



The MCAT® Essentials for Testing Year 2020



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](https://www.aamc.org/mcat)



Tomorrow's Doctors, Tomorrow's Cures®

Prepare for the MCAT® Exam Using AAMC MCAT Official Prep Resources

There isn't a right or wrong way to prepare for the MCAT® exam, but knowing how and where to start can be a challenge. The AAMC has developed resources to help you understand the exam, study, and practice for it!

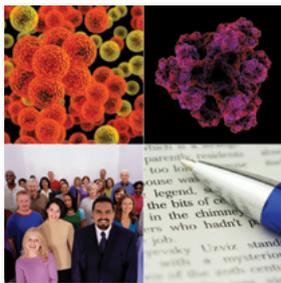
How to Create a Study Plan

Get a six-step guide to help you create your own study plan. Learn more at aamc.org/mcatprep.



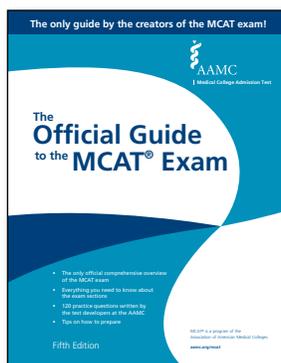
Understand

Understand what the MCAT exam is and what it tests.



Interactive Content Tool: What's on the MCAT Exam?

Read the content lists and watch videos to explore what's tested in the four exam sections.



The Official Guide to the MCAT® Exam

The Official Guide provides a comprehensive overview of the exam, including information about registration, what to expect on test day, the score scale, and how MCAT scores are used in the admissions process. It also includes 120 practice questions and solutions.



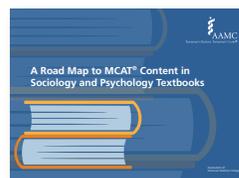
Study

Study with a full complement of materials.



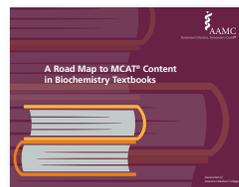
Khan Academy MCAT Collection

The Khan Academy MCAT Collection contains sample content from all four sections of the exam and includes 1,100 videos and 3,000 review questions to help you study. The collection was created by Khan Academy with support and funding from the AAMC and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.



Road Maps to MCAT Content

The AAMC reached out to publishers of biochemistry, psychology, and sociology textbooks for detailed information on where to find the concepts you'll need to know for the MCAT exam.



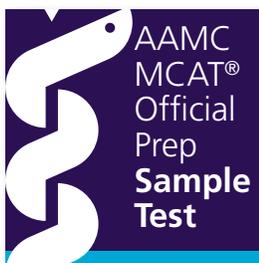
Learn more about AAMC MCAT Official Prep resources and practice materials at aamc.org/mcatprep.

Association of
American Medical Colleges



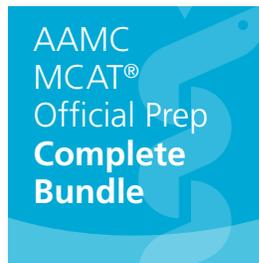
Practice

Practice with print and online resources written by the test developers. Unless noted otherwise, all resources include both discrete and passage-based questions, as well as solutions to the questions.



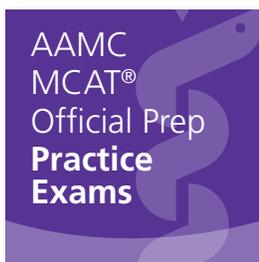
Sample Test

This 230-question online practice exam has the same features and functionality as the MCAT exam, but it does not provide a scaled score.



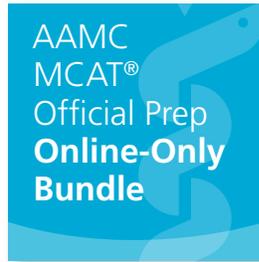
Complete Bundle

The complete bundle includes all MCAT Official Prep products at a discount over ordering each product separately.



Full-Length Practice Exams

The 230-question online practice exams have the same features and functionality as the MCAT exam — with the added benefit of a scaled score and percentile rank.



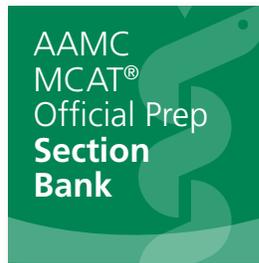
Online-Only Bundle

The online-only bundle includes all online MCAT Official Prep products.



Question Packs

Each question pack offers 120 practice questions. Buy the packs individually or as a bundle of six: biology (two packs), chemistry, physics, and critical reasoning (two packs).



Section Bank

The online MCAT Section Bank consists of 300 practice questions in the natural, behavioral, and social sciences, with an emphasis on biochemistry, psychology, and sociology.



Practice With the MCAT Exam Features

Practice using the features of the real MCAT exam, including *highlight*, *strikethrough*, and *flag for review*. Access this free resource by logging in to the MCAT Official Prep Hub with your AAMC credentials.



Print and Online Flashcards

Both the print and online MCAT flashcards contain the same 150 discrete practice questions. You get 25 questions in each of these six disciplines: biochemistry, biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, and sociology.

Learn more about AAMC MCAT Official Prep resources and practice materials at aamc.org/mcatprep.

 @AAMC_MCAT

The MCAT® Essentials for Testing Year 2020

Congratulations! Reading *The MCAT Essentials* is the first step in preparing to take the MCAT exam and toward a rewarding and fulfilling career in medicine.

The MCAT Essentials is your guide to the official policies and procedures for taking the MCAT exam. The *MCAT Essentials* provides you with information about registration, scheduling your exam, test-day policies, post-test-day procedures, and the rules in place to protect the integrity of the exam. It also includes information about AAMC MCAT preparation resources as well as other helpful resources.

