The 2020 AMCAS Application

Student Presentation
Agenda

• AMCAS Application
  • The AMCAS Process
  • 2020 Dates and Participation
  • The 2020 Application
• Verification
• After Submission
• AMCAS Letter Service
  • The Letter Writer Application
  • Letter Guidelines

• Resources
• Q&A
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

aamc.org/advisors
Applying to Medical School with AMCAS®

The American Medical College Application Service® (AMCAS®) is the AAMC’s centralized medical school application processing service. Most U.S. medical schools use AMCAS as the primary application method for their first-year entering classes.

The 2019 AMCAS application is now open. If you wish to start medical school in Fall 2019, please complete and submit the 2019 AMCAS application.

The AMCAS Choose Your Medical School tool is now available. Applicants with at least 1 current acceptance will be able to see and use the new tool. The tool can be accessed via your AMCAS application where you can click on the Choose Your Medical School icon.

As of April 22, AMCAS is:

- Marking transcripts as “Received” delivered on April 17.
- Verifying applications that reached “Ready for Review” status on April 19.
- Processing Academic Change Requests submitted on April 19.

Contact AMCAS®
2020 Application Dates

Application Deadlines

- Application must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. ET of the deadline date
- Transcript deadlines: must be received by AMCAS within 14 calendar days of the application deadline date
  - Must be received by August 1 for EDP applicants
- Visit www.aamc.org/amcasdeadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date*</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week of April 22</td>
<td>2020 AMCAS resources available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>AMCAS application opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>AMCAS application submission begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 28</td>
<td>Initial transmission of application data to medical schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>Early Decision Program deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept.-Dec.</td>
<td>Application deadlines</td>
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</table>

*Dates subject to change
## 2020 AMCAS Participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tentative 2020 Participation</th>
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</table>
| Application                 | 153 Schools/Programs  
|                             | All MD granting schools in the United States with the exception of MD programs at Texas public schools  
| AMCAS Letters               | 153 Schools/Programs  
| Criminal Background Checks  | 127 Schools/Programs  

## 2020 AMCAS Application Fees:

- $170 processing fee (includes one school designation)
- $40 for each additional school

[aamc.org/amcas](http://aamc.org/amcas)
The AMCAS Application

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

Sign In

AAMC Username

Password

Forgot your username?  |  Forgot your password?

Sign In

Create AAMC Account

Register for an AAMC account to begin accessing products and services.

Create AAMC Account

Need help?
AAMC Registration

Applicants should only complete registration if they do not have an AAMC ID.
Select “2020 Application Cycle”
Identifying Information

Legal Name* 
Preferred Name* 
Alternate Names 
ID Numbers 
Birth & Sex*

Some information is centrally managed by AAMC and cannot be edited on this page. To edit your legal name, preferred name, birth, and sex, go to My AAMC Profile

Legal Name

Salutation
Select Salutation

Medical schools will send you correspondence, and often prefer salutation and properly cased name (e.g. Mr. John Smith)

First Name* 
Dejanira

Middle Name

Last Name* 
Cruz

Suffix
Select Suffix

To edit your Legal Name, go to My AAMC Profile

Preferred Name

Salutation
Identifying Information

Birth & Sex

These questions are intended to provide medical schools with information about the many ways in which an applicant could contribute to diversity at their institution.

Sex*

- Male
- Female
- Decline to Answer

To edit your Sex, go to My AAMC Profile

What is your current gender identity?

- Male
- Female
- Trans male/Trans man
- Trans female/Trans woman
- Genderqueer/Gender non-conforming
- Different Identity

Please select the set of pronouns you want people to use to refer to you.

Select Pronoun

To edit your Birth Information, go to My AAMC Profile
Schools Attended

Add College

Country *
Select Country

Program Type *
Select Program Type

Start Date *
MM/YYYY

End Date *
MM/YYYY

Other Options

☐ Summer School Only
☐ Study Abroad Program

Advisor Release

The school-designated advisor(s) have met AMCAS-established requirements and are bound by confidentiality. Information transferred includes your personal/demographic information, work/activity information, credit hours, MCAT scores, GPAs, the names and types of your recommenders, the names of any other schools you have attended, the medical schools to which you have applied and what action those schools have taken, and the status of your application with AMCAS. Additionally, if you applied for fee assistance through the AAMC Fee Assistance Program, and in your fee assistance application agreed to release award information to your health professions advisor this information will be made available along with your application information.

Do you authorize AMCAS to release your application information to the school-designated advisor(s) at this institution? *

☐ Yes
☐ No
Transcript Request

Note: One official transcript is required from each U.S., U.S. Territorial, or Canadian post-secondary institution at which you have attempted course work, regardless of whether credit was earned.

