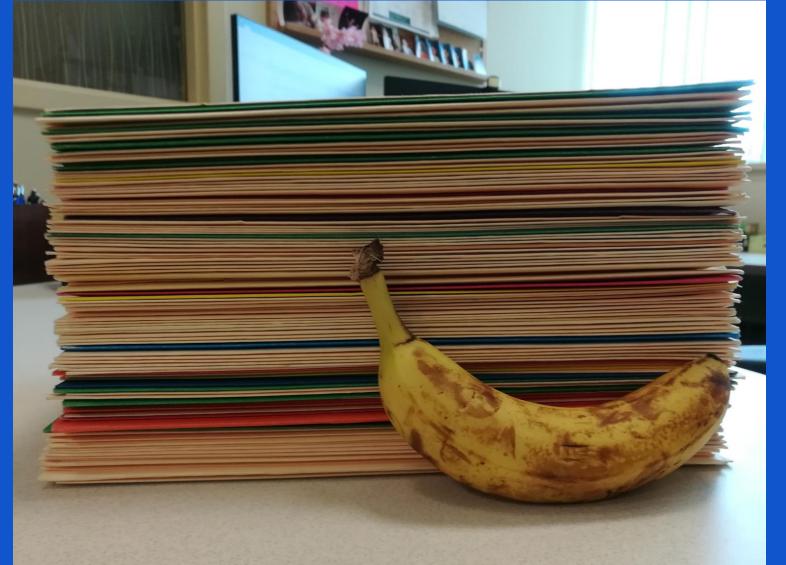
#### What is a composite [committee] letter?

"A letter authored by a pre-health committee or prehealth advisor and intended to represent your institution's evaluation of you. A Committee Letter may or may not include additional letters written in support of your application. This is sometimes called a Composite Letter." (AAMC)



- ➤ During the **2020** cycle, our office submitted...
  - 225 composites to AMCAS
  - 111 composites to AACOMAS
  - 44 composites to AADSAS
  - 8 composites to CASPA
  - 8 composites to TMDSAS
  - 2 composites to OPTOMCAS
  - 27 composites to international schools









➤ If at any point in the application cycle you decide to defer your application until the 2022 cycle, **please contact our office as soon as you arrive at that decision**.



#### **FAQ 1**

How is a composite letter different from a letter packet or individual letters of recommendation, and is it necessary?

- Most comprehensive model--at UConn, we do include individual LOR within it.
- Yes and no...



#### **Letters of Evaluation**

Add Letter of Evaluation/Recommendation

Many medical schools determine whether or not an applicant has met their letter of evaluation/recommendation requirements by the type of letters they receive in support of an application. For example, a medical school may require a committee letter OR three individual letters in support of your application.

Please review the AMCAS Applicant Guide for more information about Letters of Evaluation.

Please identify the type of letter you wish to enter. If you are uncertain as to the type of letters provided by your school/institution, please ask your pre-health advisor or career center prior to answering this question.

O Committee Letter:

A committee is a letter authored by a pre-health committee or pre-health advisor and intended to represent your institution's evaluation of you. A committee letter may or may not include additional letters written in support of your application. A Committee Letter is sometimes called a composite letter.

Letter Packet:

A packet or set of letters assembled and distributed by your institution, often by the institution's career center.

Individual Letter:

An individual letter refers only to a letter authored by, and representing, a single letter writer. If you have already included an individual letter within either a committee letter or letter packet, you do not need to add a separate entry for the individual letter.

Letter Title

Please enter a title for this letter

Applicants can submit their application before AMCAS receives their letters.

×



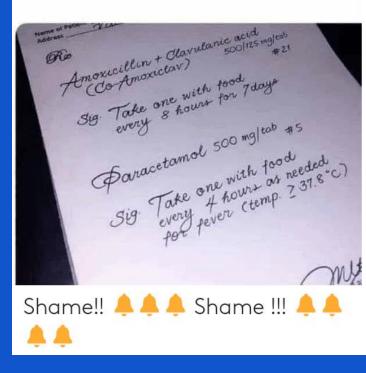
#### FAQ 2

Who writes my composite letter?

Pre-med & other composites: written jointly by Drs. Sanford & Albert

• Pre-dent composites: written by Dr. Abbott

This one is a shame to the medical profession . Such unprofessional handwriting.





#### FAQ3

Who assembles and submits my composite letter?

