

Everything you need to know about the MCAT exam as a new advisor

NAAHP Regional Meetings
2023

Association of American Medical Colleges

- Represents over 150 medical schools in the United States and Canada, about 400 teaching hospitals, and nearly 80 academic societies
- Supports the mission areas of academic medicine: Medical Education, Patient Care, and Medical Research
- Supports learners throughout their medical education journey and careers



Agenda

- About the MCAT® exam
- MCAT® scores
- MCAT® preparation resources
- Registration, scheduling, and exam day
- Resources
- Q&A

About the MCAT Exam



The MCAT Exam

Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)

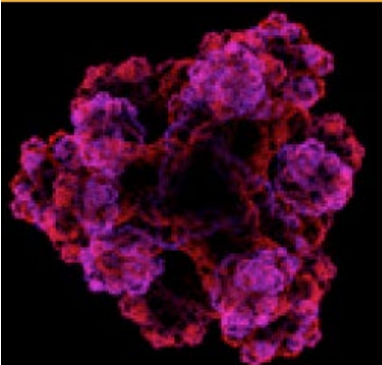
- Standardized, multiple-choice
- Required by almost all U.S. & many Canadian medical schools
- Assesses:
 - Problem solving and reasoning
 - Critical thinking
 - Knowledge of scientific concepts



Exam content

Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems Section

59 Questions



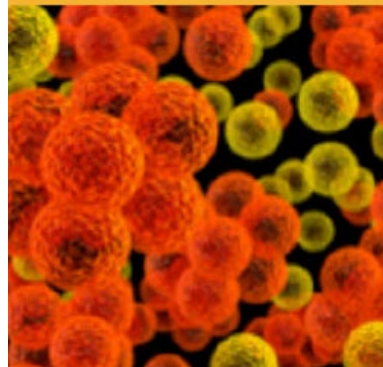
Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills Section

53 Questions



Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems Section

59 Questions



Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior Section

59 Questions

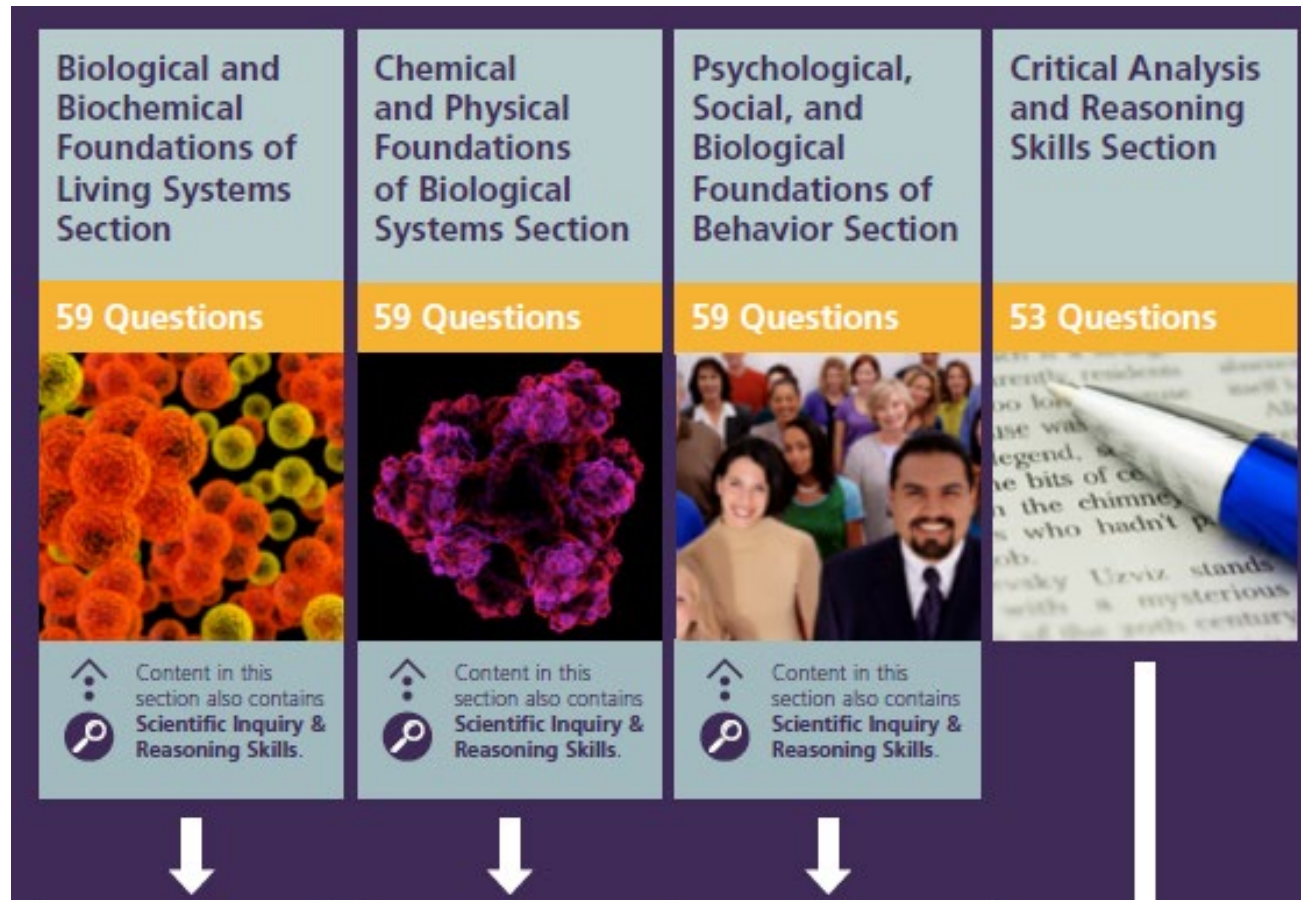
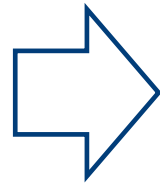


