Navigating the 2021 AMCAS Application Cycle for Applicants

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Sr. Communications Specialist, AMCAS

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Outreach Specialist

April 21, 2020
Agenda

• Alternative Grading
• AMCAS Application
  • AMCAS Process
  • 2021 Dates and Participation
  • 2021 Application
• Verification
• After Submission
• AMCAS Letter Service
  • The Letter Writer Application
  • Letter Guidelines

• Resources
• Q&A
Alternative Grading

Working with The American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO), the AAMC has identified the following three common policies academic institutions are implementing:

- Maintaining their current letter grade system with no change
- Offering opt-in pass/fail
- Offering mandatory pass/fail

In the AMCAS application, all courses with credit hours and letter grades are calculated into the AMCAS GPA, regardless of whether the credit is counted towards a degree or has been counted towards a school-calculated GPA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>CREDIT HOURS</th>
<th>=</th>
<th>AMCAS GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pass/fail and other non-qualitative, binary marks (credit/no credit, satisfactory/unsatisfactory) do not have value or weight on the AMCAS GPA.
Applicant Scenario

Standard Grading & AMCAS GPA impact

Below is coursework entry for an applicant who received standard letter grades during the second semester of their Senior year. The applicant took four courses, three of those courses were classified as Biology (€). The biology classification will impact their BCPM GPA.

The applicant received official transcript (£) grades of A for all their courses. Their total credit hours earned for this semester was 12. Their AMCAS Grades (¥) converted to A’s for their courses this semester. This would be a common transcript of a school that did not change their grading policies.

The applicant’s grading history shows in their Senior year they received a 4.0 BCPM GPA (€)

The applicant’s calculated BCPM hours for their Senior year was 17 (£). As we learned from the coursework entry, 12 of those hours were received in their senior year second semester.

The applicant’s GPA for All Other (AO) courses was 3.40 (¥). Three of the 15 awarded credit hours ($) were from the applicant’s second semester Art course.

The applicant received an AMCAS GPA of 3.72 (ß) with 32 credit hours (Ȣ) earned for their senior year.

($) represents their cumulative undergraduate GPA report.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAT</th>
<th>CLAS S</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>NUM</th>
<th>TYP</th>
<th>LEC/</th>
<th>OT GRD</th>
<th>OT HRS</th>
<th>S HRS</th>
<th>SPP HRS</th>
<th>AM GRD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SR</td>
<td>BIOL</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>S2</td>
<td>INTR BIOL ANTHRO</td>
<td>LEC</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR</td>
<td>BIOL</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>S2</td>
<td>PLANTS IN HUMAN AFFAIRS</td>
<td>LEC</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A£</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR</td>
<td>ARTS</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>S2</td>
<td>THE FRANKFURT SCHOOL ON MASS CULTURE &amp; FILM</td>
<td>LEC</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A¥</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR</td>
<td>BIOL</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>S2</td>
<td>CRIT ANALYSIS BIO RES</td>
<td>LEC</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pass/Fail AMCAS GPA impact

Below is coursework entry for the same applicant who has received Pass/Fail grades during the second semester of their Senior year (Spring 2018). The applicant took four courses, three of those courses were classified as Biology (€). The biology classification will impact their BCPM GPA.

The applicant received official transcript (£) grades of P for all their courses. Their total credit hours earned for this semester was 12. Their AMCAS Grades (¥) converted to P’s for their courses this semester.

The applicant's grading history shows in their Senior year they received a 4.0 BCPM GPA (€).
The applicant’s calculated BCPM hours for their Senior year was 8 (£). The remaining 9 hours from their second semester is now being counted under supplemental hours (₧).
The applicant’s GPA for All Other (AO) courses was 3.25 (¥). Three of the 12 (§) awarded credit hours are from the second semester coursework and counted as supplemental hours (₧).
The applicant received an AMCAS GPA of 3.55 (ß) with 20 credit hours (Ȣ) earned for their senior year.

