Navigating the 2022 AMCAS Application Cycle

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Agenda

• AMCAS Application
  • AMCAS Process
  • 2022 Dates and Participation
  • 2022 Application

• Verification

• After Submission

• AMCAS Letter Service
  • The Letter Writer Application
  • Letter Guidelines

• Resources
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
# 2022 Application Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 7</td>
<td>2022 AMCAS resources available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>AMCAS application opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>AMCAS application submission begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 25</td>
<td>Initial transmission of application data to medical schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2</td>
<td>Early Decision Program deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept.-Dec.</td>
<td>Application deadlines</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Dates subject to change

**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 2 for early decision applicants.
- Visit [www.aamc.org/amcasdeadlines](http://www.aamc.org/amcasdeadlines)
# 2022 AMCAS Participation

## Tentative 2022 Participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>152 Schools/Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application</td>
<td>All MD granting schools in the United States with the exception of MD programs at Texas public schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMCAS Letters</td>
<td>152 Schools/Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Background Checks</td>
<td>129 Schools/Programs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 2022 AMCAS Application Fees:

- $170 processing fee (includes one school designation)
- $42 for each additional school

[aamc.org/amcas](http://aamc.org/amcas)
Accessing the Application
AAMC Registration

Applicants should only complete registration if they do not have an AAMC ID.
My AAMC Profile

AAMC Profile

AAMC ID
212132880

Save & Continue to Application

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
Select “2022 Application Cycle”
AMCAS Main Menu
AMCAS Main Menu
AMCAS Main Menu

Quick Links

ACADEMIC CHANGE REQUEST | UPDATE ADVISOR RELEASE

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)
Review AMCAS transcript processing timelines

My Document Statuses

Transcripts (0) You have no transcripts attached to your application
Letters of Evaluation (0) You have no letters attached to your application

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

VIEW ALL DOCUMENT STATUS
Application Sections

1. Identifying Information
2. Schools Attended
3. Biographic Information
4. Coursework
5. Work and Activities
6. Letters of Evaluation
7. Medical Schools
8. Essays
9. Standardized Tests
Identifying Information
Schools Attended
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
Schools Attended
Biographic Information

Preferred Address

Country *
Select Country

Address 1 *
Street number and name

City *

Day Phone *

Evening Phone

Email *

Fax
Coursework

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.
Coursework

You should use a personal copy of your official transcript to complete this section.
Coursework Tips

• Include plus or minus grades.
• The AMCAS academic year begins with the summer term.
• Include your Physical Education courses.
• Have course descriptions available when entering course classifications and review the course classification chart thoroughly.
• If you applied in a previous year, update your final grades.
• Include your original alpha grade for all attempts of a repeated course.
Coursework: Things to Avoid!

- If your transcript shows letter grades do not enter numeric grades or quality points in the grade field.

- Do not enter the course number as the course name.
  - For example: *BIO 101 Intro to Biology* should be entered as Course Name: *Intro to Biology* and Course Name: *BIO 101* NOT Course Name “BIO” Course Number “101”.

- Do not enter special symbols or characters when entering the courses name and course number.

- Do not enter your summer courses in the wrong year.
  - For example: If your course was taken in the summer of 2020 it goes in AY 2020-2021 in the AMCAS application.
Coursework: Things to Avoid!

• **Do not** classify Physics classes as Natural Physical Science. The classification for Physics courses is as **Physics (PHYS)**.

• If any course has both a lecture and a lab component, **do not** list both grades in a single entry.
  • For example: Biology Lecture  B+ Biology Lab C+ **do not enter** Biology B+/C+

• Do not omit withdrawals or repeated courses.

• Do not forget to add Advanced Placement courses.

• If your application is returned for 10+ missing courses, do not omit any courses when you resubmit.
Work/Activities

- Maximum of 15 entries
- You can enter additional date ranges for repeated activities
- Maximum of 3 “Most Meaningful”
Ask an Admission Officer

How can I stand out with my work and activities?