Concepts Tested can be Found in...

- Introductory Biology, Physics, Psychology and Sociology
- General Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Biochemistry



How is the exam organized



4 Skills Demonstrated

- Knowledge of Scientific Principles
- Scientific Reasoning and Problem-Solving
- Reasoning about the Design and Execution of Research
- Data-Based Statistical Reasoning

Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills

Critical Analysis
and Reasoning
Skills Section

53 Questions

- Tests reasoning & comprehension
- Passages from humanities & social science disciplines:
 - Philosophy
 - Ethics
 - Population health
 - Studies of diverse cultures



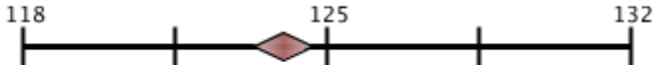


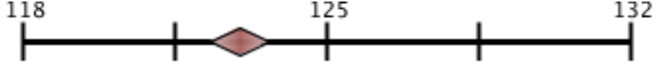


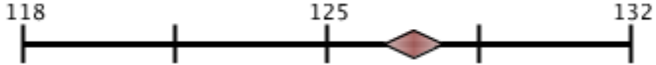


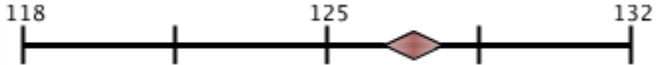

No disciplinary knowledge required

MCAT Scores



MCAT score report

- Scores are received 30-35 days after test day
- Accessed through the MCAT Score Reporting System
- Can submit application before taking the exam by indicating test date in AMCAS

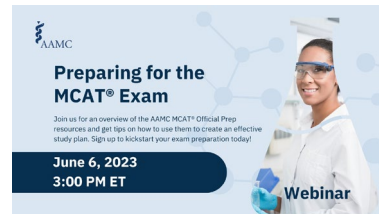
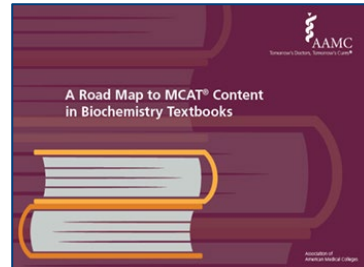
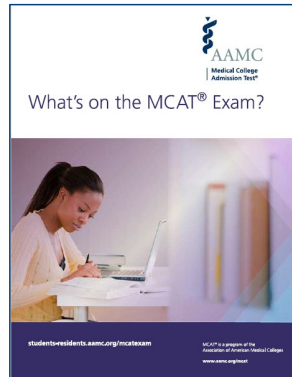
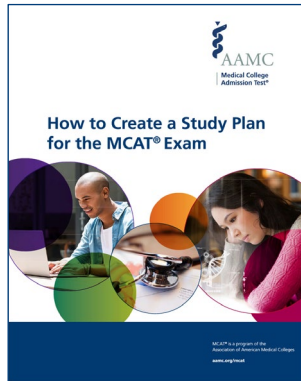
Section	Score	Confidence Band	Percentile Rank of Score	Score Profile
Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems 	124	123  125	42%	
Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills 	123	122  124	35%	
Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems 	127	126  128	71%	
Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior 	127	126  128	64%	
MCAT Total Score	501	499  503	48%	

