The MCAT® Essentials for Testing Year 2022

Effective: September 2021
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Introduction

Congratulations! Reading *The MCAT® Essentials for Testing Year 2022* is the first step in preparing to take the Medical College Admission Test® (MCAT®) and toward a fulfilling career in medicine.

The AAMC provides the MCAT exam with the assistance of its test-delivery administrator, Pearson VUE. *The MCAT® Essentials* is your guide to the official policies and procedures for taking the MCAT exam. The information in this guide is necessary for a smooth registration, scheduling, and testing experience.

This document provides you with information about registration, scheduling, test-day policies, post-test-day procedures, and the rules in place to protect the integrity of the exam. Contact information is available throughout this guide so that you know how to reach us if you have questions. Information about AAMC MCAT preparation resources and other helpful resources are also included.

*The MCAT® Essentials* is subject to change from year to year. At the time of registration and on test day, you will be asked to certify that you have read and agree to comply with the policies and procedures contained here. If you are a returning examinee, you must read the current version of this guide. The version applicable to your test day is the version in effect when you register.

All of us at the AAMC wish you the best and much success as you move forward to a career in medicine!

What Is on the MCAT Exam?

The MCAT exam has been part of the medical school admissions process for over 90 years. Most medical schools in the United States, and many in Canada, require applicants to submit recent MCAT scores. Additionally, many other health professions and graduate programs accept MCAT scores as evidence indicating academic knowledge and skill relevant to their field of study.

In conjunction with its member medical schools, the AAMC develops and administers the MCAT exam multiple times each year. The exam is administered at hundreds of Pearson VUE testing sites in the United States, Canada, and select locations throughout the world.

The MCAT exam tests concepts that medical school faculty, residents, and students rate important to entering students’ success in the medical school curriculum. It is a standardized, computer-based exam with content divided into four multiple-choice sections. Each section includes some “field-test” questions (that is, questions being considered for future use that do not count toward your total score).
# MCAT Exam Content

The MCAT exam has four multiple-choice test sections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Questions Consisting Of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems</td>
<td>59 questions consisting of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 10 passage-based sets of questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▶ 4-6 questions per set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 15 independent questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems</td>
<td>59 questions consisting of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 10 passage-based sets of questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▶ 4-6 questions per set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 15 independent questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior</td>
<td>59 questions consisting of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 10 passage-based sets of questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▶ 4-6 questions per set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 15 independent questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills</td>
<td>53 questions consisting of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 9 passages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▶ 5-7 questions per passage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The natural and social sciences sections are organized around 10 foundational concepts, or “big ideas,” in the sciences. The test content draws from disciplines in academic-year-long courses in general chemistry, organic chemistry, introductory physics, and introductory biology and from introductory courses in biochemistry, psychology, and sociology. Multiple-choice questions in these sections will ask you to combine your scientific knowledge from multiple disciplines with your scientific inquiry and reasoning skills.

The Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills section includes questions that test your ability to comprehend and analyze information you read in passages taken from a wide range of disciplines in the social sciences and humanities. This section requires no specific content knowledge.

Explore the “What’s on the MCAT Exam?” content outline to learn more from the complete list and descriptions of foundational concepts, content categories, skills, and disciplines you will need to know for test day.
### Exam Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Number of Questions</th>
<th>Time Allotted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test-day certification</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial (optional)</td>
<td></td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>95 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break (optional)</td>
<td></td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>90 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-exam break (optional)</td>
<td></td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>95 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break (optional)</td>
<td></td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>95 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Void question</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End-of-day survey (optional)</td>
<td></td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total content time</td>
<td></td>
<td>6 hours and 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total “seated” time**: About 7 hours and 30 minutes

*Total seated time does not include check-in time upon arrival at the test center.

### Before You Register for the MCAT Exam

**AAMC ID**

You will need an AAMC ID and an associated username and password to register for the MCAT exam. If you do not have an existing AAMC ID, the system will direct you to create an account and establish a username and password when logging in to the MCAT Registration System. If you have already created an AAMC ID at any time or for any reason, you must use the same username and password when registering for your MCAT exam.

If you cannot remember your username or password, **DO NOT** create a new AAMC ID. For help recovering your account information, or if you believe you have created a duplicate account in error, please contact the AAMC Account Help Team for assistance.
Registration Name

Enter the spelling of your first and last names in the MCAT Registration System exactly the way they appear on the MCAT-accepted ID you will use on test day. Do not register using a nickname, partial names, or initials, and be sure to double-check for misspellings. If your MCAT-accepted ID doesn’t exactly match your registered first and last names at the exam, you will not be allowed to test; you will be considered a “no-show,” you will not receive a refund, and the appointment will count toward your testing limits.

To ensure your ID meets MCAT requirements, please review the MCAT-accepted ID guidelines below.

MCAT Registration

- The names on your ID must match the first and last names on your MCAT exam registration EXACTLY. (Middle names or initials are not required on the MCAT registration, even if they appear on your ID.)
- Enter your name as your first name and then your last name (surname), even if your ID lists your last name before your first name. If they don’t match exactly, you must update your name through the MCAT Registration System at least 10 days before your exam.
- If your ID has your initials in place of your first and/or last name, or if your initials are on the same line as your first or last name, you must contact AAMC Services (202-828-0600) for instructions at least 30 days before your exam.

IDENTIFICATION (ID) REQUIREMENTS

You must meet all the following requirements for your ID to be accepted on test day.

1. The ID was issued by a government agency.
2. The ID’s expiration date is printed on the ID and is not extended by a sticker or similar mechanism.
3. Your ID must not be expired.
   - If your ID will expire before your scheduled test date, you are responsible for obtaining an updated ID prior to your exam. Account for the processing time of government agencies when selecting an exam date.
4. The ID contains a photo that can be used to positively identify you.
5. The ID is tangible and whole, with no evidence of tampering (clipped corners, holes, etc.).
6. The ID is in English.

RECOMMENDED

The most common forms of ID are:

- State driver’s license (with all above requirements).
- Passport (with all above requirements).
- Passport card.
- Permanent resident card (green card).
- Canada health card (Ontario and British Columbia ONLY).
- Consular ID card.
- Canadian aviation card.

NOT ACCEPTED

Any single ID that does not fulfill the above requirements, even if issued by a government agency. This includes:

- Paper ID or ID application receipt of any kind.
- Credit card.
- Veterans ID (VIC).
- Birth certificate.
- Social security card.
- Virtual or digital ID.
- IDs with extension stickers or renewal paperwork, or ID application receipt of any kind, as we are unable to validate authenticity.
  - Exception: Military personnel and dependents stationed outside their home state may present a state-issued driver’s license with extension stickers or paperwork that meets all other MCAT-accepted ID conditions along with their unexpired Uniformed Services ID card.

- School ID.
- Employee ID.
  - Even if issued by a government agency, it will not be accepted.
- Library card (including those issued by government agencies).
Common Registration Name Requirement Questions

If you are unable to provide the required identification, or if you have concerns that your identification may not be acceptable, you MUST submit an ID exception no later than 10 days before your exam date. Learn more about deadlines here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What should you do if...</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The first and/or last name(s) on your MCAT registration do not exactly match the qualifying ID you will use on test day.</td>
<td>You MUST change your name in the MCAT Registration System to match your MCAT-accepted ID.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two last names appear on your ID.</td>
<td>Both names MUST be entered into the MCAT Registration System in the &quot;Last Name/Surname&quot; field.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You prefer a “nickname” or initials, but your MCAT Accepted ID has your full legal name.</td>
<td>Your full legal name must be entered into the MCAT Registration System. You may not be admitted under a nickname.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mononymous name.</td>
<td>If you only have a single name (e.g., Madonna), please enter “LNU” in the Last Name field in the MCAT Registration System.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No legal first name (FNU).</td>
<td>Please enter &quot;FNU&quot; in the First Name field in the MCAT Registration System.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No legal last name (LNU).</td>
<td>Please enter “LNU” in the Last Name field in the MCAT Registration System.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All name changes must be complete 10 days before the exam date.