The information in this guide is necessary for a smooth registration, scheduling, and testing experience. **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 within *The MCAT Essentials*.**

The MCAT Essentials is subject to change from year to year. If you are a returning examinee, you must read the current version of this guide. The version applicable to you is the version in effect at the time of your registration.

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) provides the MCAT exam with the assistance of its test delivery administrator, Pearson VUE.

You will find contact information throughout this guide if you have questions.

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 Medical College Admission Test® (MCAT®) has been part of the medical school admissions process for over 90 years. Almost all medical schools in the United States, and many in Canada, require applicants to submit recent MCAT scores, and many health professions and graduate programs accept MCAT scores in lieu of other standardized tests.

In conjunction with its member medical schools, the AAMC develops and administers the MCAT exam multiple times each year at hundreds of test sites throughout the United States and Canada, as well as select locations throughout the world.

The MCAT exam tests concepts that medical school faculty, residents, and medical students rate as important to entering students' success. The MCAT is a standardized, computer-based exam with content divided into four multiple-choice sections. The exam is administered at Pearson VUE test centers.

Content on the MCAT Exam

The MCAT exam has four multiple-choice test sections:

- Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems
- Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems
- Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior
- Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills

The first three sections above are organized around 10 foundational concepts or “big ideas” in the sciences. They draw 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 outside content knowledge.

Each section of the exam includes some “field-test” or experimental questions (i.e., questions being considered for future use that do not count toward your total score).

An overview of the entire MCAT exam as administered on 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
Satisfaction Survey (optional)		5 minutes
Total Content Time		6 hours and 15 minutes
Total “Seated” Time*		Approx. 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 have previously created an AAMC ID at any time or for any reason — which includes creating an AAMC ID to purchase or access other AAMC products and services, such as AAMC MCAT Official Prep Products, the Medical School Admission Requirements™ (MSAR®) database, the AAMC Fee Assistance Program, or the American Medical College Application Service® (AMCAS®) application — you must use the same username and password when registering for your MCAT exam.

If you do not have an existing AAMC ID, you will be directed to create an account and establish a username and password when logging in to the [MCAT Registration System](#).



If you cannot remember your username or password, DO NOT create a new AAMC ID.

The login page provides options to reset your password or request your username if you cannot remember your log in credentials. If you encounter problems resetting your password or with your security questions, please contact [AAMC Services](#). To protect exam security and integrity, you may **not** create multiple AAMC IDs for any reason.



If you believe you have multiple accounts or created a duplicate account in error, please contact the AAMC Account Help Team to resolve the situation. Please allow up to two business days for a response.

Registration Name and MCAT-Accepted ID

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 you do not provide an [MCAT-Accepted ID](#) that exactly matches 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](#). Even if an ID is valid for flight travel, it may not meet all of the requirements to take your MCAT exam.

To ensure your ID matches MCAT’s requirements, please review the list 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 by the BRONZE ZONE deadline associated with your test date.
- 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 before the SILVER ZONE deadline associated with your test date.

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. The ID's expiration date is after your exam date.
 - » 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 includes your visible signature, which you will be asked to duplicate on test day.
5. The ID contains a photo that can be used to positively identify you.
6. The ID is tangible and whole, with no evidence of tampering (clipped corners, holes, etc.).
7. 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).

NOT ACCEPTED

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

- ✗ Passport card.
 - » Does not have a signature.
- ✗ Paper ID or ID application receipt of any kind.
 - » Cannot be validated.
- ✗ Credit card.
 - » Not issued by a government agency.
- ✗ Veterans ID (VIC).
 - » Does not have a signature.
- ✗ Birth certificate.
 - » Does not have a photo.
- ✗ Social security card.
 - » Does not have a photo.
- ✗ Virtual or digital ID.
 - » Cannot be validated.
- ✗ School ID.
 - » Not issued by a government agency.
- ✗ Temporary ID, ID with extension sticker 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.**
 - » *Exception:* If your ID has the word "temporary" printed on it due to your current status within the country, **you must contact AAMC Services for instructions** prior to the SILVER ZONE scheduling deadline associated with your appointment. Your temporary ID will only be accepted on exam day if the AAMC preapproves the exception.
- ✗ 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.

Resolving Registration Name Requirements



If you are unable to provide the required identification, or if you have any concern that your identification may not be acceptable, you MUST contact [AAMC Services](#) no later than the Silver Zone scheduling deadline to discuss your options.

Below are potential issues you may encounter regarding your identification, as well as steps to correct them:

Issue	Resolution	Deadline to Make Changes
The first and/or last name(s) you entered do not exactly match the qualifying ID you will use on test day.	You MUST change your name in the MCAT Registration System to match your MCAT-Accepted ID.	Bronze Zone Deadline
Two last names appear on your ID	Both names MUST be entered into the MCAT Registration System in the “Last Name/Surname” field.	Bronze Zone Deadline
Initials on your ID	If your MCAT-Accepted ID has your initials in place of your full first and/or last name(s), you must contact AAMC Services for instructions.	Silver Zone Deadline
Mononymous name	If you only have a single name (e.g., Madonna), you must contact AAMC Services .	Silver Zone Deadline

For information on Registration Zones and Deadlines, see [Fees and Deadlines](#).

