



| Medical College Admission Test

The MCAT[®] Essentials for Testing Year 2017

Required Reading

- Registration instructions
- Test-day policies
- Scoring details

...and suggestions to help you prepare for the MCAT exam, a list of contacts and online services, and other helpful information

MCAT[®] is a program of the
Association of American Medical Colleges

aamc.org/mcat

Prepare for the MCAT® Exam

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

How to Create a Study Plan

Get a five-step guide to help you create your own study plan. Download it at <http://offers.aamc.org/mcat-study>.



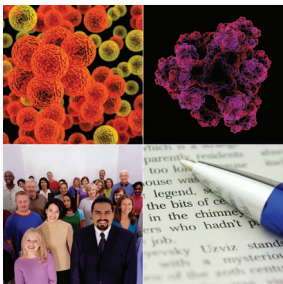
Understand

Understand what the MCAT exam is and what it tests.



Study

Study with a full complement of materials.



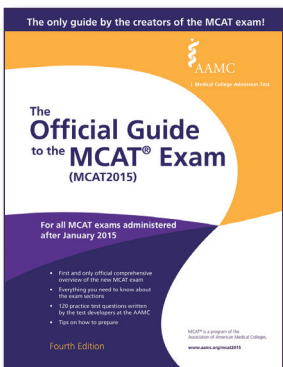
Interactive Content Tool: What's on the MCAT Exam?

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



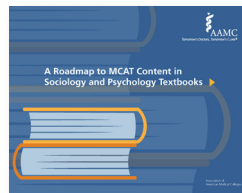
Khan Academy MCAT Collection

With more than 1,100 free videos and 3,000 review questions, the Khan Academy MCAT Collection covers all the content tested on the MCAT exam. The collection was created by Khan Academy with support and funding from the AAMC and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.



The Official Guide to the MCAT® Exam, Fourth Edition

This guide is the first and only official comprehensive overview of the new exam. It also includes 120 practice questions and solutions.



Psychology and Sociology Textbook Road Map

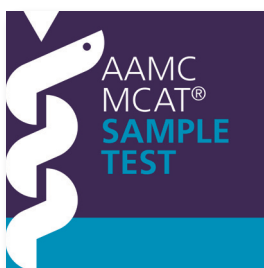
In this "road map," publishers of introductory psychology and sociology textbooks provide detailed information on where to find the concepts that you'll need to study for the new Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior section of the MCAT exam.

continued >>



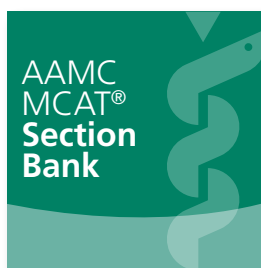
Practice

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



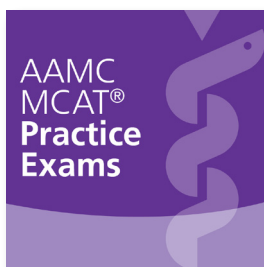
Sample Test

The 230-question online sample test mirrors the actual MCAT exam in both length and functionality. The sample test is a great way to help you identify the sections you need to focus on the most because it gives you the number and percentage of correct answers for each section. It does not, however, provide a scaled score.



Section Bank

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



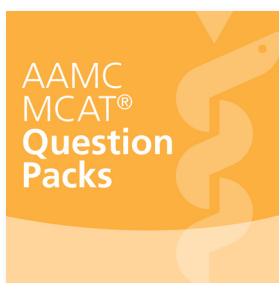
Practice Exams One and Two

The 230-question online practice exams also mirror the actual MCAT exam, and have the added benefit of a scaled score. The first practice exam is currently available, and **the second official full length practice exam is launching in Fall 2016!**



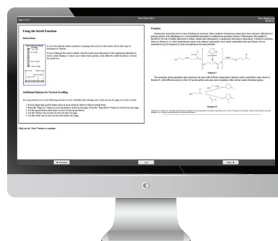
Flashcards

This packet of flashcards contains 150 discrete practice questions. You get 25 questions in each of these six disciplines: biochemistry, biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, and sociology.



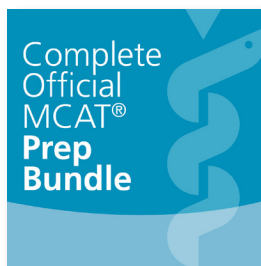
Question Packs

The online question packs provide targeted content practice in biology, chemistry, physics, and critical reasoning. Each pack contains 120 questions. The packs are available individually or as a bundle.



Practice with the MCAT Exam Features

Practice with the features of the real exam, including highlighting, striking-out answers, and using the mark button.



Complete Official MCAT Prep Bundle

The complete package includes all the current MCAT products at a significant discount over ordering each separately.

Learn more about official MCAT resources and practice materials at <https://students-residents.aamc.org/mcatprep>.

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The MCAT® Essentials for Testing Year 2017

Congratulations! Reading this guide is the first step in preparing yourself to take the MCAT® exam—another step toward a rewarding and fulfilling career in medicine.