ID Exceptions

If you miss the deadline for changing your name in the MCAT Registration System, you may submit an ID Exception Request in the MCAT Registration System between three and 10 days from your exam date. At three days from your exam day, the system will not accept ID exception requests, as it is too late to process and approve them for your exam. ID exceptions are at the sole discretion of the AAMC.

Registration and Scheduling Violations

Certain violations of the MCAT registration rules may result in cancellation of a testing appointment, cancellation of scores, a ban from taking the MCAT exam for a designated period of time or permanently, or other consequences (refer to Investigation Procedures). Such violations include:

- Obtaining more than one AAMC ID.
- Registering for or taking the MCAT exam under another individual’s AAMC ID.
- Allowing someone else to register or test under your AAMC ID.
• Holding multiple appointments at the same time.
• Improperly exceeding the testing limits for the exam.
• Providing false or inaccurate information when creating an AAMC ID or registering to take the MCAT exam.
• Selling or giving away your AAMC ID or appointment to someone.
• Purchasing an AAMC ID or appointment from someone.
• Switching registrations with another examinee.

Failure to follow MCAT registration rules may create identity validation and verification issues, the potential for mistakes in the assignment of score results, and other system disruptions. If the AAMC suspects that you may have committed a registration or scheduling violation before your scheduled exam date that, if true, would threaten the validity, integrity, and/or security of the MCAT, the AAMC may, at its sole discretion, cancel or reschedule your exam to allow time to conduct an investigation.

Eligible Health Professions Programs
You may sit for the exam if you are preparing to apply to and attend a health professions program that accepts MCAT scores for admissions and you are not currently enrolled in a health professions program. These programs include:

• MD programs.
• DO programs.
• Podiatric medicine programs.
• Veterinary medicine programs.
• Any other health-related programs that accept MCAT scores to satisfy a test score admissions requirement.

At the time of registration, you will be required to agree to a statement verifying that you are taking the exam solely for the purpose of applying to and attending a health professions program.

Requesting Special Permission
Individuals who do not meet the eligibility requirement above must apply for special permission to take the MCAT exam. You must apply for special permission if any of the following statements are true:

• You wish to take the test for any reason other than solely applying to and attending an eligible health professions program.
• You are currently enrolled in an eligible health professions program and want to change schools. If you are currently accepted into a health professions program but have not yet enrolled in classes, you are not required to obtain special permission.
• You are unable to comply with all AAMC testing procedures for reasons other than a medical condition or disability. To request adjustments to the standard testing conditions due to medical conditions or disabilities, please refer to the Testing With Accommodations section.
You are currently employed by a test preparation company and work directly with their MCAT preparation products, trainings, or courses.

Special permission to take the MCAT exam must be requested through the “Submit another service request” option found within MCAT Registration System. Provide as much relevant detail in your request as possible, and complete the “Personal Information” tab of your MCAT registration to help prevent processing delays. The typical time frame for AAMC review is five business days.

Failure to obtain special permission may result in, among other consequences, an investigation by the AAMC, appointment cancellation, cancellation of scores, and/or a ban from taking the MCAT exam for a designated time period or permanently. Refer to the Registration and Scheduling Violations section to learn more about the AAMC’s investigation procedures.

International Examinees

There are no additional eligibility requirements for international examinees. If you are in a bachelor of medicine/bachelor of surgery (MBBS) degree program or hold the MBBS degree and meet all other eligibility requirements, you may register for the MCAT exam without seeking special permission.

Testing Limits

Examinees who opt to test more than once must adhere to the following restrictions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Testing Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You may hold only one MCAT exam appointment at a time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You may attempt the exam no more than three times in a testing year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You may attempt the exam no more than four times over two consecutive testing years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You may attempt the exam no more than seven times in your lifetime (beginning with the April 2015 test dates).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Testing With Accommodations

If you have a disability or medical condition that you believe requires an adjustment to standard testing conditions, you are encouraged to apply for testing accommodations. All initial applications for accommodations must be submitted electronically via the MCAT Accommodations Online system on the AAMC website. Please keep in my mind that if you are testing with accommodations, aspects of your exam administration may vary from what is outlined in this guide in order to deliver specific and individualized accommodations.

The accommodations page of the MCAT website is required reading for all examinees seeking testing accommodations.

A decision on most requests will be made within 60 days of receipt of a complete initial application for accommodations. You should submit your complete application far enough in advance that there is time to review your request and confirm any approved accommodations before your test day. Visit our website for more information on application types and recommended submission time frames.

To increase the likelihood of testing in a convenient location on your preferred test date, you are encouraged to schedule a standard appointment for that date and location before you receive a
determination on your accommodations request. You will be notified via email when a determination has been made. If your accommodations are approved, be sure to follow the instructions provided with your approval letter to avoid delays in scheduling your exam with accommodations.

You must be approved for accommodations no later than 15 days before your test date (refer to Scheduling Deadlines and Fee Structure) so we have time to prepare and implement any approved accommodations. While the AAMC will do its best to keep your original appointment or to schedule you into the closest possible date or test site, please understand that some changes to your appointment may be necessary to support delivery of any approved accommodations. If you have not received a decision by 15 days before your test date or if your accommodations are not approved, you may test under standard conditions or reschedule to a later test date. Applicable rescheduling fees apply.

For detailed information about the accommodations application and registration processes, visit the MCAT Exam With Accommodations page of the MCAT website or email us at accommodations@aamc.org.

The AAMC Fee Assistance Program

The AAMC Fee Assistance Program assists those who would not be able to take the exam or apply to medical schools that use the American Medical College Application Service® (AMCAS®) application without financial assistance. Approved recipients receive discounted MCAT exam registration fees, all online AAMC MCAT Official Prep products, and complimentary access to the Medical School Admission Requirements™ database.

For information about the Fee Assistance Program, including eligibility requirements, benefits, and application deadlines, visit the Fee Assistance Program page on the AAMC website. To contact the Fee Assistance Program, email fap@aamc.org or call 202-828-0600.

The AAMC and the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) are piloting a fee assistance program for Canadian examinees who register for the MCAT exam during the 2022 testing year. Beginning Feb. 3, 2022, Canadian examinees who qualify in AFMC’s first application period will pay reduced scheduling, rescheduling, and cancellation fees and receive for free the MCAT® Official Prep Online-Only Bundle. Beginning April 1, 2022, examinees who qualify in AFMC’s second application period will also qualify for reduced registration fees and receive for free the MCAT® Official Prep Online-Only Bundle. For more information about the application, evaluation, or qualification processes, visit AFMC.

If you have received Fee Assistance Program approval but you do not see the reduced scheduling fees within the MCAT Registration System, contact us immediately. Do not proceed with scheduling or rescheduling an appointment.
Registering for an MCAT Exam

The MCAT Registration System

To begin the registration and scheduling process, log in to the MCAT Registration System (MRS) with the username and password associated with your AAMC ID. Before selecting a test date and location, you must complete registration questions that ask for your contact, background, and education information and agree to the MCAT Examinee Agreement and other consents and policies.

Examinee Agreement

You will be presented with the MCAT Examinee Agreement when you register for your MCAT exam. To complete your registration and sit for the MCAT exam, you must accept all terms of the Examinee Agreement and of The MCAT Essentials for Testing Year 2022.

The full text of what you will see at registration is found below.

Introduction

The Examinee Agreement is a legally binding contract between you and the AAMC that sets forth the terms and conditions under which the AAMC will permit you to register for and take the MCAT exam. In addition to the prohibitions and terms explained below, all of the policies and procedures contained in the current version of The MCAT Essentials are expressly incorporated herein as additional terms of the Examinee Agreement, as well as the AAMC Website Terms and Conditions, the AAMC Privacy Statement, and any policy statements made on the MCAT website. Adherence to the Examinee Agreement is necessary to enable the AAMC to maintain for you and other examinees a fair and secure testing process.