Registration and Scheduling Violations

The following are violations of the MCAT registration rules that may result in a cancellation of an appointment or cancellation of scores, a ban from taking the MCAT exam for a designated period of time or permanently, or other consequences (see [Investigation Procedures](#)):

- Obtaining more than one AAMC ID.
- Registering for the MCAT exam under another individual’s AAMC ID.
- Allowing someone else to register under your AAMC ID.
- Allowing someone else to use your AAMC ID to take the MCAT exam.
- Holding multiple reservations at the same time under different AAMC IDs.
- Improperly exceeding the testing limits for the exam, including having or using multiple AAMC IDs.
- Providing false or inaccurate information when creating an AAMC ID or registering to take the MCAT exam.
- Selling or giving away your reservation to 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/scheduling violation that, if true, would threaten the validity, integrity, and/or security of the MCAT exam and there is not sufficient time to fully investigate and resolve the issue prior to your scheduled exam date, the AAMC may, in its sole discretion, cancel or reschedule your exam to allow time to conclude the investigation.

Eligibility

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 (DPM) programs.
- Veterinary Medicine (DVM) 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 are looking to change schools.
- 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.



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.

To apply for special permission, ensure you have an AAMC ID and have completed the information in the “Personal Information” tab within the [MCAT Registration System](#). You will need to submit a service request form found on the MCAT Registration System dashboard.

To submit a service request, click the “Submit another service request” link. Complete the form and include as much detail in your request as possible. We will attempt to review and respond to your request within 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 period or permanently. See the [Registration and Scheduling Violations](#) section to learn more about the AAMC's investigation process.

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, you may register for the MCAT exam without seeking special permission if all other eligibility requirements are met.

The AAMC Fee Assistance Program

The AAMC Fee Assistance Program assists those who, without financial assistance, would not be able to take the exam or apply to medical schools that use the AMCAS application. 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.

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 2020 testing year. Canadian examinees who are eligible and qualify in AFMC's first application period will receive reduced scheduling, rescheduling, and cancellation rates and the MCAT® Official Prep Online-Only Bundle beginning Feb. 3, 2020. Examinees who qualify in AFMC's second application period will receive reduced registration rates and the MCAT® Official Prep Online-Only Bundle beginning on April 1, 2020. For more information regarding the application, evaluation, or qualification process, visit [AFMC](#).

For complete information regarding the Fee Assistance Program, including eligibility requirements, benefits, and application deadlines, visit the [Fee Assistance Program](#) page on the AAMC website to learn more.

To contact the Fee Assistance Program, email fap@aamc.org or call 202-828-0600.



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.

Testing Limits

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

- You may only hold **one (1)** MCAT exam appointment at a time.
- You may attempt the exam **no more than three (3) times** in a testing year.
- You may attempt the exam **no more than four (4) times** over two consecutive testing years.
- You may attempt the exam **no more than seven (7) times** in your lifetime (beginning with the April 2015 test dates and beyond).

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. (See [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.

Additionally, if you refuse the [Test-Day Certification](#) displayed on your monitor before you begin testing, you will not be able to continue with the exam and your appointment will count as one of your attempts.

Testing With Accommodations

If you have a disability or medical condition that you believe requires an adjustment to standard testing conditions, we encourage you to apply for testing accommodations. A decision on most requests will be made within 60 days of receipt of a **complete initial** application. All initial applications for accommodations must be submitted electronically via the MCAT Accommodations Online system on the AAMC [website](#).

You should submit your complete application far enough in advance to allow time to review your request and confirm any approved accommodations on your test day. Visit our website for more information on application types and [suggested submission time frames](#). You must be approved for accommodations no later than the Silver Zone deadline associated with your test date (see [Scheduling Zones and Fee Structure](#)) to allow us time to prepare and implement any approved accommodations. If you have not received a decision by the Silver Zone deadline or your accommodations are not approved, you may test under standard conditions or reschedule to a later test date. Applicable [rescheduling fees](#) apply.

To increase the likelihood of testing in a convenient location on your preferred test date, we encourage you to schedule an appointment for your preferred test date as soon as possible. You will be notified via email when we have made a decision on your request. If your accommodations are approved, be sure to follow the instructions provided with your approval letter to avoid delays in confirming your accommodations. While the AAMC will do its best to keep your original appointment or 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.

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

Registering for an MCAT Exam

The MCAT Registration System (MRS)

To begin the registration and scheduling process, log in to the [MCAT Registration System](#) (MRS) with your username and password credentials associated with your [AAMC ID](#). Before selecting a test date and location, you must complete required registration questions that ask for your contact, background, and education information along with agreement to various consents and policies. See [Registration Name and MCAT-Accepted ID](#) for associated requirements.

Examinee Agreement

You will be presented with the MCAT Examinee Agreement when you register for your MCAT exam. You must accept all terms of the Examinee Agreement and *The MCAT Essentials* in order to complete your registration and to sit for the MCAT exam. 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 noteboard.
- 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?](#) 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?](#), 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 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; and
- I may be banned from taking the MCAT exam for a limited time or permanently.

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 it collects about individuals and to respect their privacy relative to sensitive data concerning them. The [AAMC Privacy Statement](#) explains what kinds of information the AAMC collects and how the AAMC uses this information.

The MCAT program collects personal information in order to administer the MCAT exam, to help prevent fraud, and to 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; 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.
- Third parties for scholarship opportunities as directed by you during registration or use of another AAMC service or program.
- Service providers who assist the AAMC with technology, test administration, or communications management activities.
- As needed to (i) respond to information requests by law enforcement or other governmental authorities; (ii) comply with any law, regulation, subpoena or other legal process, or court order; (iii) investigate and help prevent security threats, fraud, malicious activity, or inappropriate, unauthorized, or illegal activity involving the AAMC's services or networks; or (iv) 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 so 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, 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 recognized accrediting bodies, e.g., Liaison Committee on Medical Education. They 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 cannot be changed once the Bronze Zone Deadline associated with your appointment has passed. The MCAT Program does not

instruct eligible institutions on their method or frequency of contact or of 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.