If you click Yes, you must have an official transcript sent to AMCAS by the Registrar’s Office of the institution.

If you click No, this means that you are submitting a Transcript Exception Request and does not preclude you from transcript requirements. AMCAS will review your request and notify you if your Transcript Exception is not granted. This may result in delays for processing your application.

Does AMCAS require an official transcript from this school? Generally, a transcript is required. Please review this additional information if you need assistance in determining if a transcript is required. *

- Yes
- No

[Buttons: Cancel, Save]
Schools Attended
Biographic Information

Military Service

Have you or are you currently serving in the United States Military? *
- Yes
- No
- Decline to Answer

Please indicate your anticipated military status at the time of enrollment to medical school *
- Active Duty
- Veteran
- US Reserves or National Guard
- Other

Are you eligible for any of the following GI Bills? *
- Yes
- No
- [ ] Montgomery GI Bill
- [ ] Post 9/11 GI Bill
- [ ] Other

Please provide your date of separation *

MM/YYYY
Biographic Information

Edit Parent / Guardian

Please enter the following information about all your parents or guardians.

Name
Cynthia Williams

Occupation
Secretary or Administrative Assistant

Living?
- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Sex
- Male
- Female
- Decline to Answer

Highest Education Level

Degree
High School Graduate (high school diploma or equivalency)

Highest Education Level School Location
United States

State
Georgia
Course Work

You must enter all of the courses you took at each school. Prior to entering your coursework, you are encouraged to watch some brief tutorials that will guide you through the process of entering your coursework. Click on the links below to learn about the process of entering coursework:

- Watch Basic Coursework Tutorial
- Watch AP Coursework/Credit Tutorial
- Watch Current and Future Coursework Tutorial (where you have not yet earned a grade)
- Watch Study Abroad Coursework Tutorial

Please review additional information about coursework in the AMCAS Applicant Guide.

If you do not need to enter coursework for any of your schools attended, please select None for the applicable school(s). In order for AMCAS to process your application, all required coursework must be entered. Please refer to the AMCAS Applicant Guide for more information about entering coursework.
Applicants should use a personal copy of their **official** transcript to complete this section.
• Maximum of 15 entries
  Applicants can enter 3 additional date ranges for repeated activities
• Maximum of 3 “Most Meaningful”
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.

☐ 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.

Select a meaningful Letter Title, as you may need this title later to identify a letter. For example, if this letter were from the University Of X, with a primary contact of John Doe, and you intend to have this letter sent only to MD/PhD programs, you might create a title of “UX_Doe_MD_PhD”.

Letter Title

Please enter a title for this letter

Cancel | Save
Medical Schools

Applicants should be sure to select the correct program type and be mindful of program and transcript deadlines.
Some questions you may want to consider while drafting this essay are:

- Why have you selected the field of medicine?
- What motivates you to learn more about medicine?
- What do you want medical schools to know about you that hasn't been disclosed in another section of the application?

In addition, you may wish to include information such as:

- Special hardships, challenges or obstacles that may have influenced your educational pursuits
- Commentary on significant fluctuations in your academic record which are not explained elsewhere in your application

I want to go to medical school.
MD/PhD Essay

Your response will only be forwarded to your designated MD/PhD program(s).

Please state your reasons for wishing to pursue the combined MD/PhD degree.*

Your response will only be forwarded to your designated MD/PhD program(s).

I really, really want to be a doctor!

Significant Research Hours

Please enter your total hours of prior research experience.*
Applicants should indicate any future MCAT testing dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JAN</th>
<th>FEB</th>
<th>MAR</th>
<th>APR</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUN</th>
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<tr>
<td>JAN 10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>JUL</th>
<th>AUG</th>
<th>SEP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>28</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Your MCAT scores have not been loaded yet.

*aamc.org/mcat*
MCAT® Scores

Below you will see all MCAT scores that were taken since April 1991. If you have taken the MCAT recently and scores for that MCAT administration do not appear below, note that these scores may be pending for inclusion in your AMCAS application.

Please review your MCAT scores. If you have any questions, please contact MCAT (202) 828-0690, mcat@aamc.org.