Because the Examinee Agreement is a legally binding contract, you should read it carefully. If you do not indicate that you understand and agree to abide by the terms of the Examinee Agreement, you will not be able to register for or take the MCAT exam. By selecting “I Agree” at the end of the Examinee Agreement, you acknowledge that you have read and understand these rules. On test day, you will be presented with a Certification Statement that reminds you of your obligations under the Examinee Agreement. By accepting the Certification Statement on test day and taking the MCAT exam, you will be certifying that you understand and agree to comply with these obligations.

Prohibited Items and Behaviors

The following items and behaviors are strictly prohibited during the MCAT exam and during any scheduled or unscheduled break:

- Possessing, accessing, or using electronic devices, including cellular phones, at any time after check-in and prior to completing the exam.
- Possessing, accessing, or using cameras or recording equipment of any kind.
- Giving or receiving aid on the MCAT exam.
Possessing, accessing or using books, notes, or any other written materials (other than noteboards or test center rules provided for your use and review by test center staff).

Looking at the content of another examinee’s monitor or notebook.

Possessing weapons, including but not limited to, firearms, knives, or any object that could be used as a weapon, in the test center, including the testing room and waiting areas.

Leaving the test center floor or building at any point after check-in and prior to completing the exam.

Exhibiting disruptive or abusive behavior, talking in the testing room with anyone other than a test administrator, or talking about or discussing the exam during any scheduled or unscheduled break.

Possessing, accessing, using, or attempting to possess, access, or use any prohibited item or engaging or attempting to engage in any prohibited behavior will be considered an intentional and willful breach of the Examinee Agreement. The AAMC will launch an investigation and may subject you to one or more of the consequences provided herein for violations of the Examinee Agreement.

Terms Governing Access to the MCAT Exam

When you accept the following agreement, you are attesting to the following:

I am aware that the MCAT exam is a confidential exam and that its contents will be disclosed to me on my scheduled test day in a limited context to permit me to test and for no other purpose. I understand that the AAMC is the exclusive owner of all rights in the MCAT exam, for which it holds a series of registered copyrights and trade secrets under U.S. and international laws. I understand that I have no license or permission to copy, adapt, or use any part of the MCAT exam. I understand that I am bound to keep the MCAT exam content confidential indefinitely, including, but not limited to: exam questions, passages, graphics, incorrect responses, correct answers, and topic lists, frequency and order of exam topics, when described in more specific detail than the What's on the MCAT Exam? content outline I agree that disclosure, reconstruction, capturing and/or disseminating of the confidential contents of the MCAT exam would destroy the value and defeat the purpose of the MCAT exam and irreparably harm the AAMC.

I understand that I may comment on my general exam experience; however, I understand that discussing or disclosing MCAT content in greater or more specific detail than in the What's on the MCAT Exam? content outline, by any means, is a violation of this Examinee Agreement.

Just as I am not permitted to share information about exam content with anyone, I understand that I also am not permitted to possess, solicit, read, study from, or otherwise use confidential information about the MCAT exam during my own exam preparation. I certify that I have not engaged in such conduct prior to taking the exam and that I will not engage in such conduct during or after the exam. I also agree not to ask any other individual to disclose exam content to me or to seek out actual live, confidential exam content from any other source. I agree that if I receive or have access to information or material in any form and from any source, including but not limited to email, instant messages, text messages, website content, social media posts, electronic bulletin boards, Internet-based groups, shared or collaborative digital files, electronic files, and/or paper documents, that I reasonably believe contains confidential MCAT exam content, or has been represented to contain
confidential MCAT exam content, I will immediately report its existence to the AAMC by sending an email to mcatsecurity@aamc.org. I agree that I will fully cooperate with any investigation initiated by the AAMC related to my receipt or access to information believed or represented to contain confidential MCAT exam content.

I certify that all information that I have provided to the AAMC is complete and accurate at the time of registration for the MCAT exam and if that information has changed, I submitted complete and accurate updated information. I understand that providing false, misleading, or incomplete information to the AAMC shall be considered an intentional and willful breach of the Examinee Agreement and may subject me to one or more of the consequences provided herein for violations of the Examinee Agreement.

I certify that I am the person whose name and address appear on the MCAT exam registration. I further certify that I am the person whose name appears on the identification I will present for admission to the testing room. Unless I have applied for and received special permission to take the MCAT exam as set out in The MCAT Essentials, I am taking the MCAT exam solely for the purpose of applying to and attending an eligible health-professions school or program. I understand that the only eligible programs for which I am permitted to take the MCAT exam are allopathic, osteopathic, podiatric, and veterinary medicine, or another health-related program that will accept MCAT exam results to satisfy a test-score admissions requirement. I understand that presenting or attempting to present an MCAT score as my own that is falsified or otherwise not supported by the actual score in AAMC’s records (as reflected in the AAMC’s official Score Reporting Service) undermines the integrity and validity of the MCAT exam, and is prohibited.

I certify that, if I am a test preparation company agent or representative, MCAT tutor, or health-professions or academic advisor, I accurately reported my status as such when I registered for the exam and, if applicable, I will update any change in such status that takes place after registration. If I am a test preparation company agent or representative, MCAT tutor, or health-professions or academic advisor and am taking the MCAT exam for the purpose of applying to and attending an eligible health-professions school or program, I understand and reaffirm my duty not to disclose any MCAT content to any person or entity, including my employer, students, or advisees. If I am not a test preparation company agent or representative, MCAT tutor, or health-professions or academic advisor, I certify that I am not taking the MCAT exam for the purpose of obtaining such employment or status.

I understand and agree that any alleged violation of this Examinee Agreement or any alleged activity that may compromise the validity, integrity, or security of the MCAT exam may be investigated. Information about the AAMC investigation process may be found in The MCAT Essentials. If I violate the terms of this Examinee Agreement, including the additional terms or conditions stated in The MCAT Essentials or any test center rules and regulations, or if I engage in any activity that may compromise the validity, integrity, or security of the MCAT exam, or fail to fully cooperate in any investigation of a violation of the Examinee Agreement, I may face the following consequences:

- The AAMC may issue a report of the factual findings of the investigation to legitimately interested parties.
- I may be subject to a civil lawsuit and/or criminal charges.
- My MCAT exam may be terminated, and I will not be eligible for a refund or any other compensation.
- My scores may be canceled, before or after the scores are reported, without a refund.
- I may be banned from taking the MCAT exam for a limited time or permanently.

© 2022 Association of American Medical Colleges
I agree that my personal information will be collected, used, shared, transferred, and stored by the AAMC subject to this Examinee Agreement.

**AAMC Policies Regarding MCAT Examinee Data**

The AAMC recognizes our responsibility to treat with care the information we collect about you and to respect your privacy relative to sensitive data. The AAMC Privacy Statement explains what kinds of information we collect and how we use this information.

The MCAT program collects personal information to administer the MCAT exam, help prevent fraud, and protect the integrity of the exam and the medical school admissions and matriculation processes. The personal data collected may include demographic, contact, and education information; health or other sensitive information related to an application for an accommodated exam; and a digital (biometric) palm vein scan, a test-day photo, test-day audio or video recordings, a digitized ID document, and your signature(s).

In brief, the AAMC may share your personal information, including your MCAT score:

- With peer not-for-profit organizations, certifying boards, licensing bodies, and other organizations involved in medical education for research, eligibility determination, verification, and credentialing purposes.
- With third parties for scholarship opportunities as directed by you during registration or use of another AAMC service or program.
- With service providers who assist the AAMC with technology, test administration, or communications management activities.
- As needed to (1) respond to information requests by law enforcement or other governmental authorities; (2) comply with any law, regulation, subpoena or other legal process, or court order; (3) investigate and help prevent security threats, fraud, malicious activity, or inappropriate, unauthorized, or illegal activity involving the AAMC’s services or networks; or (4) enforce or protect the AAMC’s rights and property. In such circumstances, personal information may be disclosed without notice to the individual.