Furthermore, if you applied for fee assistance through the AAMC Fee Assistance Program, and in your fee assistance application you agreed to release award information to your health professions advisor, that information will be made available along with your test scores. If you indicated in your American Medical College Application Service® (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 this 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.

Medical Minority Applicant Registry (Med-MAR)

The [Medical Minority Applicant Registry \(Med-MAR\)](#) is an AAMC service designed for medical school applicants who self-identify as economically disadvantaged or from racial and ethnic groups that are underrepresented in medicine. 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 (a) you are a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, lawful permanent resident (LPR) 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 (b) you are economically disadvantaged or of low socio-economic status (SES) or you self-identify as a member of a racial or ethnic group historically underrepresented in medicine — African-American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian/Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander.



Participation in the Med-MAR is voluntary and may only be elected during the MCAT registration process. Your decision cannot be changed once the Bronze Zone Deadline associated with your appointment has passed. 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 for which you are scheduled. 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.

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 mcatssecurity@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.

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 and/or mcatssecurity@aamc.org.

Scheduling an MCAT Exam

Once you have answered the necessary registration questions regarding your contact, background, and education information, as well as agreed to various terms and policies, you will be able to schedule a test date and location.

Scheduling Details

The MCAT exam is administered at hundreds of locations throughout the United States, Canada, as well as select locations internationally. 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](#) prior to scheduling your MCAT appointment. Once 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) then please contact us immediately.**

After scheduling your appointment, you will receive an email confirmation with the details of your appointment, including the name that you used to register. Be sure to compare this name to the name on your MCAT-Accepted ID you will use on test day.



The name you registered with must exactly match the spelling of the name on your MCAT-Accepted ID in order to be admitted to the exam. If you need to change your name, you must do so by the Bronze Zone deadline of your exam. (See [Registration Name and MCAT-Accepted ID](#).)

Scheduling Fees and Deadlines

There are three scheduling zones for each exam date: Gold, Silver, and Bronze. For each exam date, Gold Zone scheduling fees are lower and flexibility is higher. Conversely, fees are higher, and flexibility is limited in the Bronze Zone.



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

All deadlines for the Gold, Silver, and Bronze Zones occur a set number of days prior to the exam. All deadlines take effect at 11:59 p.m. **local, test center time**. For example, if your MCAT exam is scheduled for Aug. 9, 2019, in Los Angeles, California, your Bronze Zone Scheduling deadline is 11:59 p.m. PT on Aug. 1, 2019. See [Scheduling Zones and Fee Structure](#) to view the applicable registration fees and restrictions for this testing year's MCAT exam. Refer to [Scheduling Deadlines](#) for details about specific deadline dates.

2020 REGISTRATION FEES

	Gold Zone (deadline is 29 days before test date)*	Silver Zone (deadline is 15 days before test date)*	Bronze Zone (deadline is 8 days before test date)*
Initial registration	\$320	\$320	\$375
Date and/or test center reschedule fee**	\$95	\$160	N/A
Cancellation refund	\$160	N/A	N/A
International fee**	\$115	\$115	\$115

2020 FEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FEES

	Gold Zone (deadline is 29 days before test date)*	Silver Zone (deadline is 15 days before test date)*	Bronze Zone (deadline is 8 days before test date)*
Fee assistance registration	\$130	\$130	\$185
Fee assistance reschedule**	\$50	\$75	N/A
Fee assistance cancellation refund	\$65	N/A	N/A
Fee assistance international fee**	\$115	\$115	\$115

Note: All fees are in U.S. dollars.

*All deadlines are 11:59 p.m. local test center time.

**These fees are in addition to the initial registration fee and are non-refundable.



The AAMC does not grant deadline extensions.

Applicable Taxes

Examinees 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 they are testing. If taxes are applicable, they will be collected at the time of scheduling.

“To Be Determined” Test Centers

“To Be Determined” sites — shortened as “TBD sites” — are generalized locations in metropolitan areas as decided by Pearson VUE. These sites do not have determined addresses at the time of scheduling. “To Be Determined” sites exist for the sole purpose of offering as many seats as possible on each test date. “To Be Determined” sites should only be chosen if you have the flexibility to travel within a metropolitan area. This area may have up to a 40-mile radius from the central location. Examinees who register for a “To Be Determined” site will not be eligible for a free reschedule based on the final location of the site.

After you schedule an appointment at a “TBD site” site, you will be sent the test center address no less than 30 days prior to your exam date via email. The address information will also appear in the MCAT Registration System at that time.

Changing Your Appointment

Requests to reschedule your appointment may be made online via the [MCAT Registration System](#) or by calling 202-828-0600. You will receive an email confirming your rescheduled appointment. If you do not receive an email within 24 hours of rescheduling, please check your spam filter first and then [contact us](#) immediately.



Please note additional fees will apply regardless of how quickly a change is requested after your initial scheduling. No exceptions will be made. (Refer to [Scheduling Zones and Fee Structure](#).)

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, a fee will be assessed 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 prior to the **Silver Zone scheduling deadline** for the exam that you are currently scheduled to take.
- Changes are made prior to the **Bronze Zone scheduling deadline** for the exam that you wish to reschedule into. Once that exam date is past the Bronze Zone deadline, scheduling is no longer allowed.

When rescheduling an exam to or from an area where taxes are collected, you may be prevented from completing your transaction on the web. If this is the case, contact us by phone as soon as possible for assistance rescheduling your appointment. The base fee to reschedule will be the same, however, 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.

Cancellations and Refunds

Cancellation requests may be made online through [the MCAT Registration System](#). 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 wish to cancel your appointment, you must do so by the Bronze Zone scheduling deadline associated with your current exam date. If you do not cancel your reservation, and you want to test at a later date, it may take up to 24 hours after your reservation time before you're able to schedule a new appointment. You will be required to pay the full, initial scheduling fee.