MCAT Preparation for Students

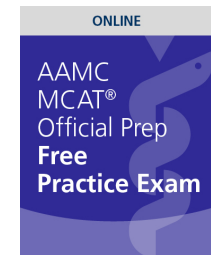
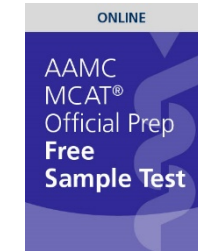
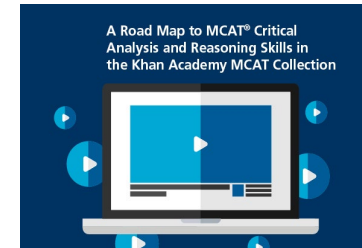
MCAT Official Prep Resources

Free Study Resources

Planning



Practice



FREE



- Study Plan Guide, Preparing for the MCAT Exam Webinars, Content Outline, Road Maps
- **>1000 videos** and **3000 questions** in the Khan Academy's MCAT collection

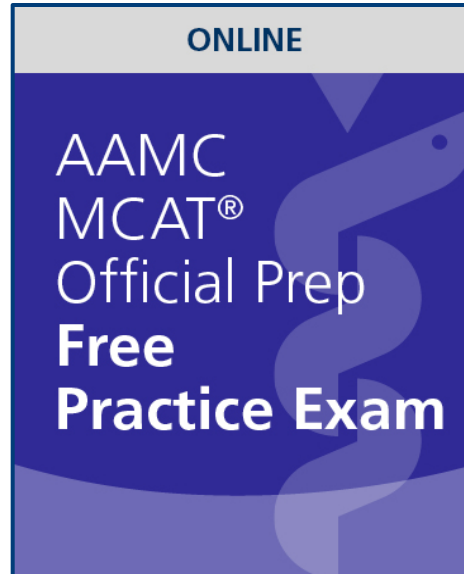
www.aamc.org/mcatprep



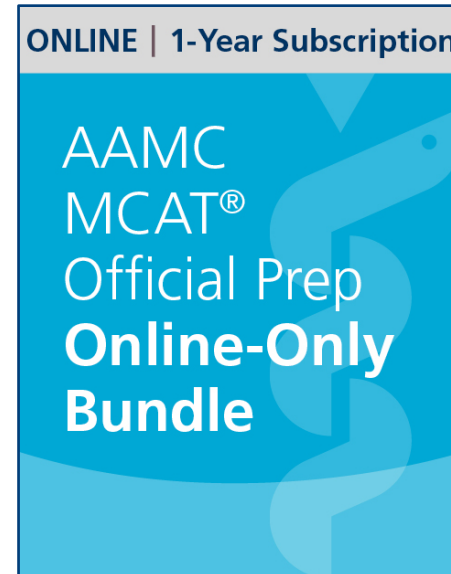
MCAT Official Prep Resources



**Free Sample Test
(unscored)**



**Free Practice
Exam (scored)**

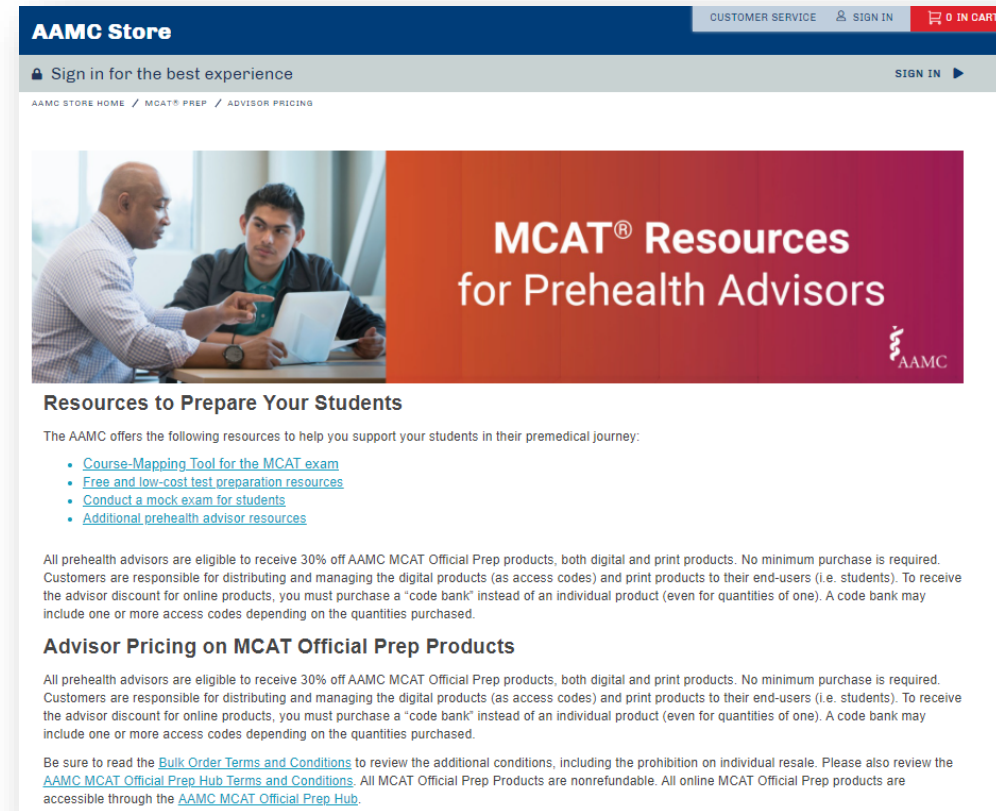


Online Bundle with all 14 online products

- 6 full-length practice exams
- 8 question sets
- Discounted pricing for students and advisors
- Free for Fee Assistance awardees

30% Discount on Preparation Products

- Prehealth advisors receive **30% off** all online practice products and *The Official Guide to the MCAT® Exam*.
- New advisor? Complete the Contact Form to receive the discount before purchasing.




The screenshot shows the AAMC Store website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with "AAMC Store", "CUSTOMER SERVICE", "SIGN IN", and "0 IN CART". Below the navigation bar, there is a sign-in prompt: "Sign in for the best experience" with a "SIGN IN" button. The main content area features a banner for "MCAT® Resources for Prehealth Advisors" with an image of two people looking at a laptop. Below the banner, the text reads "Resources to Prepare Your Students" and "The AAMC offers the following resources to help you support your students in their premedical journey:". A list of resources is provided: "Course-Mapping Tool for the MCAT exam", "Free and low-cost test preparation resources", "Conduct a mock exam for students", and "Additional prehealth advisor resources". Below the list, there is a section titled "Advisor Pricing on MCAT Official Prep Products" which states that prehealth advisors are eligible for a 30% discount on AAMC MCAT Official Prep products, both digital and print. It also mentions that customers are responsible for distributing and managing digital products and that a "code bank" must be purchased for online products. At the bottom, there is a note to read the "Bulk Order Terms and Conditions" and "AAMC MCAT Official Prep Hub Terms and Conditions".

www.aamc.org/mcatadvisors

Prepare a Mock Exam Day

- Reserve a quiet room
- Computer and internet connection for each student
- One full-length practice exam for each student

Prepare a Mock Exam Day
Advisor Checklist



AAMC
| Medical College Admission Test

Note: These checklists were created before the COVID-19 pandemic. Please review the MCAT exam's health and safety guidelines for additional information on test-day procedures. You may also email your questions to advisors@aamc.org (prehealth advisors) or mcatsprep@aamc.org (examinees).