Office staff

 Assembly line process with much coordination between people



#### **Pre-Medical composite timeline**

#### **NEW APPLICANTS ONLY-2021 Cycle Composite Letter Timeline**

All applicants must complete the following by 3/1/20 at 11:59 pm in this order. We strongly encourage you to complete these early as interviews will be assigned as requests are received.

- 1. Register for the portal here ...
- 2. Complete the Student Registration, Competency-Based Admissions, HPED, Questions, and Resume pages of your portal.
- 3. Once you have completed those five sections, check the "I am ready to submit my application" box. The system will prompt you to enter your availability for an initial composite interview. Once we have received the request, a member of our staff will contact you shortly with a date and time.
- 4. Send out requests for individual letters of recommendation through your References page (can be completed following your composite interview).



Cycle #1 – Composite letter will be submitted by 7/31/20 (provided all deadlines below are followed). Early submissions will be submitted as they are completed.

Composite letter submitted by 7/31/20:	
Confirm your MCAT will be taken by 6/27/20 (list of 2020 MCAT dates here _pdf 🖒).	
Confirm all letters of recommendation have been fully uploaded to your References page. Check the box that reads "Please check this box when ALL of your individual letters of recommendation have been uploaded to your References page."	6/1/20
Complete the Course Grades and IDs pages of your portal.	6/1/20
Complete the Exams page of your portal when your scores become available.	Varies

If any of the above materials are NOT submitted by the deadlines above, your composite letter will be submitted during the next composite letter cycle.

Cycle #2 – Composite letter will be submitted by 8/31/20 (provided all deadlines below are followed). Early submissions will be submitted as they are completed.

Composite letter submitted by 8/31/20:	
Confirm your MCAT will be taken by <b>7/31/20</b> (list of 2020 MCAT dates <a href="here">here</a> <a href="pdf">.pdf</a> <a href="pdf">C)</a> .	
Confirm all letters of recommendation have been fully uploaded to your References page. Check the box that reads "Please check this box when ALL of your individual letters of recommendation have been uploaded to your References page."	7/1/20
Complete the Course Grades and and IDs pages of your portal.	7/1/20
Complete the Exams page of your portal when your scores become available.	Varies



#### > Pre-Dental composite timeli

#### **NEW APPLICANTS ONLY-2021 Cycle Composite Letter Timeline**

- 1. Register for the portal here .
- 2. Complete the Student Registration, Competency-Based Admissions, HPED, Questions, and Resume pages of your portal.
- 3. Once you have submitted those five sections, check the "I am ready to submit my application" box. The system will prompt you to enter your availability for a composite interview, but as a pre-dental student, please enter "N/A." Dr. Abbott has traditionally not required a composite interview because he feels that he has gotten to know you throughout your four years at UConn well enough. However, if you are a transfer student or have never met him before, you may want to consider scheduling a regular appointment with him at <a href="nexus.uconn.edu">nexus.uconn.edu</a> of and indicate "composite interview" in the notes.
- 4. Send out requests for individual letters of recommendation through your References page.

- 1. Confirm all letters of recommendation have been fully uploaded to your References page. Check the box that reads "Please check this box when ALL of your individual letters of recommendation have been uploaded to your References page."

2. Complete the Course Grades and IDs pages of your portal

**UCONN** ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS PRE-MEDICAL AND DENTAL CENTER

3/1/20

5/1/20

Composite letter will be submitted by 7/31/20 (provided all deadlines above are followed). Early submissions will be submitted as they are completed.

#### FAQ3

- 1. Office receives notification that all LOR are in  $\rightarrow$  office staff insert individual LOR then pass file off to advisors for drafting
- 2. File passed between relevant advisors, then back to office staff
- 3. When office staff deems file is ready (including no issues with individual LOR), pass back to advisors for final check
- 4. [All but pre-dent]
  - a. If waiting on test scores  $\rightarrow$  hold composite until released
  - b. If not waiting on test scores  $\rightarrow$  submit composite!



#### **FAQ 4**

What does a composite interview entail?