MCAT® Exam Scores - After January 31, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Total Score</th>
<th>Confidence Band ¹</th>
<th>Percentile Rank of Score ²</th>
<th>Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems</th>
<th>Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills</th>
<th>Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems</th>
<th>Psychological, Social and Biological Foundations of Behavior</th>
<th>Percentile Rank Effective Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06/05/2015</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>480 to 484</td>
<td>5 %</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>7 %</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>22 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

1. Test scores, like other measurements, are not perfectly precise. The confidence bands that are shown for the Total Scores above mark the ranges in which your true scores probably lie. To obtain the confidence band for each section score, subtract one point from and add one point to the score.

2. The percentile ranks of scores are the percentages of test takers who received the same scores or lower scores than you did. The percentile ranks are updated on May 1 every year to reflect the results from previous calendar year(s).

Score breakdowns and confidence bands will appear in the AMCAS application.
Certification Statements

Application Submission Process

Last step of application: certify data is accurate, submit, and pay processing fee.
AMCAS Verification Process

Transcripts
- All required official transcripts are required before an application can join the verification queue
- AMCAS accepts PDF eTranscripts from approved senders

Processing
- From date of "Ready to Review" application status, about 6 weeks
- Find processing updates on Twitter (@AMCASinfo) and on the AMCAS application sign in page
AMCAS Verification

# of business days to complete verification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2019AY</th>
<th>2018AY</th>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>July</td>
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<td>Nov</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Application Reminders

- Criminal Background Checks
- Application and Acceptance Protocols for Applicants
Criminal Background Checks

- Participating schools have checks run on accepted or waitlisted applicants
- Certiphi Screening, Inc. will notify applicants when the CBC has been initiated
- Applicants have 10 calendar days to review their report
- No additional charge to the applicant for this service

CBC Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Status</th>
<th>CBC Procured</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accepted, Early Decision Program</td>
<td>Upon Acceptance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accepted, Regular</td>
<td>After January 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternate List</td>
<td>After May 15, by school’s request only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Application and Acceptance Protocols for Applicants

Recommendations to help ensure that all MD and MD-PhD applicants receive timely notification about the outcome of their AMCAS® application. These guidelines are not intended to supersede the policies, timelines, or discretion of individual schools or programs. Each applicant is expected to become familiar with the procedures and requirements of each school to which they apply.

The following steps are recommended to help ensure that all MD and MD-PhD applicants receive timely notification about the outcome of their applications, and to protect schools and programs from having unfilled positions in their entering classes. These protocols are often referred to as “Traffic Rules” by admissions officers and prehealth advisors. Prospective applicants, their advisors, and admission staff at medical schools and programs should all be aware of these Application and Acceptance Protocols for applicants. An applicant’s actions during the admissions process should be conducted in the spirit of professionalism and ethics expected of a future physician.

These guidelines are not intended to supersede the policies, timelines, or discretion of individual schools or programs.
AMCAS Tools

- AMCAS Applicant Guide
- Application and Acceptance Protocols
- Video Tutorials
  - youtube.com/AMCASinfo
- Twitter
  - @AMCASinfo

aamc.org/amcas
Agenda

- AMCAS Application
  - The AMCAS Process
  - 2020 Dates and Participation
  - The 2020 Application
- Verification
- After Submission
- AMCAS Letter Service
  - The Letter Writer Application
  - Letter Guidelines
- Resources
- Q&A
Letters of Evaluation

Submission Methods:
- AMCAS Letter Writer Application
- Interfolio
- Mail

Receive letters electronically, on a rolling basis after an application is verified

www.aamc.org/amcasletters
Letters of Evaluation

Letters of Evaluation Received, 2015AY – 2019AY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<td>December</td>
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<td>30,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
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</table>
AMCAS Letter Writer Application

- Use your AAMC account (or create one) to upload PDFs quickly and securely—for free!

Welcome to the AMCAS Letter Writer Application

Login
If you have an AAMC account, please click the "Login" button below.
Login
Forgot Password?

OR

Register For a New Account
If you do not have an account, click the "Register" button below to proceed.
Register

About the AMCAS Letter Writer Application
The Letter Writer Application enables letter writers to upload PDF documents to AMCAS rather than send letters via the mail. Once the PDF document is uploaded to the Letter Writer Application and after the processing of the AMCAS application the documents are made available to the medical schools designated by the applicant. Please click ‘Help’ after logging into the Letter Writer Application for instructions on uploading letters, or click HERE for a link to our public site which also contains detailed instructions.

The AAMC has established a centralized set of guidelines for letter writers. Please be sure to review these guidelines at www.aamc.org/amcasletters when writing letters of recommendation for applicants to medical schools.

Need Help?
Watch the Letter Writer Application video tutorial to get started. Send us an e-mail using our online form.