Any information published by the AAMC related to MCAT testing is done with aggregate data. Individual test scores are not published or released to third parties unless permitted by the AAMC Privacy Statement or otherwise authorized by you. Unless otherwise noted, once your personal information is transferred to third parties, it will be treated in accordance with the third party’s privacy policies. Your personal information will be transferred to, processed, and stored in the United States and, if you test outside the United States, any country necessary to administer the MCAT exam to you from your selected location.

**Release of Personal Information**

During the registration process for the MCAT exam, you will be asked to consider the options below.

**MCAT Recruiting Service**

If you choose to participate in the MCAT Recruiting Service, you authorize the AAMC to release your name, address, age, sex, state of residence, undergraduate major, email address, and MCAT scores to those U.S., Canadian, and Caribbean schools of medicine, osteopathy, podiatry, and veterinary medicine; other health professions programs (as defined in the Eligible Health Professions Programs section of this
document); and U.S. government scholarship programs that participate in the MCAT Recruiting Service. The AAMC will release your information only to the above-mentioned programs and their related joint-degree programs so long as they are accredited by nationally or internationally recognized accrediting bodies, such as the Liaison Committee on Medical Education. Those programs may send you information about their programs if you participate in the MCAT Recruiting Service. The AAMC may charge a reasonable fee for schools and scholarship programs to participate in the MCAT Recruiting Service.

**Participation in the MCAT Recruiting Service is voluntary and may only be elected during the MCAT registration process. Your decision can be changed up until 10 days from your exam. The MCAT program does not instruct eligible institutions on their method or frequency of contact or about any distribution of their recruiting materials.**

**Health Professions Advisor Release**

Selecting “Yes” to the Health Professions Advisor Release during the registration process authorizes the AAMC to release a record of your MCAT scores to your school’s designated, AAMC-approved health professions advisor who has met the AAMC-established requirements and confidentiality protocols.

If you applied for fee assistance through the AAMC Fee Assistance Program and in your Fee Assistance Program application you agreed to release award information to your health professions advisor, that information will be released along with your test scores. Additionally, if you indicated in your AMCAS application that you would like your application released to your health professions advisor, the released AMCAS information will include your MCAT scores regardless of your answer to the Health Professions Advisor Release question.

*If an undergraduate institution does not have a designated health professions advisor or has not identified the advisor to the AAMC, we cannot release your scores to the institution.*

**The Health Professions Advisor Release is voluntary and may be elected during the MCAT registration process. Your decision can be changed up until 10 days from your exam date.**

**Medical Minority Applicant Registry (Med-MAR)**

The Medical Minority Applicant Registry (Med-MAR) enhances admission opportunities for students from groups historically underrepresented in medicine. Medical school applicants who self-identify as being from groups historically underrepresented in medicine or who are economically disadvantaged can elect to participate in Med-MAR.

If you choose to participate in Med-MAR, your basic biographical information with your MCAT scores will be distributed to the admissions and diversity affairs offices at AAMC-member schools.

If you agree to participate during the registration process, your name, address, age, sex, state of residence, undergraduate institution, undergraduate major, racial and ethnic group identification, email address, and MCAT scores will be circulated to U.S. medical schools and certain health-related agencies as part of an effort to increase opportunities for minorities in medicine.

You are eligible if (1) you are a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident of the United States (green card holder), or have been granted refugee/asylum or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status by the U.S. government; and (2) you are economically disadvantaged or of low
socioeconomic status or you self-identify as a member of a racial or ethnic group historically underrepresented in medicine — African American or Black, Hispanic or Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

Participation in the Med-MAR is voluntary and may only be elected during the MCAT registration process. Your decision can be changed up until 10 days from your exam date. The MCAT program does not instruct eligible institutions on the method or frequency of outreach to participants or assist in the development or distribution of recruiting materials.

Release to Alternate Contact

You may designate an alternate contact who is authorized to contact the AAMC on your behalf to obtain information about your MCAT registration and exams. To protect your private information, the AAMC does not share your MCAT total or section scores or other sensitive personal information with your alternate contact.

By completing this authorization, you release the AAMC from any liability resulting from release of information to the person you designate. This release does not in any way obligate the AAMC to provide any information to the designated parties.

A separate release is required if you are applying for testing accommodations and would like the MCAT Office of Accommodated Testing to correspond with medical professionals or others on your behalf. You may submit this release through the MCAT Registration System “Service Request” function.

Scheduling an MCAT Exam

Once you have answered the necessary registration questions, you will be able to schedule a test date and location.

Scheduling Details

The most current list of test centers is available in the MCAT Registration System. Test centers have limited capacity, and seats are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.

You must complete your registration online via the MCAT Registration System before you schedule your MCAT appointment. Once your exam is scheduled, you will receive an email confirming your appointment. If you do not receive an email confirmation within 24 hours of scheduling (be sure to check your spam folder first), please contact us immediately. This confirmation email will include the details of your appointment — including the name you used to register. Be sure to compare this name to the name on the MCAT-accepted ID you will use on test day.

Fees and Deadlines

There is an initial registration fee and, for international locations, an international fee. There are three deadlines for making changes to your appointment: 60 days from exam date, 30 days from exam date, and 10 days from exam date. All deadlines take effect at 11:59 p.m. local, test center time. For example, if your MCAT exam is scheduled for Aug. 9, 2022, in Los Angeles, your 10-day deadline is 11:59 p.m. PT on Aug. 1, 2022. Refer to MCAT Scheduling Fees to view the applicable registration fees.
and restrictions for this testing year’s MCAT exam. Refer to Calendars, Scheduling Deadlines and Score Release Dates for details about specific deadline dates. The AAMC does not grant deadline extensions.

If you are scheduling, rescheduling, or canceling on the deadline date and experience technical problems, we may not be able to assist you in time to meet the deadline to secure your appointment.

Registration Fees (in USD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration Fees*</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fee Assistance Program Registration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Examinees testing outside the United States, Canada, or U.S. territories will also be charged a $120 international fee in addition to the initial registration fee. International fees are nonrefundable upon registration cancellation.

The last day you can schedule an exam is 10 days prior to exam day.

Rescheduling and Cancellations (in USD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Change Fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date and/or Test Center Reschedule Fee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 or more days before exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>30-59 days before exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-29 days before exam</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee Assistance Program Change Fees</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date and/or Test Center Reschedule Fee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 or more days before exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-59 days before exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-29 days before exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No changes are allowed less than 10 days before the exam.
All deadlines are at 11:59 p.m. local time of the test center on the day of the deadline.
Applicable Taxes
You may be required to pay applicable sales tax, value-added tax, goods and services tax, or similar tax required by law in the country or locality in which you are testing. If taxes are applicable, they will be collected at the time of scheduling.

Report Suspected Violations
Fair testing for all MCAT examinees is a priority for the AAMC. The MCAT exam is administered under strict supervision and security measures. If you receive, or have access to, information or material in any form from any source that you reasonably believe contains confidential exam content or has been represented to contain confidential exam content, it is your responsibility to immediately report its existence to the AAMC by sending an email to mcatsecurity@aamc.org.

Reports of Examinee Agreement violations, cheating, disclosure of confidential MCAT exam content, wrongdoing, or other alleged actions that undermine the integrity of the MCAT exam will be treated in a confidential manner. If you report such activity, the AAMC will not disclose your identity except on a need-to-know basis, including responses to subpoenas, court orders, or other legal processes.