If you cancel **before the Gold Zone scheduling deadline** associated with your exam date, you will receive a refund in accordance with the current year's scheduling fees found in [Scheduling Zones and Fee Structure](#). If you cancel **after the Gold Zone scheduling deadline**, you will not receive a refund. Refer to [Scheduling Deadlines](#) for details about specific deadline dates.



Additional fees paid for rescheduling or for international sites are non-refundable and we will not extend any deadlines for any reason.

Refunds are automatically applied to the credit card used for the initial scheduling. Depending on the Credit Card company's policy, the funds may not appear in your account for a few days.

Emergency Refund

Refunds due to an emergency may be requested after an exam **if one of the following occurs after the Silver Zone scheduling deadline:**

- You are hospitalized.
- You experience a death in your immediate family.
- You are unexpectedly called away to active military service.
- You are unexpectedly called away for health care service duties related to a catastrophic event.
- You are called to jury duty the day of your exam.
- You are displaced from your residence due to a natural disaster.

The maximum refund amount is that of the current year Gold Zone cancellation refund found in [Scheduling Zones and Fee Structure](#). **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, you are encouraged to **cancel your appointment prior to the Bronze zone deadline**, if possible, to guarantee one of your attempts is not consumed.

You will be asked to provide supporting documentation with your request. Supporting documentation includes any hospital records, official requests for deployment or jury duty, funeral program or death certification, and/or proof of displacement. Complete requests for emergency-related refunds, including all necessary accompanying documentation, must be received no later than three weeks after your scheduled exam date by submitting the Emergency Refund Request Form available through the MCAT Registration System.

We will provide notification of approved refunds 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. *Refunds are not guaranteed and are issued at 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. On those rare occasions when we experience technical or equipment issues preventing administration of the exam, it may be necessary to reschedule impacted examinees to new locations and/or dates based on availability. Please keep your contact information current so that the AAMC or Pearson VUE can contact you in the unlikely event that we need to notify you of a change.

If rescheduling is not possible, you will receive a full refund, and the originally scheduled appointment will not count toward an attempt.

The AAMC and Pearson VUE will not administer make-up exams after the testing year ends, reimburse for lost wages, or compensate for 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.

What You Need to Know About Test Day

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.

Arriving at the Test Center



Be sure to report to the test center at least 30 minutes prior to your testing appointment 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.

Test Center Current Address

Make sure you have the current address of your test center, which 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 before your test date.



It is best to plan ahead by locating the test center prior to test day. You will not be allowed to enter the testing center, but you will know 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 Zone

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. There are also U.S. states in which only certain areas adhere to daylight savings time.

Absences/No-Shows

If you are late or do not sit for an exam for which you are registered, you will be considered a No-Show. No-Shows will not be reported to schools or programs to which you are applying, however, they *will* count toward the maximum number of test attempts you are allowed (see “[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.**

Inclement Weather and Other Test Center Closures

Most test centers will likely be open even in the event of inclement weather, and examinees will be expected to report for their appointments. *Scheduling fees will not be refunded if you are delayed or unable to reach the test center*, so be sure to allow sufficient travel time to reach your test center safely. You will receive an email from Pearson VUE if a test center is closed for any reason. If you have questions or concerns about weather impacting your ability to reach the test site, please call the AAMC at 202-828-0600 in advance of your exam.

If the AAMC or Pearson VUE cancel your reservation 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 are rescheduled to a new appointment and decide to make additional changes or cancel, you must do so by the deadlines associated with the new appointment and submit any applicable fees.

Check-In Rules and Procedures

Examinees will be checked in and allowed into the testing room one at a time by the Test Administrator. While the exact order may vary slightly, the [check-in process](#) consists of the following steps.

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 while 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

In order to be admitted to take the exam, you will need to provide an [MCAT-Accepted ID](#) as detailed earlier in this document.

At the test center, your ID may be digitally authenticated. The Test Administrator may scan an image of 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 that will be used to verify that the person who registered for the MCAT exam is the person sitting for the exam. The digital signature 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, the technology helps Pearson VUE maintain the integrity of examinations, which maintains the validity of your MCAT scores.

Photo Capture

A digital passport-style photo will be captured of you during the check-in process. These test-day photos help the AAMC investigate reported or suspected fraudulent activity that could negatively impact the validity of MCAT exam scores or other test-day irregularities.

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 that you bring as few personal items as possible, including jewelry and watches, to the test center on test day. You will be asked to remove these items on test day. You will 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 ear plugs are not allowed).
 - Storage key.
 - Noteboard booklet.
 - Fine-point marker.

No other items are permitted unless approved by the AAMC.

Personal items that appear suspicious may be photographed or confiscated.

If you require an item in the testing room for medical reasons, you must request testing accommodations and obtain approval from the AAMC. (See [Testing With Accommodations](#).) If you believe that you will 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. To

ensure sufficient review time of your request, we encourage candidates to contact us as early as possible in advance of their exam date.

Noteboard Booklets

You will be provided with a [noteboard booklet](#) for note-taking during the exam. The noteboard booklets contain nine, 14 inches by 8 inches 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 while you are completing the exam, raise your hand to alert the Test Administrator, who will exchange your original booklet for a new one.

Entering and Exiting 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 that they are empty. You may be asked to remove sweaters or sweatshirts for inspection and/or be scanned with a metal detector wand. 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 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 and/or ID every time you leave the testing room.

Breaks

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, the 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.



Examinees are not permitted to leave the test center building or floor during a break for any reason.