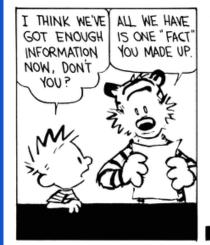
- We do NOT usually conduct interviews for pre-dentals
- Part I: with Krista (logistics, gathering key information)
- Part II: with Dr. Albert OR Dr. Sanford (more interview-y feel)
- Each part is 20 minutes long
- Part II is scheduled together at the conclusions of Part I

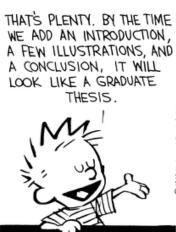


#### **FAQ 5**

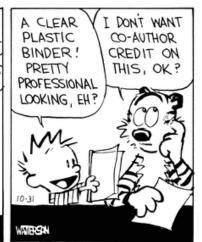
Do I have to dress up for my composite interview?

No! Regular student dress is fine.











#### **FAQ 6**

From whom should I request my individual letters of recommendation?

- Based on what some schools require, we recommend:
  - 2 science faculty LOR (MCB/PNB/EEB, CHEM, PHYS)
  - 1 non-science faculty LOR
  - 1 physician LOR (some DO schools require a DO LOR)
  - 1 research PI LOR
  - 1-2 character references



#### **FAQ 6**

- Schools are very finicky about formatting these days. We have had LOR be explicitly rejected.
- Individual LOR formatting:
  - Letterhead
  - Hand signature (electronic version of hand signature OK)
  - Dated





#### **FAQ 7**

I'm applying to some master's programs and/or international schools that don't use the above "common" application services. Can you send them my composite letter?

- Absolutely--send us a cover message listing the names of ALL programs that you're applying to and submission instructions for each program (email or physical address or electronic link)
- Please avoid multiple emails!



#### FAQ8

What are the two IDs you need to submit my composite letter to AMCAS?

- <u>AAMC ID</u>: 8-digit number unique to each applicant (yours for life)
- <u>AMCAS Letter ID</u>: 7-digit number unique to each letter you request in the system



#### **FAQ 9**

Whose contact information should I use when I'm filling out my committee letter request in the CAS application services?

 Please use Drs. Sanford, Albert, or Abbott's names but <u>premed predental@uconn.edu</u> for the email.



#### **FAQ 10**

Can you forward my official transcript to my relevant application services?

 No, only the UConn Registrar can do that. Fill out the appropriate transcript request form (found within your primary app) and forward to them.



#### A message from Dr. Abbott regarding:

- Composite interviews
- > 4 letters of recommendation minimum



I need ALL individual letters of recommendation before I can draft your composite letter!



Remember to send your individual LOR writers a thank you message. It takes several hours to draft an excellent letter and some of them write dozens of LOR! Also, keep them updated throughout the application cycle.



- > Reapplicants & Previous Cycle Deferrals
- > 2018 cycle and before applicants:
  - You no longer have access to the old portal (but our staff does)
  - Don't worry because we still have your individual letters of recommendation.
- Upcoming uniform cover sheet for all reapplicants& previous cycle deferrals--hang tight



- 1. What is the portal?
- 2. Old portal vs. new portal
- 3. Navigating the portal



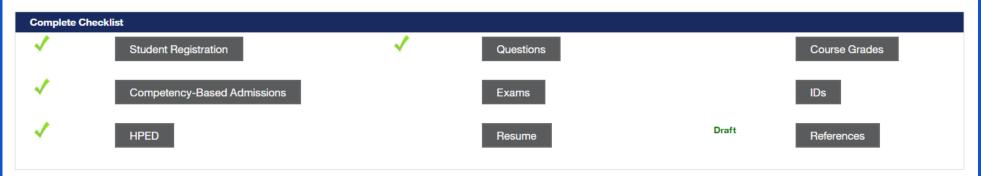


#### Pre-Medical and Pre-Dental Center

- Please complete the Student Registration, Competency-Based Admissions, HPED, Questions, and Resume pages below in order to submit a request for a composite interview with the Pre-Medical/Dental Center. The other pages can be completed after your interview as the information becomes available.
- You can click the "Save Draft" button on each individual page and modify items at a later time before clicking the "Finish Page" button when it is ready for final submission.
- References section is only available after finishing the Student Registration section.

#### Krista Rogers

#### **Application Status - Submitted**



✓ I am ready to schedule Pt I of my composite interview (20 minutes)

Please select this button once you have completed the Student Registration, Competency-Based Admissions, HPED, Questions, and Resume pages.