What Should I Report?
Before, during, or after test day, please report to the AAMC and/or the test administrator any questionable behavior you observe or reasonably believe to have occurred or that may occur, including but not limited to examinees:

- Receiving assistance or copying from another test-taker.
- Taking a test for someone else.
- Having access to secure test questions before or after the exam.
- Presenting false, altered, or tampered identification to attempt to gain admission to the test center.
- Attempting to record or otherwise capture test questions during the exam.
- Using notes or unauthorized aids.
- Altering or falsifying score results or reports.
- Falsifying accommodations documentation.

It is in the interest of all examinees to report the questionable behavior of others. Engaging in any of the above-listed actions could provide an unfair advantage to an unethical and potentially unqualified examinee not only on the test, but also as a medical school applicant.

Please report all potential testing violations to 202-903-0840 or mcatsecurity@aamc.org.
Investigation Procedures, Final Report, Arbitration, and Additional Actions

The AAMC Policies and Procedures for Investigating Reported Violations of Admission and Enrollment Standards apply and are incorporated into The MCAT Essentials for Testing Year 2022.

- If you are the subject of an investigation by the AAMC you shall fully cooperate with the AAMC investigation, produce all documents and materials requested by the AAMC, and submit to an in-person interview conducted by or on behalf of the AAMC at the association’s request. You shall truthfully and completely answer all questions posed during investigative interviews conducted by or on behalf of the AAMC.

- If the AAMC initiates an investigation, it will notify you before issuing an investigation report. Investigation-related communications will be sent to you via email. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have an active email address on file with the AAMC that you check frequently. All responses to the AAMC must be submitted in writing.

- At its sole discretion, the AAMC may elect to send a fact-based investigation report documenting the violation and subsequent investigation, with any attachments provided by the applicant, to legitimately interested parties, both now and in the future.

You will be provided with a draft investigative report to review and an opportunity to respond before the final report is issued. If in your response you conclude that the draft report unfairly characterizes the matter under investigation or if agreement between the parties on the content and language of the report cannot be reached, you may request arbitration. Arbitration shall be conducted through written submission to the American Arbitration Association in Washington, D.C. The sole issue for arbitration shall be whether the AAMC acted reasonably and in good faith in making its decision.

In addition to issuing and disseminating the investigation report, the AAMC may take actions for policy or rules violations including but not limited to:

- Terminating an exam administration.
- Issuing a warning letter to an examinee.
- Placing MCAT scores on hold.
- Cancelling an existing MCAT registration or score.
- Suspending MCAT registration eligibility for a limited period or permanently.

The AAMC may, at its sole discretion, file a civil lawsuit against you for material breaches of the Examinee Agreement that cause damage to the AAMC and/or a third party or for any other violation of the AAMC’s legal rights. In addition, the AAMC may, at its sole discretion, refer you to one or more federal, state, or local prosecuting attorneys for criminal investigation and prosecution when it has a reasonable basis to conclude that you may have committed a crime in the course of violating the Examinee Agreement.

The AAMC reserves the right to investigate you if there is evidence that you may have engaged in any behavior that may be considered detrimental to a fair and secure testing process or impacts the testing environment, security, and integrity of the exam. If you violate procedures or engage in irregular behavior, it will be reported to the AAMC.
“To Be Determined” Test Centers

You may see “To Be Determined” test center sites (TBD sites) listed with generalized locations in metropolitan areas as decided by Pearson VUE. These sites do not have determined addresses at the time of scheduling. TBD sites exist for the sole purpose of offering as many seats as possible on each test date. TBD sites should only be chosen if you have the flexibility to travel up to a 40-mile radius within a metropolitan area from the central location. Examinees who register for a TBD site will not be eligible for a free reschedule to another site when they find out the actual location of the TBD site.

You will be sent the TBD site address no less than 30 days before your exam date via email. The address information will also appear in the MCAT Registration System at that time.

Changing Your Appointment

You may make changes to your appointment online up until 10 days before your appointment date via the MCAT Registration System or by calling 202-828-0600. If you do not receive an email confirming your rescheduled appointment within 24 hours of rescheduling, please check your spam filter first and then contact us immediately.

Please note: Applicable fees will apply regardless of how soon a change takes place after your initial scheduling. No exceptions will be made. (Refer to Scheduling Fees.)

Making all your changes at one time will save you money. For example, if you make a simultaneous change to both test date and test center, you will only be charged one rescheduling fee; however, if you make the changes separately, you will be charged a fee for each change.

You may change your test date and/or test center, provided:

- Scheduling has opened for the desired exam date.
- Space is available. Current availability can be found online via the MCAT Registration System.
- Changes are made at least 10 days before the exam you are currently scheduled to take.
- Changes are made at least 10 days before the exam you wish to reschedule into. Once that exam date is within 10 days, rescheduling is no longer allowed.

When rescheduling an exam to or from an area where taxes are collected (international locations outside the United States and Canada), you may be prevented from completing your transaction online. If this is the case, contact us by phone as soon as possible for assistance with rescheduling your appointment. The base fee to reschedule will be the same, but the amount of tax on that fee may change depending on the location of the new test center.

You cannot reschedule into a future testing year.

Available Appointment Notification or “Notify Me”

If your MCAT exam appointment search indicates “None Available” for your preferred date and test center location, you can ask to be notified by email from Pearson VUE if an appointment becomes available at that test center location on that MCAT test date by clicking “Notify me.”
Learn more about the available appointment notification feature.

Cancellations and Refunds

Cancellations may be made online through the MCAT Registration System up to 10 days before your appointment. You will receive an email confirming your cancellation. If you do not receive an email within 24 hours of your cancellation request, please contact us immediately. If you do not cancel your appointment and you do not sit for the exam, you will lose an attempt. It may take up to 24 hours after your original appointment time before you're able to schedule a new appointment. You will be required to pay the full registration fee.

⚠️ Fees paid for rescheduling or for international sites are nonrefundable, and we will not extend any deadlines for any reason.

Refunds are automatically applied to the credit or debit card used for the initial scheduling. Depending on the bank card’s policy, the funds may take a few days to clear. We are unable to provide a refund to a different form of payment than was originally used, including if your card was lost, stolen, or deactivated.

Emergency Refund

If you experience an extenuating hardship 30 days or less prior to your MCAT exam appointment that impacts your ability to attend your exam, the AAMC will review your circumstances. The following table summarizes qualifying events and required documentation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Documentation Requirements</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You are hospitalized.</td>
<td>Hospital records.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You experience a death in your immediate family.</td>
<td>Funeral program or death certificate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You are unexpectedly called away to active military service.</td>
<td>Official request for deployment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You are unexpectedly called away for health care service duties</td>
<td>Official request for deployment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>related to a catastrophic event.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You are called to jury duty the day of your exam.</td>
<td>Official summons for jury duty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You are displaced from your residence due to a natural disaster.</td>
<td>Proof of displacement (contact us for more information).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You test positive for COVID-19 within 14 or less days prior to exam</td>
<td>Positive COVID-19 test.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>day.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You are exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19</td>
<td>Positive or negative COVID-19 test, dated within 14 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>within 14 or less days prior to exam day.</td>
<td>prior to or within 7 days after your exam date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You exhibit COVID-19 symptoms leading up to, or on, exam day.</td>
<td>Positive or negative COVID-19 test, dated within 14 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>prior to or within 7 days after your exam date.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other events not listed above will be considered at the AAMC’s discretion.
Requests must be submitted using the Emergency Refund Request Form located in the Service Requests section of the MCAT Registration System. Complete requests, including all necessary accompanying documentation, must be received no later than 10 days after your scheduled exam date.

The emergency refund amount is the amount of the 30-day+ cancellation refund. This exam may still count as one of your attempts toward your testing limits. If you know you will be unable to take your exam and have not yet reached the cancellation deadline, you are encouraged to cancel your appointment to guarantee your attempt is not counted.

Once an Emergency Refund Request has been submitted, you cannot reverse it, and your exam will be canceled. You may not go to the test center. Do not submit an Emergency Refund Request until you are absolutely certain you will not be able to make your exam.