- This is a common question and many activities and experiences will be similar amongst medical school applicants because there are common themes to experiences that many will have gone through – direct patient experiences, service, research for example.
- Include clinical and non-clinical activities – especially activities where students have led projects and/or people. Most medical schools desire to see leadership, teamwork, and experiences working with diverse populations.

Are there required activities?

- Some schools have required experiences and it is important to review the respective websites for this information.

Any advice for non-traditional applicants when completing work and activities?

- In the narrative, explain how the work/activities has been formative in your nontraditional journey to medicine.
- Being able to write about and/or talk about how your experiences as a non-traditional student has shaped/impacted your pursuit of medicine.
Ask an Admission Officer

How are work and activities being reviewed given COVID impacts?
  • Admissions committees understand that the pandemic has effected applicants ability to participate in their activities, with modifications to these experiences or perhaps not being able to do them at all. Holistic review for the coming cycles of applicants will allow admissions committees to take into account the change.

How should I describe my work and activities to cover what schools are looking for?
  • Keep the frame of mind that you are applying to medical school. How does this experience impact my future profession in medicine?
  • Be mindful that medical schools are trying to determine how you have tested out your decision of pursuing medicine as well as evaluating/learning about other things that were a priority during your undergrad/graduate education.

How do you view work and activates as part of the complete application?
  • Your work and activities are a critical part of the application in telling admissions committees how you have been spending your time during the years prior to applying to medical school.
Letters of Evaluation

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

You should be sure to select the correct program type and be mindful of program and transcript deadlines.
AAMC SJT Exam 2021 Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical School</th>
<th>2021 Admissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine</td>
<td>Strongly Recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morehouse School of Medicine</td>
<td>Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Alabama - Birmingham School of Medicine</td>
<td>Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Minnesota School of Medicine - Twin Cities campus</td>
<td>Strongly Recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of California Davis School of Medicine</td>
<td>Strongly Recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Des Moines University Medicine and Health Sciences</td>
<td>Strongly Recommended</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The AAMC Situational Judgment Test (SJT) is a standardized exam that presents a series of hypothetical scenarios students may encounter in medical school and asks examinees to evaluate the effectiveness of a series of behavioral responses to each scenario.

Upcoming webinar: Everything you Need to Know to Prepare for the 2021 AAMC Situational Judgment Test, on Tuesday, May 4 at 2:30 p.m. ET

aamc.elevate.commpartners.com/upcoming-webinars

Registration is OPEN! aamc.org/sjt
Essay

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.

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.

(5,300 characters left of 5,300)
Essay

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).

Significant Research Hours

- Please enter your total hours of prior research experience.*

Significant Research Essay

If your research resulted in a publication on which you were an author, please provide the full citation in the Work/Activities section of your application.

Please describe your significant research experiences. In your statement, please specify your research supervisor’s name and affiliation, the duration of the experience, the nature of the problem studied, and your contributions to the project.*

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

- Proofread your application
- Check for spelling errors
- Read it BACKWARDS
- Read it “Out Loud”
- Be wary – Don’t name the wrong school in any interview related communications or secondaries (if applicable)
- Have mentors and loved ones review it
- Make sure that it’s your statement – though others might have suggestions, the final document is yours and must reflect your reason(s) for pursuing medicine
Essay Do’s and Don’ts

DO

• Make sure your statement addresses your reason(s) for wanting to pursue medicine
• Have a lot of people review it – friends, colleagues, mentors, letter writers
• Be mindful that “all” medical schools will receive the same AMCAS application
• Check and re-check for grammatical and spelling issues – your application is your first impression

DON’T

• Speak in generalities
• Be informal
• Include/restate everything in your activities section in your personal statement
• Make your statement “too personal” – you must be able to talk about the personal statement contents in an interview
Ask an Admission Officer

What elements make a stand out personal statement?
- When you learn something about a candidate that you didn’t find in any other part of the application. An idea of the ‘person’ in the personal statement.
- If after reading the essay, I can answer the question – Why medicine?

What are schools/admissions officers looking for in a personal statement?
- An opportunity to get to know the application in a less structured way, through their own words.