\* Please list your availability for Pt I of your composite interview and whether you prefer it to be in person or via phone (e.g., Mondays 2-5 pm in person)

Note that composite interviews are conducted in two parts of 20 minutes each. Both parts, especially Pt I, can be conducted over the phone if that is most convenient for you, though we recommend that you complete Pt II in person if at all possible. A date and time for Pt II will be scheduled with you at the conclusion of Pt I. PRE-DENTAL APPLICANTS; please enter "N/A" when the system prompts you for a composite interview time.

Test



#### IMPORTANT: References page

Please check this box when ALL of your individual letters of recommendation have been uploaded to your References page. Doing so will enter your file into a queue for our staff to proceed with the final drafting, editing, and submission of your composite letter.



#### **FAQ 1**

What if one of my letter writers contacts me to say that they're having trouble submitting their letter through the portal?

- They can email it to <u>premed\_predental@uconn.edu</u>
   or fax it to 860-486-0222.
- Do NOT have them send it directly to any advisor.
- We CANNOT accept any LOR directly from you.



#### FAQ 2

How do I know if my individual letters of recommendation have correct formatting?

- When the office staff are inserting your individual LOR, we will automatically reach out to you to let you know if we find any issues.
- This is the most time-consuming task for the office staff!







- ➤ Familiarize yourself with your application service's "traffic rules"
- >AMCAS:
  - Application and Acceptance Protocols for Applicants
  - Choose Your Medical School tool (opens in February)

AND DENTAL CENTER

#### Timeline: What Applicants and Medical Schools Can Do and When

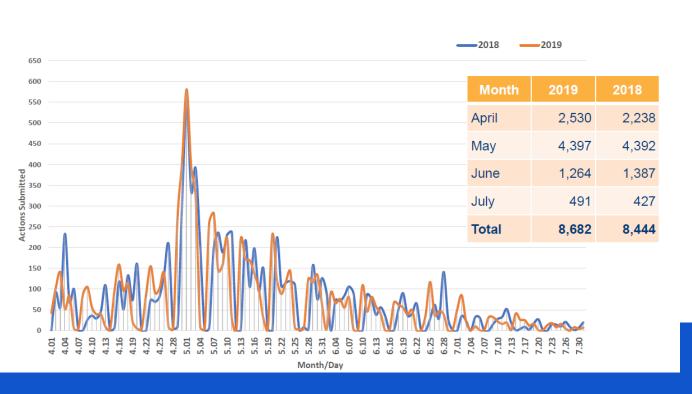
Date	Milestone	Applicant Activity	Medical School Actions
Feb. 19***	"Plan to Enroll" becomes available for applicants to select in the AMCAS application.	Applicants can begin to select "Plan to Enroll" for their top medical school choice.  Applicants should use the tool at the direction of the schools to which they have applied.	Medical schools can run an aggregate report to determine how many applicants in their pool have selected "Plan to Enroll" for their school or for another school.**
April 15***	Applicant protocols ask applicants to narrow their acceptance offers to three.	Applicants holding more than three offers should narrow their offers of acceptance to three, with no limit on alternate-list offers.	Medical schools continue to submit timely admissions actions to the AMCAS program.
April 30***	"Commit to Enroll" becomes available to applicants in the AMCAS tool. "Plan to Enroll" remains available to applicants in the AMCAS tool.	Applicants should use the tool at the direction of the schools to which they have applied and can select "Plan to Enroll" or "Commit to Enroll" in the AMCAS tool. "Commit to Enroll" indicates that they have made their final selection and have withdrawn all other applications. This does not automatically withdraw applicants from other medical schools.	Medical schools can run detailed reports to identify their accepted and alternate-list applicants who have selected "Plan to Enroll" or "Commit to Enroll" at their school versus another school.
Post-cycle (around October)	AMCAS application cycle closes.	Applicants have matriculated.	Medical schools can see where applicants in their pool matriculated.



<sup>\*\*</sup>Schools will only be able to access information on applicants who were accepted to their school. Schools will not be able view students who hold zero acceptances.

\*\*\*AMCAS will email applicants who have an acceptance about the best practices of the Choose Your Medical School tool and the significance of the protocols.