Should you finish a content section early, you must end that section prior to taking 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 prompted to continue with 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. (See [Exam Content](#).) Taking breaks longer than the allotted time can lead to repercussions, including lost exam time and loss of the ability to void the exam. If your break exceeds the time allotted for the break, 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 or drinks; however, these items must be stored outside of 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 after you start the exam. There are no microwaves or refrigerators available in the test centers for your use.

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.
- Follow all directions and verbal instructions of the testing staff.
- Test Administrators constantly monitor the testing room. Each exam station is monitored and recorded via closed circuit digital video recording (DVR).
- If you require assistance or encounter a problem while taking the exam, raise your hand immediately. The Test Administrator will come to you and escort you out of the test room, if needed.

Test-Day Certification Statement

On test day, you will be presented with an on-screen Certification Statement before you begin taking the MCAT 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*. The full text of the Certification Statement that you will see on test day is as follows:

TEST-DAY CERTIFICATION

By proceeding with today's MCAT® exam, you certify that you have not and will not engage in any conduct that compromises the integrity, validity, or security of the MCAT exam. You certify that:

- Prior to the exam, you did not give or receive information about the questions that might appear on your MCAT exam. During the exam, you will not give or receive information about the content of the exam.
- You will 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.
- You are the person whose name appears on this MCAT exam registration and you meet the eligibility requirements for sitting for the MCAT exam.
- You are taking the MCAT exam for the sole purpose of applying to and attending a health-professions school and program that accepts MCAT exam results to satisfy a test-score admissions requirement, unless otherwise approved by the AAMC.
- You will not access any written materials, electronic devices, cell phones, or other unauthorized items at any point during today's MCAT administration which includes any scheduled or unscheduled breaks.
- You will abide by all MCAT policies and procedures found in *The MCAT Essentials*, including the Examinee Agreement to which you agreed when you registered for the MCAT exam.
- You understand that a violation of any MCAT rule may result in an investigation which could lead to a report of factual findings sent to legitimately interested parties, score cancellation, a partial or permanent ban from taking the MCAT in the future, or civil or criminal penalties.

I have read, and agree to comply with, the terms of this Test-Day Certification, including all additional terms and policies set forth in *The MCAT Essentials*, and I understand the consequences for failing to comply.

- I agree
- I do NOT agree

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. **You will only have ONE opportunity to void your exam.** When you finish your exam, you will see the following:

Congratulations! You have completed the exam.

If you would like to have your MCAT® exam SCORED, select **I wish to have my MCAT exam SCORED**. If you select this option, your results will be reported and you will not be able to cancel your scores on a later date.

If you wish to VOID your MCAT® exam and NOT have it scored, select **I wish to VOID my MCAT exam**. Your results will not be scored, and you will not receive a refund of your scheduling fee.

If time expires before you submit your selection, your answer will default to your current selection. If no selection is made, your answer will default to SCORED.

I wish to have my MCAT exam SCORED.

I wish to VOID my MCAT exam.

Select **Next** to submit your selection.

Please Note:

- Notifying the test administrator of your intent to void your exam is not sufficient. You must select “I wish to **VOID** my MCAT exam” when prompted on your computer screen.
- If you are not presented with the void exam question, you must 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. (See [Reporting a Test Day Incident](#).)
- 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 leaving the test center and submit a [Test Center Concern](#) so that 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.

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. (See [Testing More Than Once and 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 after completing your exam.

- The AAMC Services Contact Center will not have finalized information regarding your decision to score or void your exam until at least five days after the 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 which 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, in its sole discretion, cancel your scores. In such case, the score will not be disclosed to you, medical schools, or any other interested parties. The AAMC will make every effort to reschedule a new test date. 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.

Issues Preventing Completion or Scoring of Your Exam

Examinees unable to complete their exam due to workstation outages, power outages, or other test day issues are encouraged to submit a [Test Center Concern](#).



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

After the Test

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 any and all materials supplied to you prior to the beginning of your test. After returning these items, a Pearson VUE staff member 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 48-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 MCAT [Investigation Procedure](#).

Once the waiting period is complete, the MCAT Registration System will allow you to register or schedule another test date.



Attempting to register for another test date prior to the end of the waiting period is a violation of MCAT policies.