The AAMC will email you the decision about your request within two weeks of receipt of the required documentation. Approved refunds will be applied to the method of payment used during the initial scheduling process. We are unable to provide a refund to a different form of payment than the form originally used, including if your card was lost, stolen, or deactivated.

Refunds are not guaranteed and are issued at the AAMC’s sole discretion.

MCAT Appointments Are Subject to Change or Cancellation

The AAMC and its test-delivery administrator, Pearson VUE, make every attempt to ensure all facilities are properly equipped and fully functional on test day and that access to the test center is available to examinees. On those rare occasions when we are unable to administer the exam due to situations outside our control, it may be necessary for the AAMC to reschedule to new locations and/or dates based on availability. Situations outside our control include:

- Technical or equipment issues.
- Power outages.
- Civil unrest, including protests and/or demonstrations.
- State or local government mandates, including applicable stay-at-home orders, curfews, or restrictions on business operations to protect health.
- Weather or environmental hazards, including hurricanes, unsafe road conditions (for example, ice), tornados, wildfires, and flooding.

The AAMC understands that late cancellations are stressful. We will work with displaced examinees to secure an alternate test date or provide a full refund of your base registration fee as appropriate. You will not be responsible for rescheduling fees in this situation. If in this process an attempt is exhausted, it can be returned, if needed. Keep your contact information current so the AAMC or Pearson VUE can contact you in the unlikely event we need to notify you of a change. If you have questions about the status of your exam, please contact us at mcat@aamc.org.

The AAMC and Pearson VUE will not administer makeup exams after the testing year ends or reimburse or compensate for lost wages, phone costs, or travel expenses. Additionally, the AAMC is not responsible for missed application deadlines and will not expedite the release of scores as a result of a rescheduled appointment.
If the AAMC or Pearson VUE cancel your appointment for any reason, you must reschedule a new appointment or request a refund within the same testing year in which the cancellation occurred. In cases where rescheduling is not possible, especially late in the testing year when fewer opportunities remain, your registration fee will be fully refunded. The fee CANNOT be applied toward a future testing year.

If you rescheduled an appointment and decide to make additional changes or cancel, you must do so by the deadlines associated with the new appointment and pay any applicable fees.

What You Need to Know About Test Day
As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve and change, many testing locations may have lifted health and safety restrictions while others may have maintained or reinstated precautions. The 2022 testing year will operate more like a typical testing year in that the exam will run 7 hours and 30 minutes. We will host one appointment time per day at 8 a.m. local test center time.

The AAMC will continue to monitor conditions closely, and any changes in testing conditions will be communicated to examinees directly and on our website.

The AAMC is deeply committed to ensuring the accuracy and validity of test scores by providing fair, consistent, and secure testing conditions for all examinees. To do so, the staff at each test center strictly adheres to a set of test-day procedures.

Test Center Current Address
The current address of your test center is available in the MCAT Registration System. On rare occasions, a test center address or location may change. If such an address change occurs, the AAMC or Pearson VUE will make every effort to notify you via email before your test date.

Plan ahead by locating the test center before test day. You will not be allowed to enter the testing center, but you will learn how to get there and how long it will take. Please note: Outside guests are not allowed in the testing center at any time.

Time Zones
Know what time zone your test center adheres to, especially if you are crossing a state or county line. It may be different from what you expect. For example, daylight savings time is not adhered to by all U.S. states or local regions within a state.

Inclement Weather and Other Test Center Closures
Unless otherwise notified, test centers will be open even in the event of inclement weather, and examinees will be expected to report for their appointments. You will receive an email from Pearson VUE or the AAMC if a test center is closed for any reason. Fees will not be refunded if you are delayed or unable to reach the test center, so please allow sufficient travel time to reach your test center safely. If you have questions or concerns about weather affecting your ability to reach the test site, please call the AAMC at 202-828-0600 in advance of your exam.
Arriving at the Test Center

Report to the test center at least 30 minutes before your exam start time to ensure you have enough time to check in, store your personal belongings, and prepare to test. If you arrive more than 30 minutes before your start time, the test center may not yet be open. If you arrive after your exam start time, you may not be allowed to test. There are no refunds granted for late arrivals or missed exams (“no-shows”).

Due to the nature of the check-in process, not all examinees will begin testing precisely at the scheduled start time. This will not affect your total testing time.

No-Shows

If you are late or do not sit for an exam you registered for, you will be considered a “no-show.” No-shows will not be reported to schools or programs to which you are applying, but they will count toward the maximum number of test attempts you are allowed (refer to “Testing Limits”).

Your scheduling fee will not be refunded if you are a no-show. This policy also applies to examinees who are not admitted due to improper identification or other policy violations.

Once you begin the exam, you are considered to have used one of your testing attempts even if you void or do not complete the test (refer to Voiding Your Exam.) A voided exam counts as one of your attempts, regardless of the reason.

A “no show” counts as one of your attempts, regardless of the reason.

Check-In Rules and Procedures

Examinees will be checked in and seated in the testing room one at a time by the test administrator. The check-in process consists of the following steps, although the order of the steps may vary slightly.

Review of Test Center Regulations

You will be presented with the AAMC Candidate Rules Agreement, which outlines the standard test center rules and regulations, for your review. In addition to the AAMC Candidate Rules Agreement, each testing center may have its own regulations regarding expectations of you while you are in that facility. Failing to comply with the AAMC Candidate Rules Agreement or test center regulations may result in the termination of your exam.

Verification of ID

To be admitted into the exam, you will need to provide an MCAT-accepted ID, as described earlier in this document. The test administrator may scan the ID, in whole or in part, and information stored digitally on the ID may be collected.

Digital Signature

You will be required to provide a digital signature during the check-in process. Your signature indicates your agreement to adhere to the AAMC Candidate Rules, is verification of your identity, and may also be used as part of the AAMC’s investigation procedures.
Palm Vein Scan
A scan of your palm veins will be taken at check-in. Palm vein biometric recognition examines the unique patterns in the veins of your palms using a safe, near-infrared light source like that in a TV remote control.

Palm vein recognition allows Pearson VUE to detect people trying to take exams under assumed tester identities. By preventing proxy testers, this technology helps Pearson VUE maintain the integrity of examinations, which maintains the validity of your MCAT scores.

Photo Capture
A digital passport-style photo of you will be captured during the check-in process. The test-day photo may also be used as part of the AAMC’s investigation procedures.

Storage of Personal Belongings
Unless authorized by the AAMC prior to your test date, all personal items must be stowed in the provided secure storage as directed by the test administrator. You will be required to store cell phones and small electronic devices in sealed bags given to you at the test center. The bag must remain sealed until a test administrator opens it at the conclusion of your exam. Neither the AAMC nor Pearson VUE will be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

The AAMC recommends you bring as few personal items as possible, including jewelry and watches, to the test center. You will be asked to remove these items on test day. You will also be required to turn out your pockets to demonstrate they are empty.

You may bring ONLY the following personal items into the testing room:
- Eyeglasses, subject to visual and physical inspection by test administrators.
- MCAT-accepted ID.
- Items provided by the test center:
  - Earplugs (personal earplugs are not allowed).
  - Storage key.
  - Noteboard booklet.
  - Fine-point marker.

No other items are permitted unless previously approved by the AAMC.

If you require an item in the testing room for medical reasons, you must obtain prior approval from the AAMC through the accommodations request process. (Refer to Testing With Accommodations.) If you believe you require an electronic medical device in the testing room due to a medical condition or disability, please review the MCAT Exam With Accommodations website and contact accommodations@aamc.org. You are encouraged to contact us as early as possible in advance of your test date to ensure we have enough time to review your request.

Personal items that appear suspicious may be photographed or confiscated.
Noteboard Booklets

You will be provided with a noteboard booklet for note taking during the exam. It contains nine 14-by-8.5-inch wet-erase pages.