All Pass/Fail credits are recorded in Supplemental hours (₧). The applicant earned 12 Pass/Fail hours in their second semester.
Credit hours for standard grading scales are calculated in both quality points and the GPA.

1. AMCAS Weight \times\text{ Semester Hours} = \text{Quality Points}
2. \text{Total Quality Points} / \text{Total Semester Hours} = \text{GPA}

In the comparison below we’re showing the cumulative undergraduate history for both scenarios, pass/fail credit hours are counted as Supplemental Hours and not included in the GPA and hour totals, resulting in 12 less semester hours which reduced BCPM hours, All Other GPA and hours, and Total GPA and hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scenario</th>
<th>BCPM GPA</th>
<th>BCPM Hours</th>
<th>AO GPA</th>
<th>AO Hours</th>
<th>Total GPA</th>
<th>Total Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scenario 1</td>
<td>Standard Grading Calculation</td>
<td>3.68</td>
<td>72.00</td>
<td>3.53</td>
<td>57.00</td>
<td>3.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenario 2</td>
<td>Pass/Fail Grading Calculation</td>
<td>3.64</td>
<td>63.00</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>54.00</td>
<td>3.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenario 2</td>
<td>Supplemental Hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenario 2</td>
<td>Pass/Fail - Pass</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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
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 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 March 26, AMCAS is:

- Marking transcripts as "Received" that were delivered on March 26.
- Processing applications that reached "Ready for Review" on March 25.
- Processing Academic Change Requests submitted on March 26.

Contact AMCAS®

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.–7 p.m. ET
Closed Wednesday, 3-5 p.m. ET
# 2021 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 early decision applicants.
- Visit [www.aamc.org/amcasdeadlines](http://www.aamc.org/amcasdeadlines)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date*</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 3</td>
<td>2021 AMCAS resources available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>AMCAS application opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 28</td>
<td>AMCAS application submission begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 10</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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Dates subject to change*
## 2021 AMCAS Participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tentative 2021 Participation</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application</strong></td>
<td>153 Schools/Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All MD granting schools in the United States with the exception of MD programs at Texas public schools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AMCAS Letters</strong></td>
<td>153 Schools/Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criminal Background Checks</strong></td>
<td>128 Schools/Programs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 2021 AMCAS Application Fees:

- $170 processing fee (includes one school designation)
- $41 for each additional school

[AMCAS](https://aamc.org/amcas)
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?
You should only complete registration if you do not have an AAMC ID.
My AAMC Profile

AAMC Profile

AAMC ID
21213286

Name

Prefix
Select Prefix

First Name (required)
Tim

Middle Name
Middle Name

Last Name (required)
Brown

Generational Suffix
Select Suffix

Legal Name

Legal First Name (required)
Timothy

Legal Middle Name

Legal Last Name (required)
Brown

Legal Generational Suffix
Select Suffix

Save & Continue to Application
Select “2021 Application Cycle”
AMCAS Main Menu

American Medical College Application Service® 2020 Application

AAMC ID

Sex
Female

Date of Birth
Country of Birth
USA

Email
Birth State
CA

Birth City
Santa Ana

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

Edit My Profile

Quick Links

My Document Statuses

Application - Not Submitted to AMCAS

Identifying Information
Schools Attended
Biographic Information
Course Work
Work/Activities
Letters of Evaluation
Medical Schools
Essays
Standardized Tests

Incomplete
Incomplete
Incomplete
Incomplete
Incomplete
Incomplete
Incomplete
Incomplete
Incomplete

Print Transcript Request Forms
Print Letter Request Forms
Print Application

View Application Status History
AMCAS Main Menu (1/2)

1. Application Status Definitions

   CURRENT APPLICATION STATUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Status Change Date</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not Submitted to AMCAS</td>
<td>04-22-2019</td>
<td>You have initiated your AMCAS application but your application has not been certified and submitted to AMCAS.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AMCAS Main Menu (2/2)