About AAMC User Accounts
All major AAMC applications, such as ALO, AMCAS, MCAT THx, and the Fee Assistance Program use the same usernames and passwords. If you have used one of these systems please enter that username and password in the boxes to the left. Each user needs a separate AAMC account and you will need to register if you are uploading for an AMCAS applicant as you cannot use your applicant’s/student’s AAMC ID and password to upload documents.

Note: Medical schools may require your letters to be on official letterhead and include your signature.

cservices.aamc.org/letterwriter/
2019 Fee Assistance Program

The AAMC believes that the cost of applying to medical school should not be a barrier to those who are interested in becoming physicians.

Fee Assistance program benefits are not retroactive! Please encourage advisees to apply well before they register for MCAT or submit their AMCAS application.

aamc.org/fap
Fee Assistance Program

• Benefits:
  • Awardees can use benefits for up to two calendar years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If application is approved:</th>
<th>Benefits expire:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2019</td>
<td>December 31, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2020</td>
<td>December 31, 2021</td>
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</table>

• Eligibility:
  • Please see website

aamc.org/fap
Fee Assistance Program

- Website resources to direct your advisees to:
  - What You Need to Apply
  - 2019 Fee Assistance Program Essentials
  - Fee Assistance Program FAQ’s

fap@aamc.org
202-828-0600
M – F, 9 am – 7 pm (EST)
@AAMCPreMed

aamc.org/fap
AAMC Premed

Join the social conversation—

facebook.com/AAMCPreMed
@AAMCPreMed
Monthly e-newsletter for applicants and helpful web content.

students-residents.aamc.org/navigator
Letter Writer Guidelines (1/2)

Guidelines for Writing a Letter of Evaluation for a Medical School Applicant

Thank you for agreeing to write a letter of evaluation for a medical school applicant!

The guidelines are intended to enhance the letter-writing process by providing a general framework of best practices and relevant content for letter writers to follow. They are optional and can be applied to both individual and committee letters.

Guidelines

1. Provide an accurate assessment of the applicant’s suitability for medical school rather than advocate for the applicant.

2. Briefly explain your relationship with the applicant:
   - How long have you known the applicant?
   - In what capacity have you interacted (e.g., faculty, premedical advisor, supervisor)?
   - Are your observations of the applicant direct or indirect?

3. Quality of information is more important than letter length. Focus on the applicant rather than details of the lab, course, assignment, job, or institution.

4. Only include information on grades, GPA, or MCAT scores if you also provide context to help interpret them. Grades, GPA, and MCAT scores are available within the application.
Core, Entry-Level Competencies
Describe how the applicant has, or has not, demonstrated any of the following competencies that are necessary for success in medical school.

Thinking and Reasoning Competencies

Critical Thinking: Uses logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions, or approaches to problems.

Quantitative Reasoning: Applies quantitative reasoning and appropriate mathematics to describe or explain phenomena in the natural world.

Scientific Inquiry: Applies knowledge of the scientific process to integrate and synthesize information, solve problems, and formulate research questions and hypotheses. Is facile in the language of the sciences and uses it to participate in the discourse of science and explain how scientific knowledge is discovered and validated.

Written Communication: Effectively conveys information to others using written words and sentences.

Science Competencies

Living Systems: Applies knowledge and skill in the natural sciences to solve problems related to molecular and macro systems.

Human Behavior: Applies knowledge of the self, others, and social systems to solve problems related to the psychological, social, and biological factors that influence health and well-being.

Pre-professional Competencies

Service Orientation: Demonstrates a desire to help others and sensitivity to others’ needs and feelings. Demonstrates a desire to alleviate others’ distress. Recognizes and acts on their responsibilities to society locally, nationally, and globally.

Social Skills: Demonstrates awareness of others’ needs, goals, feelings, and the ways social and behavioral cues affect peoples’ interactions and behaviors. Adjusts behaviors appropriately in response to these cues. Treats others with respect.

Cultural Competence: Demonstrates knowledge of social and cultural factors that affect interactions and behaviors. Shows an appreciation
Anatomy of an Applicant

Medical schools consider more than your grades and scores. There are 15 Core Competencies, including teamwork and capacity for improvement, that demonstrate your preparedness for medical school. To show how successful applicants have demonstrated these competencies in many different ways, we interviewed real medical students, their pre-health advisors, and the admission officers who accepted them.

The Core Competencies for Entering Medical Students

Successful medical school applicants are able to demonstrate skills, knowledge, and abilities in these areas.

Real Stories Demonstrating Core Competencies

We interviewed medical students, their pre-health advisors, and the admissions officers who accepted them to learn how they demonstrated the Core Competencies for Entering Medical Students...