- Identify students who would benefit from mock exam day.**
 - Invite students and determine the number of committed participants.
 - Ask the participating students which AAMC MCAT Official Prep full-length practice tests they've already taken, if any.
- Reserve a room.**
 - Reserve an 8.5-hour block (7.5 hours for the exam, 1 hour for setup and cleanup).
 - Select a room that has a computer with internet connection for each student. If you would like your students to print a score report at the end of the day, select a room equipped with a printer.
- Select one full-length MCAT Official Prep practice exam for each participating student.**
 - Every student will need a full-length practice exam they have not taken before. The AAMC offers two free full-length practice exams: the Free Sample Test and the Free Practice Exam. Students can access these in the MCAT Official Prep Hub from [aamc.org/mcatprep](https://www.aamc.org/mcatprep) using their AAMC login.
 - Besides the two free full-length exams, the AAMC offers four more full-length exams for sale in the [AAMC store](#). Advisors receive a [30% discount on all MCAT Official Prep products](#). You can order any of the AAMC MCAT Official Prep full-length practice tests on behalf of your students at the discounted rate.

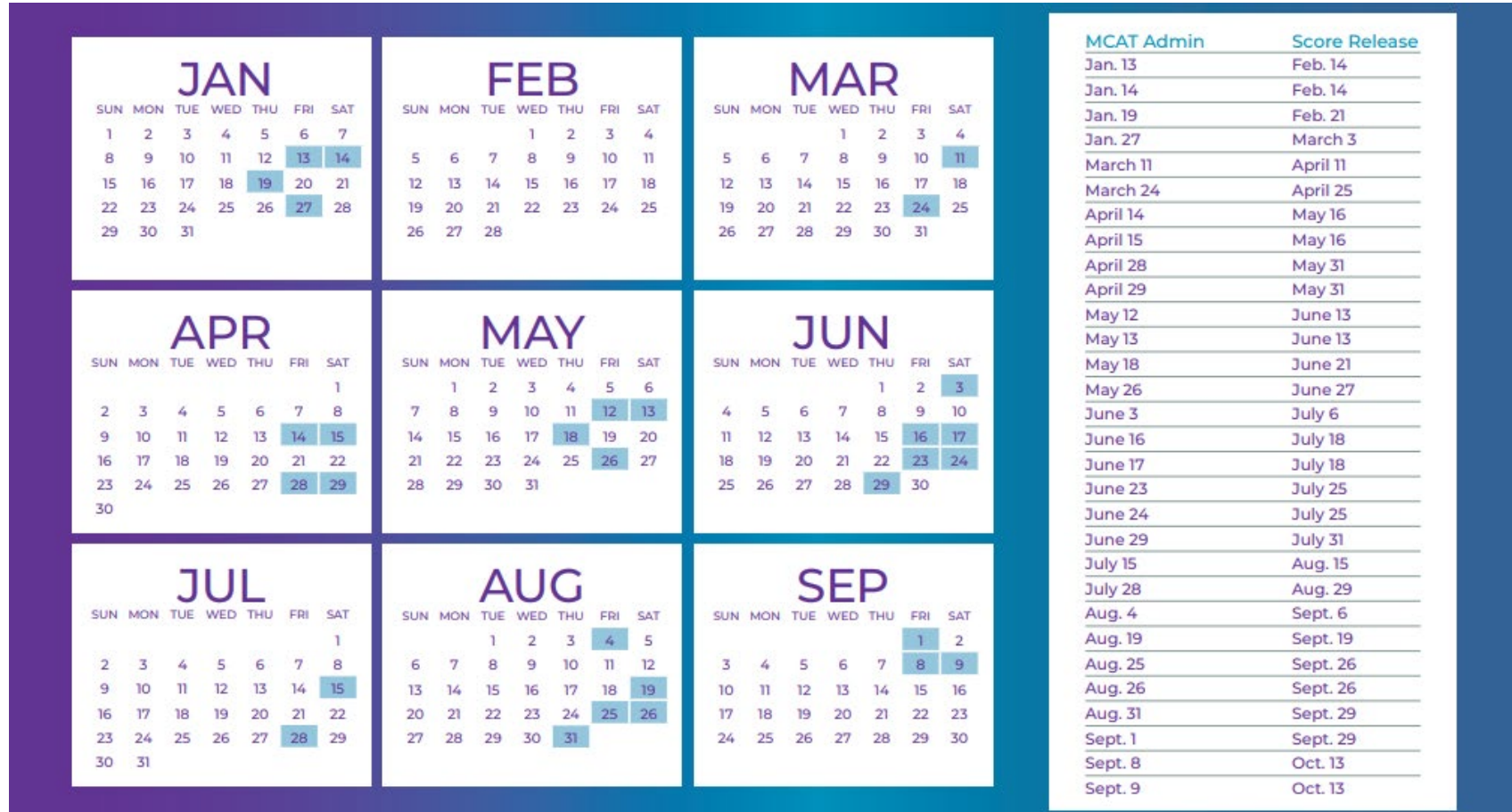
www.aamc.org/mcatadvisors

Registration and Scheduling



Review the MCAT Testing Calendar

MCAT testing year runs January – September (30 dates)



Selecting a date

- When do they want to apply to medical school?
- Will they want to leave the option for retesting?
- Do they understand and feel comfortable with the content tested?