Quick Links

- Learn more about the AAMC Fee Assistance Program
- View AMCAS Participating Medical Schools and Deadlines
- Find AMCAS resources on the Tools and Tutorials page
- Visit the AMCAS website
- Medical School Admission Requirements (MSAR)

My Document Statuses

Transcripts (0)

Letters of Evaluation (0)

You have no transcripts attached to your application
You have no letters attached to your application

Follow us on Twitter
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

First Name

Last Name

Suffix

Preferred Name

Salutation
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
Schools Attended

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]
Biographic Information

Some information is centrally managed by AAMC and cannot be edited on this page. To edit your preferred email address and citizenship, go to My AAMC Profile.

Preferred Address

Country:
Select Country

Address 1:
Street number and name

City:

Address 2:
Apt No., Suite No., Building No., etc.

Day Phone:

Evening Phone:
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.
You should use a personal copy of your **official** transcript to complete this section.
Work/Activities

Add Work/Activities

- Maximum of 15 entries
  You can enter additional date ranges for repeated activities
- Maximum of 3 “Most Meaningful”
Letters of Evaluation

You can submit your application before AMCAS receives your letters.
Medical Schools

Applicants should be sure to select the correct program type and be mindful of program and transcript deadlines.
Personal Comments Essay

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

Personal Comments Essay

Consider and write your Personal Comments carefully; many admissions committees place significant weight on this section. Make sure you proofread carefully because no changes may be made after you submit your application. What information should I consider including in my personal comments?

Use the space provided to explain why you want to go to medical school.

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.

MCAT scores are automatically released to your application.
## Score Breakdowns and Confidence Bands

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

### Data Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Confidence Band</th>
<th>Percentile Rank of Score</th>
<th>Score Profile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>131 &lt; 132</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>118 - 125 - 132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>131 &lt; 132</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>118 - 125 - 132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>131 &lt; 132</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>118 - 125 - 132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>131 &lt; 132</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>118 - 125 - 132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCAT Total</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>526 &lt; 528</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>526 - 528 - 528</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes

1. Test scores, like other measurements, are not perfectly precise. The confidence bands around test scores mark the ranges in which the test-taker's true scores probably lie. The diamond shapes and shading show that the test-taker's true scores are more likely to be their reported scores (in the second column) than the other scores in the confidence bands.

2. The percentile ranks of scores are the percentages of test-takers who received the same scores or lower scores. The percentile ranks are updated on May 1 every year to reflect the results from the three most recent previous calendar years.

3. For the four sections, non-overlapping confidence bands show a test-taker's likely strengths and weaknesses. Overlapping confidence bands suggest that there are not meaningful differences in performance between sections.
Certification Statements

Application Submission Process

PRE-SUBMISSION CHECKS  CERTIFICATION  PASSWORD  CBC  PAYMENT

CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS

1. In order to complete and submit your application, you must certify the following statements by checking each box and clicking the Agree button.

- I certify that the information in this application and associated materials is current, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- I certify that all written passages, such as the personal statement, essays required from M.D.-Ph.D. applicants and descriptions of work/activities, are my own and have not been written, in part or whole, by a third party. Quotations are permitted if the source is cited.
- I have read, understand, and agree to comply with the AMCAS Applicant Guide, including the provisions noting that I am responsible for monitoring and ensuring the progress of my application process, by checking the Main Menu of my application.
- I understand that I am responsible for reviewing my application after AMCAS processing is complete. I am responsible for notifying AMCAS of any discrepancies resulting from the verification process by using the Academic Change Request process located in the Quick Links section of the Main Menu.
- I have read, understand, and agree to comply with the Application and Acceptance Protocols for Applicants, which set forth guidelines for ethical conduct during the application process, and define important application cycle dates.
- AAMC investigates and may report to legitimately interested parties discrepancies in information, attempts to subvert the admission process, and any other irregular matter that occurs in connection with application activities. I understand and agree that the sole and exclusive remedy available to me to appeal or otherwise challenge the AAMC’s decision to send an investigation report to legitimately interested parties shall be confidential, binding arbitration through written submissions only to the Washington, D.C. office of the American Arbitration Association under the expedited procedures for commercial matters. I understand that my failure to request in writing arbitration within 30 calendar days of receipt of an investigation report that has been approved by the AAMC for transmittal to interested parties will constitute an absolute bar and waiver of this exclusive remedy. I further understand that the sole issue for arbitration shall be whether the AAMC acted reasonably and in good faith in making its decision.
- I understand that I am responsible for learning the admissions requirements, application policies, and due dates for each school to which I am applying, and that I am not eligible for a refund of AMCAS fees if I do not meet the admissions requirements of the medical schools to which I apply.