When 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

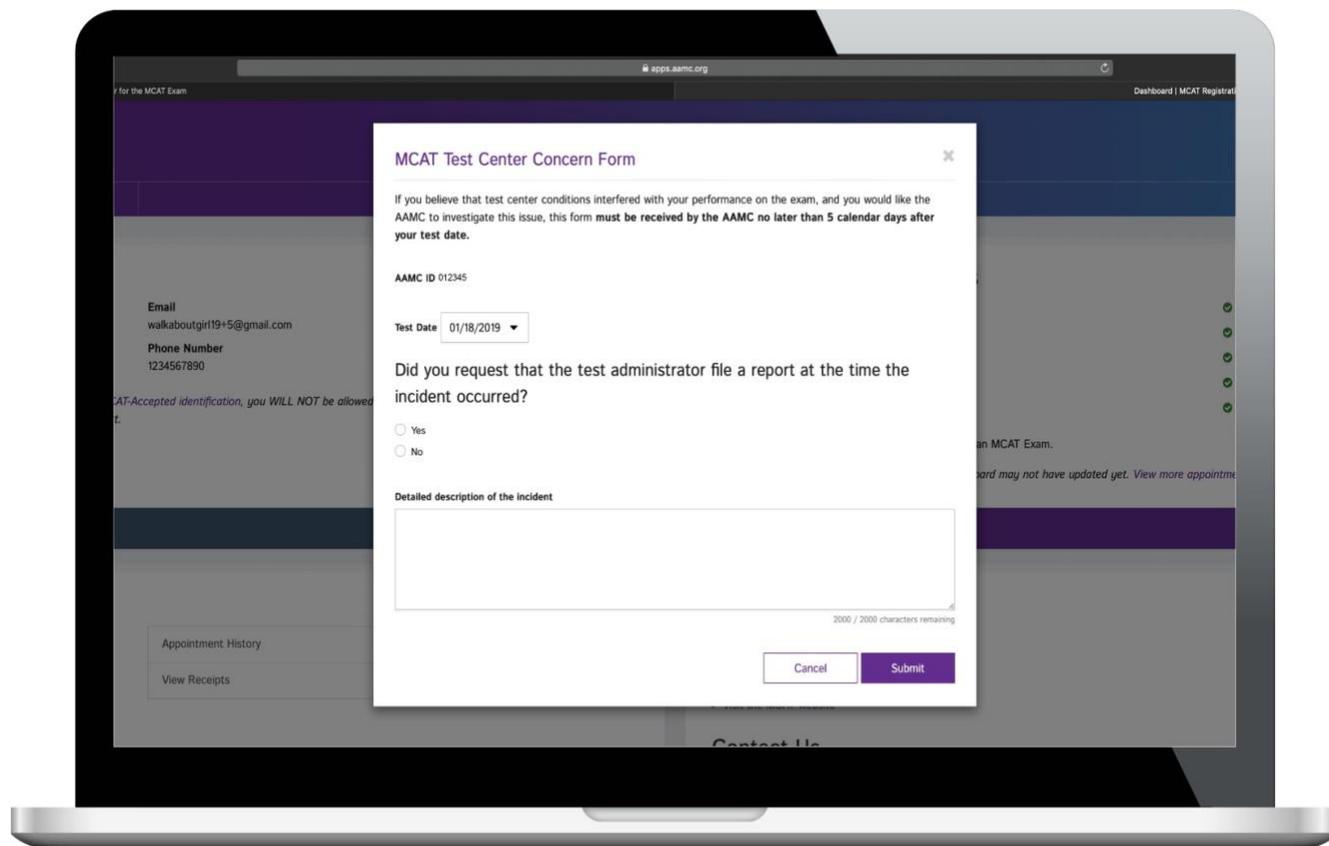
If you believe that test center conditions interfered with your performance on the exam, and you wish to have the AAMC research what occurred, you must do **both** of the following:

- 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 is necessary for the AAMC to take action regarding your Test Center Concern, described below. If you do not ask the test administrator to witness and document your concern at the time the problem occurs, the AAMC may not be able to confirm the problem. **You may obtain the case report number from a test administrator to note in your Test Center Concern.**
- Submit the MCAT Test Center Concern form only through the [MCAT Registration System](#) **no later than five (5) calendar days following your exam**. Concerns received after five calendar days **will not** be investigated.

An *MCAT Test Center Concern* submitted in the timeframe noted above will receive a written response via email detailing the findings of the investigation. Investigations are typically concluded prior to the exam's 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.

The AAMC will not reverse your decision to void or score your exam in the event of a confirmed test center problem. Furthermore, 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 TCC form from the [MCAT Registration System](#) website:



Discussion of the MCAT Exam

The AAMC developed [a set of guidelines](#) to help you understand the terms under which you may sit for the MCAT exam, 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 the [What's on the MCAT Exam?](#)

What is NOT permitted:

- Describing in more specific detail than the What's on the MCAT Exam?: 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.

Investigation Procedures, Final Report, Arbitration, and Additional Actions



The AAMC reserves the right to investigate you if there is evidence that you may have engaged in any behavior which 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.

[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 2020*.

- 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 e-mail. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have an active e-mail 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 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 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.**

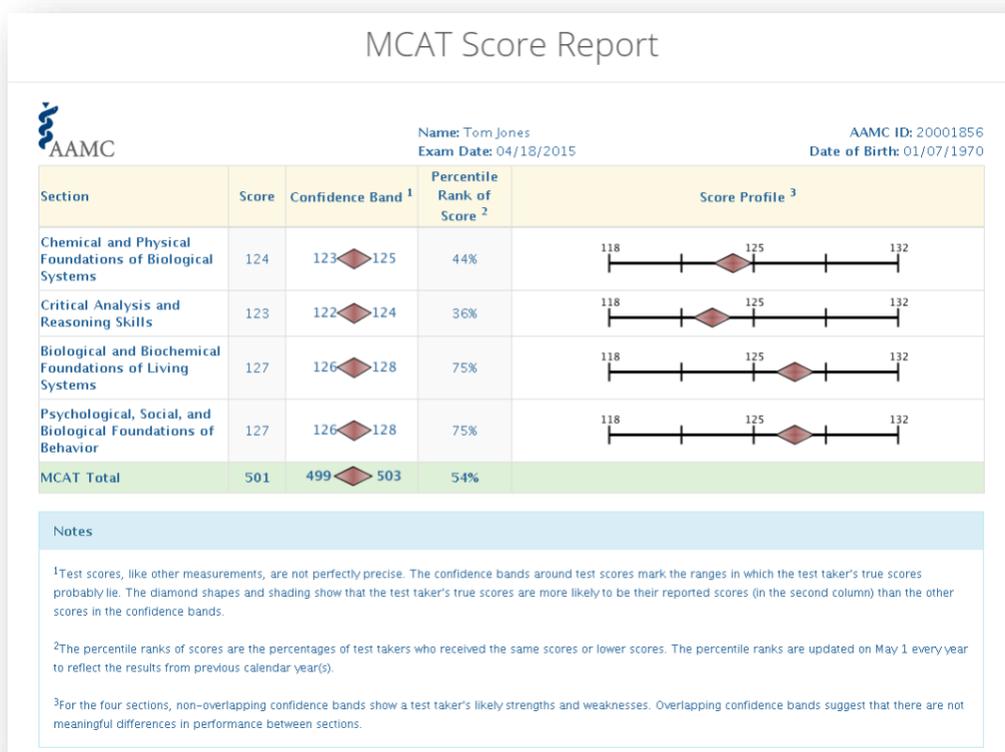
In addition to issuing and disseminating the investigation report, the AAMC may take additional actions for policy or rules violations including, but not limited to:

- Terminating an exam administration.
- Issuing a warning letter to an examinee.
- Cancelling an existing MCAT registration or score.
- Placing MCAT scores on hold.
- 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](#).