Applying for AAMC Fee Assistance

The AAMC's Fee Assistance Program helps those with financial need. It defrays the cost of preparing for and taking the MCAT exam and applying to medical school

Deadlines

- Application is open now.
- Typically opens in February and closes in December.

Eligibility

- Open to everyone with a U.S.-based address can apply.
- Family household income must be 400 percent or less than the 2022 national poverty level for that family size.

Important to Know!

- Parental information required for students under age 26
- Benefits are not retroactive. Apply at least 10 days in advance of when a student plans to use the benefits
- Benefits are good from date of approval and expire the next calendar on Dec. 31



www.aamc.org/fap

Applying for AAMC Fee Assistance



Benefits

- Reduced MCAT registration fees
- Access to all 15 online AAMC MCAT Official Prep Products
- Stipend for updated evaluation for MCAT accommodations
- AMCAS application submission fee waiver (up to 20 schools)
- Complimentary access to the Medical School Admission Requirements (MSAR) website
- Registration is free for PREview

www.aamc.org/fap

Testing with Accommodations

The AAMC is committed to providing all individuals with an opportunity to demonstrate their proficiency on the MCAT exam, including ensuring access to persons with disabilities

- **About 1.5%** test with accommodations
- **Commonly provided** accommodations include:
 - Extra testing time
 - Extra break time
 - Separate testing rooms
- **MCAT Accommodations Online System (MAO)**
 - Allows examinees to submit applications and documentation online for secure and efficient processing
 - Stores all decision letters for easy access in the future

accommodations@aamc.org

Registration is open for all dates in 2023

We host an annual webinar at the start of each testing year.

Important to Know

- Last testing date in 2023 is September 10.
- Students can't reschedule into the next testing year.
- Rescheduling and cancellation fees apply.



Annual MCAT Webinar for Prehealth Advisors
September 29, 2022

Moderator:
Jennifer Antonio, Senior Director, MCAT Business Operations

Speakers:
Katherine Ford, Manager of MCAT Administration
Kara Gwaltney, Director of MCAT Security
Lauren Bauser, Product Manager Director of MCAT Preparation

Click to watch the [webinar recording](#).

MCAT Scheduling Tips for Your Students

- **Available Appointment Notification Request**
 - Helps examinees secure preferred test date and location if it becomes available
 - Can have up to 5 notification requests
- **When possible, reschedule/cancel an exam early**
 - Helps students who are on the notification lists secure exam appointments



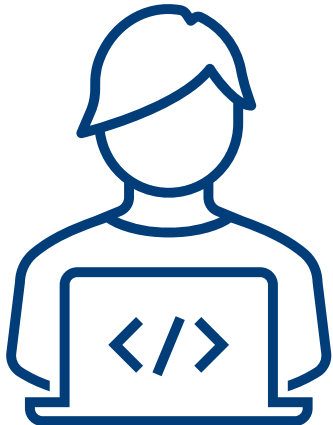
In 2022, over 20% of appointments were made through "Notify Me."

Considerations for retaking the MCAT exam



There are testing limits

- **1 year** – Up to 3 attempts in a testing year
- **2 years** – Up to 4 attempts over 2 consecutive years
- **Lifetime** – Up to 7 attempts in a lifetime



How well do students do when they retest?

- 10% of students retest in a single year and 38% of examinees retest overall
- Generally, examinees increase 2-4 points
- Still variability in scores on retake attempts

Test Day



Test Day

Exam Overview		
Section	Number of Questions	Time Allotted
Test-day certification		4 minutes
Tutorial (optional)		10 minutes
Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems	59	95 minutes
Break (optional)		10 minutes
Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills	53	90 minutes
Mid-exam break (optional)		30 minutes
Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems	59	95 minutes
Break (optional)		10 minutes
Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior	59	95 minutes
Void question		3 minutes
End-of-day survey (optional)		5 minutes
Total content time		6 hours and 15 minutes
Total “seated” time*		About 7 hours and 30 minutes

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

- 7 ½ hours
- 8:00 a.m. start
- 3 optional breaks

Test day reminders

- Read the MCAT Essentials
- Understand and Honor the Examinee Agreement
- MCAT Accepted ID
- Understand Test Center Rules
- Registered name must match MCAT-Accepted ID!