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

Average number of business days to complete verification

- **2020AY**
- **2019AY**
- **2018AY**

June: 6, July: 8, August: 18, September: 23, October: 13, November: 4, December: 1
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</td>
<td>Upon Acceptance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td></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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Application and Acceptance Protocols - Admission Officers

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. Applicants are expected to become familiar with the procedures and requirements of each school to which they apply.

The AAMC recommends the following guidelines to ensure that MD and MD-PhD applicants are afforded timely notification of the outcome of their applications and timely access to available first-year positions and that schools and programs are able to reasonably anticipate accepted applicant matriculation in order to avoid unfilled positions in their entering classes. For the purposes of these protocols, matriculation means that a student has begun a pre-matriculation program, attended orientation immediately preceding enrollment, or enrolled in classes at a medical school.

These protocols are often referred to as “Traffic Rules” by admissions officers and prehealth advisors. These recommendations are distributed for the information of prospective MD and MD-PhD students, their advisors,
AMCAS Tools

• AMCAS Applicant Guide
• Application and Acceptance Protocols
• Video Tutorials
• Twitter
  • @AMCASinfo
Agenda

- Alternative Grading
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- Q&A
Letters of Evaluation

Applicant

Letter Request Form
Letter Author(s)

AMCAS

Medical School(s)

Submission Methods:
- AMCAS Letter Writer Application
- Interfolio

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

www.aamc.org/amcasletters
Letters of Evaluation

Letters of Evaluation Received, 2016AY – 2020AY

May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020

AAMC
AMCAS Letter Writer Application

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

Welcome to the AMCAS Letter Writer Application

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 ALS, 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.
Letter Writer Guidelines

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.

Ask your letter writer to visit aamc.org/advisors to access the Guidelines for Writing a Letter of Evaluation for a Medical School Applicant
AAMC Fee Assistance Program
Fee Assistance Program Benefits

Benefits are NOT Retroactive

Reduced registration fee for MCAT® exams

Free MCAT Official Prep Online-Only Bundle, including the practice exams and flashcards

Free subscription to the MSAR® online database for up to two years

Waived AMCAS® application fee for one submission with up to 20 medical school designations

Learn more about the Fee Assistance Program at aamc.org/fap.
Fee Assistance Program Eligibility

- U.S. citizen
- U.S. national
- Lawful permanent resident of the U.S. (also known as a green card holder)
- Granted refugee or asylee status by the U.S. government,
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipient
- Awaiting refugee or asylee status approval by the U.S. government and have a U.S. Employment Authorization Document (EAD card)
Fee Assistance Program Eligibility

- Tied to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' poverty level guidelines
- Requires parental financial information and supporting tax documentation
2020 Fee Assistance Program

[Image of the AAMC website with the link to the Fee Assistance Program]

[Image of the Fee Assistance Program Essentials cover]

aamc.org/fap
Monthly e-newsletter for applicants and helpful web content.

students-residents.aamc.org/navigator
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.

Self-Assessment Guide
Anatomy of an Applicant resources and self-assessment guide for medical school applicants

Participate in Anatomy of An Applicant

aamc.org/competencies
Questions?

Please fill out the survey and tell us what you thought about this webinar!

The AAMC is here to help you navigate the 2021 AMCAS® application cycle.

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