#### Acceptance Activity, Apr. – Jul.: 2019 vs. 2018



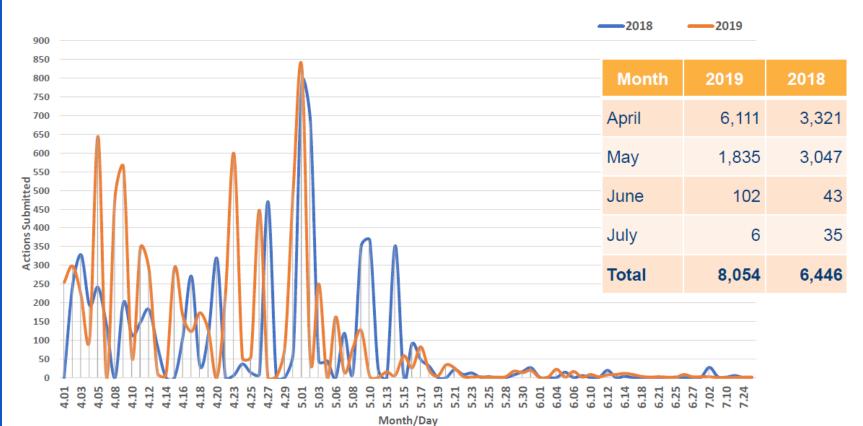
#### **New Acceptances to Accepted Applicants**

App Cycle	2019	2018	2017	2016
Month	2010			
April 30	177	145	3	3
May	1,966	2,001	2,066	1,852
June	391	404	365	269
July	76	97	61	55
August	26	4	20	9
September	0	1	1	0
Totals	2,636	2,652	2,516	2,178

The table includes the number of accepted applicants that received a new acceptance by month.



#### Alternate List Activity, Apr. – Jul.: 2019 vs. 2018



Note: >95% of schools submitted AL actions in 2019; 67% of schools submitted AL actions in 2018



- ➤ Use caution when sending updates/letters of interest to schools: not all want them
- ➤ We are here to counsel you on ways to improve your application and/or enrichment year plans





"I'm a former medical school admissions committee member, and at our school, there was no intrinsic disadvantage to being a re-applicant; a significant percentage of our entering medical school classes each year were students who applied more than once. When our committee evaluated a second application from an applicant, the key question was: How much and in what ways has this application changed since we saw it last? It was pretty common that applicants would submit essentially the same application as before, on a second (or third) attempt. If there weren't any substantive changes in the application, the applicant wouldn't be invited for an interview and would be rejected. However, when a re-applicant made the effort to identify the weaknesses in the first application and then worked on doing what was needed to strengthen those parts of the application, our admissions committee was positively impressed by the applicant's persistence and willingness to work hard to improve the application. In general, I think it's a mistake for an aspiring physician to submit the AMCAS application if the applicant knows there are areas of weakness in it (such as lower-than-competitive MCAT score). It's a sure thing that if the applicant and the advisor can see a major weakness in an application, the medical school admissions committees will also see that weakness. In my experience, the strategy of 'I'll go ahead and submit my application, because I might get lucky and they might overlook my MCAT score because I'm a really nice person and I really want to be admitted to medical school' rarely succeeds."

AND DENTAL CENTER

(Adjunct Professor, University of North Carolina at Greensboro)

#### VII. Resources

- ➤ UConn Pre-Med/Dent Center workshops:
- All will be recorded and uploaded to https://premed.uconn.edu/videoseries/
- 2021 Cycle Application Orientation: February 6 / 6-7:30 pm / Oak 101
- Selecting Schools to Apply to Workshop: March 2 / 3-4 pm / BOUS A106
- Personal Statements Workshop: March 11 / 3-4 pm / STRS WW16
- Secondary Applications Workshop: March 25 / 3-4 pm / STRS WW01



#### VII. Resources



- ➤ Center for Career Development (CCD)
  - Personal statement review (also Writing Center)
  - Alumni networking: Husky Mentor Network
  - Navigating the Healthcare Admissions Interview (summer webinar and fall workshop)



#### VII. Resources

- > AMCAS: 202-828-0600 / amcas@aamc.org
- > AACOMAS: 617-612-2889 / aacomasinfo@liaisoncas.com
- > AADSAS: 617-612-2045 / <u>aadsasinfo@aadsasweb.org</u>
- > TMDSAS: 512-499-4785 / info@tmdsas.com
- > CASPA: 617-612-2080 / caspainfo@caspaonline.org
- > OPTOMCAS: 617-612-2888 / optomcasinfo@optomcas.org
- > AACPMAS: 617-612-2900 / <u>aacpmasinfo@aacpmas.org</u>



#### Applicants at the end of this presentation:



Any last questions?

Thank you!