The MCAT® Essentials
for Testing Year 2023

Required Reading
This guide is required reading and contains important information and resources about the examinee agreement, registration instructions, and test-day policies.

MCAT® is a program of the
Association of American Medical Colleges
aamc.org/mcat

The MCAT® Essentials for Testing Year 2023

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 the first and last names on your exam registration, 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 (202-829-0600) 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.

ACCEPTED
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).
- ✓ Employment Authorization Document.
- ✓ 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).
 - Cannot be validated.

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Association of American Medical Colleges

AAMC Resources for Advisors and Students




Advisor Hub at www.aamc.org/advisors

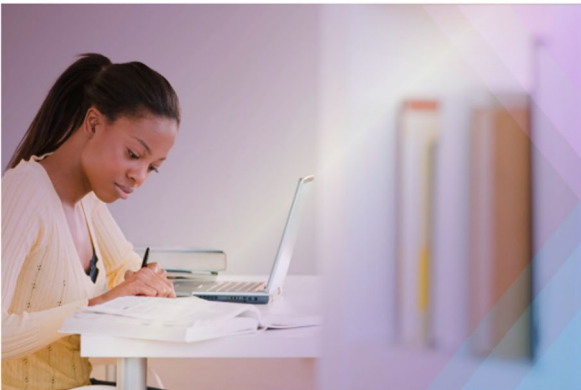
- Resources on MCAT scores, data and research, recorded webinars
- Downloadable MSAR Reports on Medical school programs and requirements, including MCAT policies: www.aamc.org/msarreports
- Sign up for the monthly advisor newsletter (<https://students-residents.aamc.org/prehealth-advisors/pre-health-advisors-be-added-our-mailing-list>)
- FACTS (national applicant/matriculant data)
- And more on FIRST, AMCAS, and the Advisor Information System

The screenshot shows the AAMC Prehealth Advisors website. The top navigation bar includes links for 'AAMC.ORG', 'STUDENTS & RESIDENTS', 'CAREERS IN MEDICINE', and 'AAMC STORE'. Below the navigation bar, there are several menu items: 'Choosing a Medical Career', 'Applying to Medical School', 'Attending Medical School', 'Applying to Residency', 'Training in a Residency or Fellowship', and 'Quick Links'. The main content area is titled 'Prehealth Advisors' and features a paragraph explaining the role of a prehealth advisor. Below this, there are several sections with blue headers: 'How to Get the Most of the Advisor Information System (AIS)', 'AMCAS® Choose Your Medical School Tool', and 'Guidelines for Writing a Letter of Evaluation for a Medical School Applicant'. On the right side, there is a sidebar with three blue buttons: 'Advisor Information System', 'AMCAS® Letter Writer Application', and 'Medical School Admission Requirements'. Below these buttons, there is a section for 'Prehealth Advisor Support' with contact information, and a section for 'Premed Resources' with a link to 'BROWSE AND DOWNLOAD THEM EASILY' and a 'Premed Events Calendar' link.

Resources on content, policies, and scores




What's on the MCAT® Exam?



students-residents.aamc.org/mcatexam

MCAT® is a program of the Association of American Medical Colleges
www.aamc.org/mcat