Noteboard booklet usage and guidelines:

- The noteboard booklet must remain on your desk and in one piece.
- You may not:
  - Rip, tear, or separate the noteboard booklet.
  - Conceal or remove the booklet, in whole or in part, from the exam room, including during any breaks or at the end of the exam.
  - Wipe or erase any of your notes from the booklet.
  - Use your noteboard booklet upon returning from a break prior to beginning the next section.
- If you require an additional noteboard booklet during the exam, please raise your hand to alert the test administrator, who will exchange your original booklet for a new one.

Entering andExiting the Testing Room

Every time you enter the testing room, you will be asked to provide your ID and place your palms on the scanning device. You will also be required to pat yourself down to show the administrator you do not have any prohibited items in your clothing and to turn your pockets inside-out to show they are empty. You may be asked to remove sweaters or sweatshirts for inspection. If you refuse, you may not be allowed to test.

You will be required to begin your exam immediately upon sitting at your workstation. Due to the volume of examinees at your test center and check-in procedures, the actual start times will vary by individual.

Any time you wish to leave the testing room, whether you have completed your exam or wish to take a break, you must raise your hand to alert the test administrator and remain seated at your workstation until the test administrator escorts you out of the testing room. You will be required to provide your palm vein scan and/or ID every time you leave the testing room.

Test-Day Certification Statement

On test day, you will be presented with an on-screen Certification Statement at the start of your exam. The Certification Statement reminds you of the obligations under the Examinee Agreement and The MCAT Essentials to which you agreed when you registered for the exam. By clicking the circle indicating that you agree with the Certification Statement, you will be certifying that you have read and agree to abide by all rules and policies set forth in the Examinee Agreement and The MCAT Essentials. If you refuse to agree to the test-day Certification Statement, you will not be able to continue with the exam. The full text of the Certification Statement that you will see on test day is as follows:
In the Testing Room

- Your MCAT-accepted ID must be visible on your desk at all times.
- Time is counted down by section. If you finish a section early, you may continue to the next section, but additional time will not carry over to any subsequent sections or breaks. You will not be able to return to a previous section once it has been completed.
- You must follow all directions and verbal instructions provided by the testing staff.
- Test administrators constantly monitor the testing room. Each exam station is monitored and recorded via closed-circuit digital video recording.
- If you require assistance or encounter a problem while taking the exam, raise your hand immediately. The test administrator will come to you and, if needed, may escort you out of the testing room.
Breaks, Food, and Drink

The MCAT exam contains two optional 10-minute breaks and one optional 30-minute mid-exam break. If you take an unscheduled break at any other time, your testing time will not stop. You will be responsible for tracking your break time using the clock in the test center waiting area. If you do not see a clock, you may ask the test center staff where you can monitor your time. Test center staff are not responsible for recording or tracking your time.

Should you finish a content section early, you must end that section before you take your scheduled break. Any remaining time in the section may not be used to extend any subsequent sections or breaks.

If you return from a break before the break time expires, you will be required to continue the exam immediately upon being seated. Any remaining break time will not be applied to subsequent sections of the exam or future or scheduled breaks.

Follow the exam schedule carefully. (Refer to MCAT Exam Content.) Taking breaks longer than the allotted time can lead to loss of exam time or ability to void the exam. If your break exceeds the allotted time, any overage may be subtracted from the time you have to take the following test section. You will need to allow time for check-in procedures when you return from your break.

You are permitted to bring your own food and drinks; however, these items must be stored outside the testing room in your assigned locker or other storage provided to you at the test center. You may access them on your breaks. You will not be permitted to leave the test center floor or building to retrieve food or drink, nor will you be permitted to have food or drink delivered to the testing center. There are no microwaves or refrigerators available in the test centers for your use.

Scoring or Voiding Your Exam

On test day, you have the option to void your MCAT exam if you do not want your test to be scored. When you finish your exam, you will see the screen below.

![MCAT Exam Scoring or Voiding Screen](image-url)
You will have ONE opportunity to score or void your exam. Once you select “Next” to submit your selection, your decision is final. Voiding or scoring cannot be reversed after the exam.

Please note:

- If you do not want your exam scored, you must select “I wish to VOID my MCAT exam” when prompted on your computer screen. Notifying the test administrator of your intent to void your exam is not sufficient. If you are not presented with the void-exam question, ask the test administrator to file a report before leaving the test center, and submit a Test Center Concern for the situation to be investigated.

- If you must leave before completing your exam due to illness or unforeseen circumstances, the AAMC advises you to click through your exam in order to void it. Otherwise, you must ask the test administrator to file a report before you leave the test center, and, after you leave the test center, you must submit a Test Center Concern so the AAMC may void your exam for you.

- Failure to properly void your exam may result in the release of your incomplete scores. These scores cannot be removed from your testing history.

- If you do not make a selection when presented with the void-exam question before time expires, the AAMC will presume your intention is to score your exam, and your exam will be scored.

What Happens After You Void Your Exam?

- Information from voided exams is not included on score reports sent to medical schools. Indication of a voided exam will be displayed in the MCAT Score Reporting System after the scheduled score release date for only you to see.

- A voided exam does count toward your testing limits. (Refer to Testing Limits.)

- Voiding an exam is not grounds for a refund.

- Your score or void decision will be included in the confirmation letter you receive from the test administrator.

- The AAMC Services Contact Center may not have the information about your decision to score or void your exam until at least five days after the test date.

After the Exam

After you complete your exam and are escorted out of the testing room, you must hand the test administrator your sealed digital device bag(s) to be opened, present your ID again to the test administrator, and return all materials supplied by the test center. After returning these items, a test administrator will provide you with a completion confirmation letter. This letter is for your records and is proof that you sat for and completed the exam.

Registering for Another Test Date

There is a 24-hour waiting period once you complete your MCAT exam before you are permitted to register for another exam through the MCAT Registration System. Any attempts to register for another exam before the MCAT Registration System makes that option available to you, such as using a new or different AAMC ID, is a violation of MCAT policies that may be subject to the AAMC’s investigation procedures.
Once the waiting period is complete, the MCAT Registration System will allow you to register or schedule another test date.

**Testing Irregularities**

The MCAT exam is a standardized test, which requires that certain aspects of the exam remain constant across the entire testing population, including, but not limited to, the number of questions, the subject areas covered, the difficulty of the exam overall, and the conditions under which the test is administered. In the rare event an irregularity occurs that results in one of the standardized aspects of your exam being altered to an extent that you may have been unfairly impaired or advantaged, the AAMC may, at its sole discretion, cancel your scores. In such cases, the raw or scaled score will not be disclosed to you, medical schools, or any other interested parties. The AAMC will make every effort to find you a test date to retake your exam. If you wish to retake your exam, you will be required to retake it in full. In cases where rescheduling is not possible, especially late in the testing year when fewer opportunities remain, your registration fee will be fully refunded. The fee CANNOT be applied toward a future testing year.

The AAMC and Pearson VUE will not reimburse or compensate for lost wages, travel expenses, or other costs associated with taking the MCAT exam.

**Issues Preventing Completion or Scoring of Your Exam**

If you are unable to complete your exam due to workstation outages, power outages, or other test-day issues, you are encouraged to submit a Test Center Concern.

**If an Error Occurs**

The AAMC takes great care to ensure registrations are properly processed and exams are properly prepared, handled, and scored. In the unlikely event that an error occurs, the AAMC will, if possible, correct it. In cases where the test administration service is not delivered or completed, the AAMC may permit you to either retest at no additional fee or receive a partial or full refund of the registration fee. Please note, the remedies described within this section are the exclusive remedies available for errors in registrations, exam information, scoring (including score reporting), testing disruptions, or potential compromises to exam content by one or more examinees through prior access.