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 regard to the specific questions it uses. While care is taken to make sure that each form is about 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 receive the same 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 webpage on [MCAT scores](#).

Receiving and Sending Scores

How to Receive Your Test Scores

Your test scores will be available for viewing no later than **5:00 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. See the [2020 Calendars, Scheduling Deadlines and Score Release Dates](#) for tentative release dates.

AAMC staff will not provide scores over the phone or via email. 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®](#) (AMCAS®), there is no extra step you need to take to add your scores to your AMCAS application. Please note that medical schools want to see your entire testing history, which means that you cannot withhold current or prior scores from your AMCAS application.

If you have taken the exam previously, check the application policies of each school that you are interested in to see if they will accept your previous scores.

As of April 2003, the AAMC has followed a full disclosure policy. This means that all tests taken from April 2003 and beyond will be included in score reports or will be made available through your AMCAS application. Pre-2003 scores that have previously been released to AMCAS will also be included in your AMCAS application.

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) is used to view your test scores, and can be accessed by logging in with the same AAMC account credentials used for the MCAT Registration System.

You can use the MCAT Score Reporting System to release your scores to institutions not participating in the AMCAS service. Additionally, you can print official score reports to send to whomever you wish. Recipients can verify your printed official score reports online, and there is no additional charge to examinees to use this system.

You may also send electronic score reports to participating institutions. New MCAT scores will be released to the institutions for one year after your initial release.

MCAT exam scores from 1991 to the present may be accessed through the MCAT Score Reporting System. Per our full disclosure policy referenced in the previous section, all tests taken from April 2003 and beyond will be included in electronic score reports. If you wish to submit a score from a test taken prior to 2003, you must utilize the “Print Score Report” capability in SRS.

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](#).

Test Question Challenges

Please notify the AAMC **no later than five (5) calendar days following your exam** if you believe a question was flawed, ambiguous, or redundant/repetitive.

Submit a 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.

Rescoring

The AAMC maintains a variety of quality control procedures to ensure the accuracy of scores and score reporting, and the possibility for error in the scoring process is rare. However, if you believe that a scoring error has been made, you may request that your answers be rescored by hand.

The AAMC will respond to your email request within three (3) 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.

Rescoring Fees (USD)

\$65

To request a rescore, 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.

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 Silver Zone scheduling deadline associated with your test date.** Please allow two business days for a reply to your email.

MCAT Program
Association of American Medical Colleges
655 K St., NW Suite 100
Washington, DC 20001-2399

Telephone: 202-828-0600

[Contact Form](https://aamc.org/contactmcat): aamc.org/contactmcat

Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. ET

Closed Wednesday, 3:00-5:00 p.m. ET

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

These hours are subject to change. Please visit the [MCAT website](#) for the most up-to-date information.



The months of June, July, August, and September are peak testing months. During this time, you may experience wait times that are longer than usual.

Scheduling Deadlines

<i>All exams begin at 8:00 a.m.</i>	<i>All deadlines are at 11:59 p.m. local test center time.</i>		
	GOLD ZONE DEADLINE	SILVER ZONE DEADLINE	BRONZE ZONE DEADLINE
Jan. 17	Dec. 19, 2019	Jan. 2	Jan. 9
Jan. 18*	Dec. 20, 2019	Jan. 3	Jan. 10
Jan. 23	Dec. 25, 2019	Jan. 8	Jan. 15
March 14	Feb. 14	Feb. 28	March 6
March 27*	Feb. 27	March 12	March 19
April 4*	March 6	March 20	March 27
April 24	March 26	April 9	April 16
April 25	March 27	April 10	April 17
May 9*	April 10	April 24	May 1
May 15	April 16	April 30	May 7
May 16*	April 17	May 1	May 8
May 21*	April 22	May 6	May 13
May 29	April 30	May 14	May 21
June 5	May 7	May 21	May 28
June 19	May 21	June 4	June 11
June 20	May 22	June 5	June 12
June 27	May 29	June 12	June 19
July 7	June 8	June 22	June 29
July 18	June 19	July 3	July 10
July 22**	June 23	July 7	July 14
July 23	June 24	July 8	July 15
July 31	July 2	July 16	July 23
Aug. 1	July 3	July 17	July 24
Aug. 7	July 9	July 23	July 30
Aug. 8	July 10	July 24	July 31
Aug. 13**	July 15	July 29	Aug. 5
Aug. 14	July 16	July 30	Aug. 6
Aug. 15**	July 17	July 31	Aug. 7
Aug. 22**	July 24	Aug. 7	Aug. 14
Aug. 27**	July 29	Aug. 12	Aug. 19
Aug. 29	July 31	Aug. 14	Aug. 21
Sept. 3	Aug. 5	Aug. 19	Aug. 26
Sept. 4	Aug. 6	Aug. 20	Aug. 27
Sept. 5**	Aug. 7	Aug. 21	Aug. 28
Sept. 11	Aug. 13	Aug. 27	Sept. 3
Sept. 12	Aug. 14	Aug. 28	Sept. 4
*This date is not available at Canadian test centers.			
**This date is only available at Canadian test centers.			



**Association of
American Medical Colleges**

655 K Street, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20001-2399

T 202 828 0400

aamc.org