How do you view the personal statement as part of the complete application?
- A very important part of the application!
  - To allow your activities/experiences to come together in telling your narrative/journey story.
  - In most cases, it’s a starting point for at least a part of the interview. Some questions will come from what has been shared as a part of the personal statement.
Standardized Tests

MCAT scores are automatically released to your application.

Applicants should indicate any future MCAT testing dates.

aamc.org/mcat
MCAT Scores

Score breakdowns and confidence bands will appear in the application.
Last step of application: certify data is accurate, submit, and pay processing fee.
AMCAS Verification Process

Transcripts
- All required official transcripts must be received 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 on the AMCAS application sign in page
AMCAS Verification

Average number of business days to complete verification

- 2021AY
- 2020AY
- 2019AY
- 2018AY

June      July       Aug         Sept         Oct         Nov         Dec
Application Reminders

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

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

CBC Schedule

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

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

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

- AMCAS Applicant Guide
- AMCAS Application Workbook
- Application and Acceptance Protocols
- Video Tutorials
- Twitter
  - @AMCASinfo

aamc.org/amcas
Agenda

• AMCAS Application
  • AMCAS Process
  • 2022 Dates and Participation
  • 2022 Application

• Verification

• After Submission
  • AMCAS Letter Service
    • The Letter Writer Application
    • Letter Guidelines

• Resources
Letters of Evaluation

Submission Methods:

• AMCAS Letter Writer Application
• Interfolio

Medical schools receive letters electronically, on a rolling basis after an application is verified

aamc.org/amcasletters
Letters of Evaluation

Letters of Evaluation Received, 2017AY – 2021AY
AMCAS Letter Writer Application

Welcome to the AMCAS Letter Writer Application

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

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

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 AAS, AMCAS, MCAT Tm, 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.

services.aamc.org/letterwriter/
Letter Writer Guidelines

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
AAMC Fee Assistance Program

Aspiring physicians can save up to $2,000

- 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

Benefits are NOT Retroactive
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)
Program Eligibility

• Tied to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' poverty level guidelines

• Requires parental financial information and supporting tax documentation
# Income Eligibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Size</th>
<th>Contiguous States, District of Columbia &amp; U.S. Territories</th>
<th>Alaska</th>
<th>Hawaii</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$51,040</td>
<td>$63,800</td>
<td>$58,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$68,960</td>
<td>$86,200</td>
<td>$79,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$86,880</td>
<td>$108,600</td>
<td>$99,920</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$104,800</td>
<td>$131,000</td>
<td>$120,520</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$122,720</td>
<td>$153,400</td>
<td>$141,120</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$140,640</td>
<td>$175,800</td>
<td>$161,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>$158,560</td>
<td>$198,200</td>
<td>$182,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$176,480</td>
<td>$220,600</td>
<td>$202,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8+</td>
<td>$4,480 for each additional person</td>
<td>$5,600 for each additional person.</td>
<td>$5,150 for each additional person</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Income Guidelines are based on the number of family members. For additional family members, the income guidelines increase by $4,480 for each additional person in the contiguous states, District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories, $5,600 for each additional person in Alaska, and $5,150 for each additional person in Hawaii.
How the Fee Assistance Program Helped

- Waived secondary fees
- Scholarships
- Interview expenses

aamc.org/howfaphelped
2021 Fee Assistance Program

aamc.org/fap
AAMC Fee Assistance Program

• What You Need to Apply
• 2021 Fee Assistance Program Essentials
• Fee Assistance Program FAQ’s

202-828-0600
fap@aamc.org
@AMCASinfo
AAMC Premed Navigator

Monthly e-newsletter for applicants and helpful web content.

students-residents.aamc.org/navigator
Anatomy of an Applicant

- Core Competencies
- Student Profiles

Medical schools consider more than your grades and scores. There are 15 Core Competencies 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.

aamc.org/competencies
Contact Us

The AAMC is here to help you navigate the 2022 AMCAS® application cycle.

202-828-0600
AMCAS Contact us
@AMCASinfo
Good luck!

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