aamc.org/mcatprep




The MCAT® Essentials for Testing Year 2023



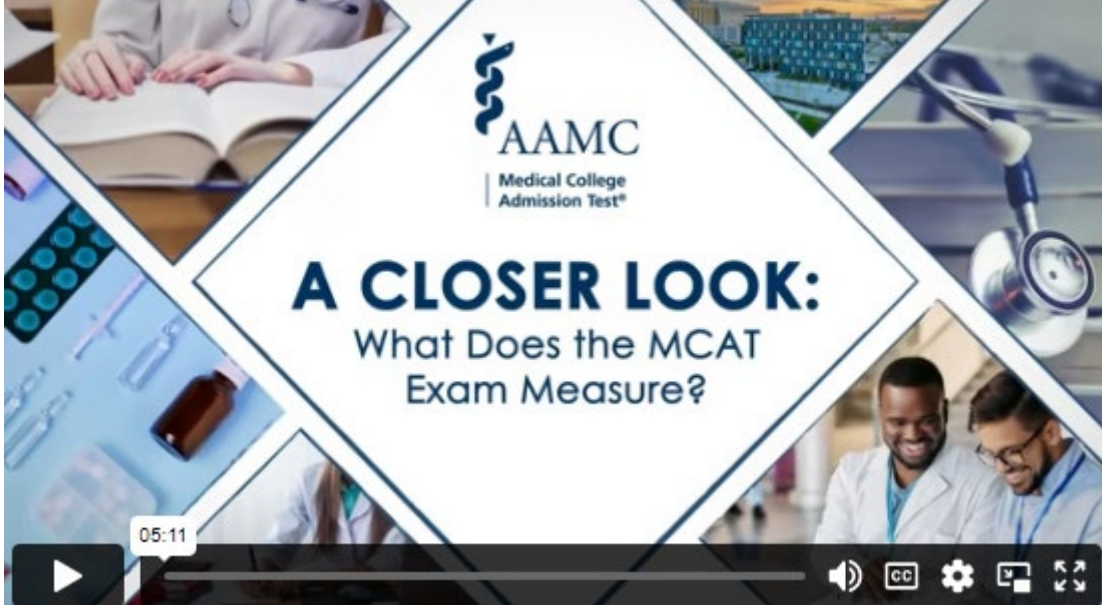
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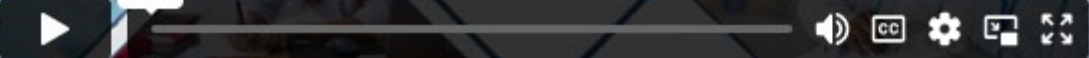
aamc.org/mcat



A CLOSER LOOK:
What Does the MCAT Exam Measure?



05:11



aamc.org/mcatadmissions

Premed Resources

- Webinars
- Career Info
- Financing
- Application
- Premed Events Calendar

Premed Resources

We have created this collection to enable any advisor or student to access our most requested Premed materials.

The AAMC is dedicated to providing resources to aspiring physicians and advisors that will assist in guiding students on their journey to medical school. While working remotely, our outreach teams do not have access to any printed materials or mailing facilities.



Premed Webinars

Watch webinars containing resources, guidance, and tips about the AAMC's services (SHPEP, FAP, FIRST, MCAT, AMCAS) to help you conquer the medical school application process.

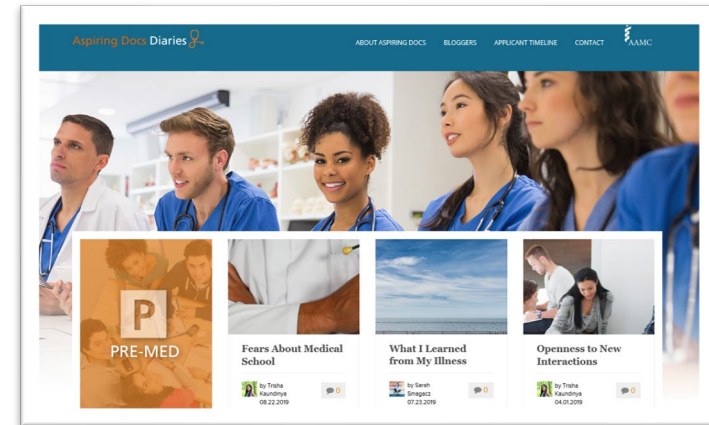


Choosing a Medical Career

Are you challenged with deciding whether a career in medicine is right for you? Check out the AAMC's premed resources to learn about medically related experience, preparing for the application process, and get inspired by personal stories from medical students, residents, and physicians.

Aspiring Docs

Find resources and inspiration to help you get started on your path to medicine.



Premed Navigator

Get important information, resources, and tips to help you on your path to medical school—delivered right to your inbox each month.

aamc.org/premedresources

Questions

Contact Us

E: mcataadvisors@aamc.org

W: aamc.org/advisors
aamc.org/mcat

T: 202-828-0950



Thank you!