



Allopathic Medicine



Profession Overview

Physicians

diagnose and care for people of all ages who are ill or have been injured. They are life-long learners, good listeners, good listeners, and problem solvers, and are intrigued by the ways medicine can be used to improve life.

Doctors are interested in science, the intricacies of the human body's systems, and care deeply about helping people to relieve pain, restore health, and promote well-being.

Physicians who attend an allopathic medical school receive a Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree, usually in four years, after completing an undergraduate education. Learn more about the Road to Being a Doctor in [this infographic](#) (pdf).



DAILY

Activities + Experience

- ▶ Diagnose and care for people of all ages who are ill or injured
- ▶ Take medical histories
- ▶ Perform physical examinations
- ▶ Conduct diagnostic tests
- ▶ Recommend and provide treatment
- ▶ Advise patients on their overall health and well-being



KEY QUESTIONS TO

Explore + Prepare

- ▶ Do you enjoy challenges?
- ▶ Are you interested in science and how the body works?
- ▶ Do you care deeply about other people, their problems, and their pain?
- ▶ Do you enjoy learning?
- ▶ Are you intrigued by the ways medicine can be used to improve life?



Characteristics

IMPORTANT for SATISFACTION + SUCCESS

While intellectual capacity is important to success as a physician, what other attributes are critical?

- ▶ Ethical decision making
- ▶ Compassion, respect, honesty, integrity
- ▶ Collaborative, team-oriented nature
- ▶ Advocacy for patients and underserved communities
- ▶ Sensitivity to conflicts of interest
- ▶ Ability to recognize personal limitations
- ▶ Dedication to life-long learning
- ▶ Awareness of community and public health issues
- ▶ Ability to identify risk factors for disease
- ▶ Commitment to early identification and detection of diseases
- ▶ Responsibility for scientifically-based medical decisions



Characteristics

IMPORTANT for SATISFACTION + SUCCESS

- ▶ Interpersonal skills
- ▶ Intrapersonal skills
- ▶ Thinking and Reasoning
- ▶ Science

AAMC Core Competencies for Entering Medical Students



Admission Requirements

PRE-REQUISITES, TESTS, EXPERIENCE, LETTERS

ACADEMIC PRE-REQUISITES

Vary by school and often include:

- ▶ One year each of:
 - ▶ General Chemistry with labs
 - ▶ Organic Chemistry with labs and/or Biochemistry
 - ▶ Biology with labs
 - ▶ Physics
- ▶ Math / Statistics
- ▶ English / Writing

Visit the [Medical School Admission Requirements \(MSAR\)](#) website for school-specific requirements. Students can enter and track completed coursework and compare with individual school requirements within the MSAR.



Admission Requirements

PRE-REQUISITES, TESTS, EXPERIENCE, LETTERS

ENTRANCE EXAM

The Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) is a standardized, multiple-choice exam designed to assess the examinee's problem solving, critical thinking, and knowledge of natural, behavioral, and social science concepts and principles needed for the study of medicine.

[What's on the MCAT?](#)

[MCAT Scores](#)

[Prepare for the MCAT](#)

[Dates, Scheduling, Fees](#)

ADVISORS: [RESOURCES TO PREPARE EXAMINEES](#)



Admission Requirements

PRE-REQUISITES, TESTS, EXPERIENCE, LETTERS

EXPERIENCE

Some examples include, but are not limited to

- ▶ Shadow a physician
- ▶ Volunteer in a healthcare setting
- ▶ Work in a lab
- ▶ Work as a Certified Nurse's Assistant (CNA), an EMT, or at a camp for disabled or chronically ill children
- ▶ Participate in a summer or pipeline program

[AAMC: Getting Experience](#)



Admission Requirements

PRE-REQUISITES, TESTS, EXPERIENCE, LETTERS

LETTERS

The number and type of letters required for admission varies by school. Visit the [Medical School Admission Requirements \(MSAR\) website](#) for school-specific requirements.

[AAMC Guide to Writing Letters of Evaluation](#)



Application Process

CENTRALIZED APPLICATION SERVICE: American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS)

Opens: May of each year

Submission Period: Begins in June of each year. Application deadlines vary by school.

PARTICIPATING MEDICAL PROGRAMS

- ▶ 142 accredited US and 17 accredited Canadian medical schools
- ▶ 7 Texas schools do not participate in AMCAS (Texas Medical & Dental Schools Application Service)

FEES & WAIVERS

- ▶ Flat processing fee including one medical school designation: \$160
- ▶ Additional medical school designations: \$39 each
- ▶ Fee Assistance Program



Statistics

APPLICANTS in 2017-18

51,658	Total applicants
3.45	Average Science GPA
3.56	Average Overall GPA
505	Average MCAT Score

MATRICULANTS

21,326	Entering students
3.64	Average Science GPA
3.71	Average Overall GPA
510	Average MCAT Score



www.aamc.org/data/facts/

Resources

[AAMC Student Resources](#)

[Medical School Admissions Requirements \(MSAR\)](#)

Subscription-based access to information about every accredited US and Canadian MD program.

 [AMCAS](#)

 [AAMC Pre-Med](#)

 [AAMC Pre-Med](#)



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- ▶ This information is shared in consultation with the professional association's representative to the [NAAHP Advisory Council](#), Brandon J. Hunter.
- ▶ Last updated January 2019