**Reporting a Test Center Concern**

Whether you tested with accommodations or had a standard exam, if you believe that test center conditions interfered with your performance on the exam and you wish to have the AAMC investigate what occurred, you must:

- Ask the test administrator to file a case report **at the time the incident occurs**.
  - The test center is not responsible for researching or resolving any problem(s) you experienced (only the AAMC can do that); however, filing the case report the day of the exam is highly recommended to allow the AAMC to act on your Test Center Concern.
  - Ask the test administrator to provide you with the case report number. Please include this in your Test Center Concern.
  - If you do not ask the test administrator to witness and document your concern at the time the problem occurs, the AAMC may be limited in the available information to research your test center concern.
• Submit the MCAT Test Center Concern form through the MCAT Registration System no later than five calendar days after your exam. Concerns received after five calendar days or sent via other channels will not be investigated.

An MCAT Test Center Concern submitted within five calendar days of your exam will receive a written response via email detailing the findings of the investigation. Investigations are typically concluded before the exam score release date. If a testing irregularity is confirmed, you may provide the AAMC’s written response to any interested party as documentation of the incident.

Your score may be held until the investigation is fully concluded. If your score is on “hold,” you will not be able to view or release your score until the investigation is complete. The MCAT program will not report your score over the phone or by email.

In the event of a confirmed test center problem, the AAMC will not reverse your decision to void or score your exam. If it is determined that a testing irregularity occurred that invalidates a score, the AAMC reserves the right to cancel your score. You will receive verbal and written communication if such an instance occurs.

Additionally, if you complete the exam and submit it for scoring despite the occurrence of a testing irregularity, you are not eligible for a refund or a free retest.

Below is an example of a Test Center Concern form from the MCAT Registration System website:
Test Question Challenges

Please notify the AAMC no later than five calendar days after your exam if you believe a question was flawed, ambiguous, redundant, or repetitive.

You may submit an MCAT Test Question Challenge through the MCAT Registration System. Challenges received after five calendar days will not be investigated.

The AAMC will provide a written response via email to test question challenges submitted in a timely manner. You may expect a written response within two to three weeks from the date we receive your correspondence.

Discussion of the MCAT Exam

The AAMC developed guidelines to help you understand the prohibition on disclosure of exam content and how you may appropriately share your exam experience.

What IS permitted:

- Commenting on your general exam experience, such as test center conditions or how you felt about a particular test section.
- Describing the exam with the same level of detail as in the What’s on the MCAT Exam? content outline.

What is NOT permitted:

- Describing in more specific detail than in the What’s on the MCAT Exam? content outline: exam questions, passages, graphics, incorrect responses, correct answers, topic lists, and frequency and order of exam topics.
- Outlining the steps or process to answer a question.
- Speculating about which questions are field-test or experimental questions.
- Assisting anyone else in doing any of the above.

While you may read or hear other guidelines inconsistent with these statements, keep in mind that the information contained herein, and in the binding MCAT Examinee Agreement, is directly from the AAMC. By following these guidelines, it is possible to share your MCAT experience without committing a violation.
MCAT Scores

Exam Scoring

You will receive a separate score for each of the four sections of the MCAT exam, as well as a total score.

- Your raw score on each of the four multiple-choice sections is based on the numbers of questions you answer correctly in each section. There is no penalty for guessing.
- The raw score for each section is then converted to a scaled score ranging from 118 (lowest) to 132 (highest).
- Your total scaled score is the sum of the four individual section scores and will range from 472 to 528.
- Every test form of the MCAT exam measures the same basic concepts and skills. However, each form is different in the specific questions it uses. While care is taken to make sure that the forms are equivalent in difficulty, one form may be slightly more or less difficult than another. The conversion of raw scores to scaled scores, through a process called equating, compensates for small variations in difficulty between sets of questions and ensures that scores have the same meaning, no matter when you test or who tests at the same time you did.
- A percentile rank is reported along with each section and total score. The percentile ranks of scores are the percentages of test-takers who received the same score as or lower scores than
you did. Updates to the percentile ranks will be made on May 1 each year. The percentile ranks will be updated with all examinees’ scores from the most recent three years.

For additional information on exam scoring, including a short video and an example of a score report, please visit our MCAT scores webpage.

Receiving and Sending Scores

Your test scores will be available for viewing no later than 5 p.m. ET on the day of the score release for your exam. You can view your scores by signing in to the MCAT Score Reporting System. You will not see your recent exam date(s) in the history section of the MCAT Score Reporting System until scores are released. Refer to 2022 Calendars, Scheduling Deadlines, and Score Release Dates for tentative release dates.

AAMC staff will not provide scores over the phone or via email or fax. The AAMC is not responsible for any claims for damages resulting from delayed transmission of test scores for any reason.

Score Reporting Through Your AMCAS Application

If you are applying to medical school through the American Medical College Application Service, your scores are automatically pulled into your application as soon as they are released, regardless of application status. No action is necessary on your part.

Since April 2003, the AAMC has followed a full-disclosure policy. Under a “full disclosure policy,” all tests taken from April 2003 onward will be included in score reports or be made available through your AMCAS application. Scores from exams taken before 2003 will also be included in your AMCAS application if they were previously released to AMCAS.

To contact AMCAS, email amcas@aamc.org or call 202-828-0600.

Score Reporting Through the MCAT Score Reporting System

The MCAT Score Reporting System (SRS) can be used to send your scores electronically to participating programs or application services other than AMCAS. Alternately, you can also print official score reports to send to whomever you wish. Printed official score reports can be verified online using a unique verification URL found on the resulting PDF. Both features are accessible under the “My Reports” menu within the SRS and are available to you at no additional charge.

Consistent with our full disclosure policy referenced in the previous section, all tests for which you received a score from April 2003 and beyond will be included in electronic score reports. If you elected for an exam to be scored, you cannot exclude that score from the score report or send an individual score to a program through the SRS. Once you request your scores be sent to institutions through the SRS, all scores in your score report will be released to the authorized institutions. Additionally, any new scores released in the following year (365 days) after your request to send scores to an institution will be automatically transmitted to the authorized institution as they become available. History of your requests, including where you requested your scores be sent and the date of your request(s), can be accessed via the “Scores Sent to Institutions” report under the “My Reports” menu in the MCAT SRS.

It is ultimately an examinee’s responsibility to make sure MCAT scores are received by authorized third-party programs or application services. False or inaccurate claims made to the AAMC, any institution, or
any other entity related to scores or their submission to various entities is a violation of AAMC policy that is subject to investigation procedures.

Rescoring

The process to compute and report MCAT scores is rigorous, and the AAMC conducts a variety of quality control procedures to verify score accuracy. The possibility for error in the scoring process is extremely low. However, if you believe that a scoring error has been made, you may request that your answers be independently rescored by hand to double-check the accuracy of your scores.

To request a rescore, you may submit an MCAT Rescore Request through the MCAT Registration System no later than 30 calendar days after the score release date. After submitting a Rescore Request, you will receive an invoice for payment via email. A Rescore Request is not complete until full payment is received. The price associated with a Rescore Request is $65 for the 2022 testing year.

The AAMC will respond to your email request within three weeks of its receipt. The response letter will either confirm your original scores as reported or inform you of the corrected scaled scores for each test section. We will not disclose your raw scores or provide any additional feedback on your exam performance or experience.

Contacting Us

AAMC customer service specialists are available to assist you with the registration process, test-day procedures, and score reporting. To help ensure resolution of your question or concern before your test date, contact us no later than the 10-day deadline associated with your test date. Please allow up to two business days for a reply to your email.

MCAT Program
AAMC
655 K St. NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20001-2399

Telephone: 202-828-0600

Contact Form: aamc.org/contactmcat

Hours:
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.–7 p.m. ET
Closed Wednesday, 3-5 p.m. ET

On MCAT test days, staff are available at a minimum from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. ET.

These hours are subject to change. Please visit the MCAT website for the most up-to-date information.