The MCAT Essentials is the official policy and procedure guide for the MCAT exam. The following pages will provide you with fundamental information about registration, testday policies, rules to protect the integrity of the exam, and post-test procedures. You will also find a brief overview of exam content and scoring, a list of contacts and online services, as well as other helpful information.

The information included in this guide is necessary for a smooth registration and testing experience. **At the time of registration and on test day, you will be asked to certify that you have read, understand, and agree to comply with the policies and procedures contained within *The MCAT Essentials*.**

If you are a returning examinee, you must read *The MCAT Essentials* guide associated with your new registration. *The MCAT Essentials* is subject to change. The version applicable to you is the version in effect at the time of registration.

Please contact us if you have questions after reading this guide. You will find contact information for MCAT staff and related resources in Appendix A.

All of us at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) wish you all the best and much success as you move forward with your career in medicine. The path you have chosen has challenges, but the rewards are many.

Part 1: The Essential MCAT

The Medical College Admission Test® (MCAT®) is a standardized, multiple-choice exam that has been part of the medical school admissions process for more than 85 years. Almost all medical schools in the United States and many in Canada require applicants to submit recent MCAT scores as part of their application, and many health professions and graduate programs now accept MCAT scores in lieu of other standardized tests. Considering its widespread acceptance, it is no surprise that about 85,000 examinees sit for the exam each year.

The MCAT exam tests you on the skills and knowledge medical educators and physicians have identified as key prerequisites for success in medical school and in the practice of medicine. Content is divided into four multiple-choice sections and is delivered as a computer-based exam. The MCAT exam does not contain a written portion or writing sample.

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 selected locations throughout the world.

Exam Content

The MCAT exam has four 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 are organized around 10 foundational concepts or “big ideas” in the sciences and draw from the following disciplines in year-long, introductory courses in: biology, organic chemistry, general chemistry, and physics, and from first semester introductory courses in biochemistry, psychology, and sociology. Questions in these sections will ask you to combine your scientific knowledge from multiple disciplines with your scientific inquiry and reasoning skills. The final section, Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills, includes questions that test your ability to comprehend and analyze what you read and requires no specific outside content knowledge. Each of the four sections of the exam includes some “field test” questions – those questions that are being considered for future use that do not count toward your score.

AAMC and its members are actively working to promote a more diverse population within the study of medicine. It is hoped that the content and skills tested on the exam will encourage people from broad educational backgrounds to apply to medical school.

Full details on the exam content and skills can be found in our [What's on the MCAT Exam](#) interactive tool.

You can also watch this two-minute video to learn more about [the MCAT Exam](#).

The chart below provides an overview of the entire MCAT exam in order by section.

Exam Overview		
Section	# of Questions	Time Allotted
Examinee Agreement		8 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		5 minutes
Satisfaction Survey (optional)		5 minutes
Total Content Time		6 hours 15 minutes
Total “Seated” Time*		Approx. 7 hours 33 minutes
*Total seated time does not include check-in time on arrival at the test center.		

Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems

The Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems section asks you to solve problems by combining your knowledge of chemical and physical foundational concepts with your scientific inquiry and reasoning skills.

The Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems section includes:

- A total of 59 questions consisting of:
 - 10 passage-based sets of questions
 - 4–6 questions per set
 - 15 independent questions

Concepts tested in this section are typically taught at many colleges and universities in introductory, year-long courses in biology, organic chemistry, general chemistry, and physics, as well as in first-semester biochemistry courses. Most questions are organized around descriptive passages with multiple questions per passage. The other questions are not based on descriptive passages and are independent of each other.

To learn about the Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems section in greater detail, visit our [What's on the MCAT Exam](#) interactive tool.

Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills

The Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills section asks you to read and think about passages from a wide range of disciplines in the social sciences and humanities, followed by a series of questions that lead you through the process of comprehending, analyzing, and reasoning about the material you have read.

The Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills section includes:

- A total of 53 questions consisting of:
 - 9 passages
 - 5–7 questions per passage

Participation in undergraduate courses in the humanities and social sciences will enhance your performance on this section, as will familiarizing yourself with the types of critical thinking and reasoning skills these disciplines use. However, no specific disciplinary knowledge is required.

To learn about the Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills section in greater detail visit our [What's on the MCAT Exam](#) interactive tool.

Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems

The Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems section asks you to solve problems by combining your knowledge of biological and biochemical foundational concepts with your scientific inquiry and reasoning skills

The Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems section includes:

- A total of 59 questions consisting of:
 - 10 passage-based sets of questions
 - 4–6 questions per set
 - 15 independent questions

Concepts tested in this section are typically taught at many colleges and universities in introductory, year-long courses in biology, organic chemistry, and general chemistry, as well as in first-semester courses in biochemistry. Many of these questions are organized around descriptive passages with multiple questions per passage. The other questions are not based on descriptive passages and are independent of each other.

To learn about the Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems section in greater detail, visit our [What's on the MCAT Exam](#) interactive tool.

Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior

The Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior section asks you to solve problems by combining your knowledge of psychological, social, and biological foundational concepts with your scientific inquiry and reasoning skills.

The Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior section includes:

- A total of 59 questions consisting of:
 - 10 passage-based sets of questions
 - 4–6 questions per set
 - 15 independent questions

Concepts tested in this section are typically taught at many colleges and universities in introductory, year-long courses in biology and in first-semester psychology and sociology courses. Most questions are organized around descriptive passages with multiple questions per passage. The other questions are not based on descriptive passages and are independent of each other.

To learn about the Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior section in greater detail visit, visit our [What's on the MCAT Exam](#) interactive tool.

***Note:** The Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior section is written to be consistent with DSM-5. For those of you who may have learned about concepts in psychology using the previous version, DSM-IV, we have created a [resource](#) that helps you understand the changes from DSM-IV to DSM-5 that are relevant to the Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior section.*

Exam Scoring

You will receive a separate score for each of the four sections of the MCAT exam, as well as a total score. The following explains scoring in detail and highlights certain aspects of the process.

- Each section is scored from a low of 118 to a high of 132.
- Every test form of the MCAT exam measures the same basic skills and concepts. However, each form is different in regard to the specific questions it uses. Because each form has the potential to be slightly easier or slightly more difficult than another, raw scores are converted to a scale that takes into consideration the level of difficulty of the test questions on a given form. This conversion minimizes variability in the meaning of test scores across different forms.
- There is no penalty for guessing on the MCAT exam.
- Your total score is the sum of the four individual section scores and will range from 472 to 528.

For additional information on exam scoring, including a short video and an example score report, please visit our web page on [MCAT scores](#).

Part 2: Registration Essentials

Eligibility

Eligible Health Professions Graduate Programs

You may sit for the exam if you are preparing to apply to and attend a health-professions school.

Eligible programs include:

- Allopathic Medicine (M.D.)
- Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.)
- Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M)
- Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M)
- Any other health-related program that will accept MCAT exam results 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 school*.

If you are **not** intending to apply to and attend a health-professions school, or if you are a currently enrolled medical student, you must obtain special permission to register for the exam.

Failure to obtain special permission may result in, among other consequences, an investigation by the AAMC, registration cancellation, and/or a ban from taking the MCAT exam for a designated period of time or permanently. See the [Violations and Investigations](#) section to learn more about the AAMC's investigation process.

The AAMC reserves the right to send a Letter of Inquiry requiring any individual who is or who has previously registered to take the MCAT exam to explain his/her purpose for taking the exam and to confirm that s/he meets or met the eligibility requirements. Failure to fully cooperate with the AAMC's request, which includes, but is not limited to, responding in the time period specified and answering truthfully and accurately, may result in registration cancellation, a ban from taking the MCAT exam for a designated period of time or permanently, or other consequences. Letters of Inquiry will be sent to registrants via e-mail. It is the registrant's responsibility to ensure that he or she registers for the MCAT exam with an e-mail address that the registrant checks frequently. All responses to Letters of Inquiry must be submitted in writing.

Obtaining Special Permission

Individuals **not** meeting 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 applying to and attending an eligible health-professions school and program
- You are currently enrolled in an eligible health-professions school and program and are looking to change schools

Note: If you are currently accepted into a health-professions program, but have not yet enrolled in classes, you are not required to obtain special permission.

- You are unable to comply with all AAMC testing procedures and the inability is unrelated to a medical condition or disability. For medical conditions and disabilities, please refer to the [Testing With Accommodations](#) section.

To apply for special permission, please send an email explaining the reason(s) you wish to take the exam to mcats@aamc.org. We will attempt to review and respond to your request within five business days.

Please be mindful of registration deadlines when submitting your request. There are times during the testing season when there are a high number of inquiries. *We cannot extend deadline dates for any reason.*

International Examinees

There are no additional eligibility requirements for international examinees.

Before You Register

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 access other products and services, such as the AAMC practice tests, Medical School Admission Requirements® database, Fee Assistance Program, or AMCAS® application – you must use that 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 entering the MCAT Scheduling & 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 are still having problems, no longer have access to the email account that is registered, or encounter problems with the self-service security questions, please contact [AAMC Services](#).

The following are violations of the AAMC's registration rules that may result in registration or score cancellation, suspension of registration eligibility, and/or an investigation by the AAMC (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 MCAT exam testing limits, including through the use of multiple accounts.
- Providing false or inaccurate information when creating an AAMC ID or registering to take the MCAT exam
- Selling or giving away your registration to someone
- Switching registrations with another examinee

Failure to follow registration rules may create identity validation and verification issues, the potential for mistakes in the assignment of score results, and other system disruptions.

Identification

Be very careful to **enter your first and last name(s)** in the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System **exactly** the way they appear on the qualifying ID you will use on test day. If you do not provide the proper identification or your registered name does not match your qualifying ID, you will be considered a “no-show,” you will not receive a refund, and the registration will count toward one of your lifetime testing limits.

Note: If your middle name appears on the same line as your first name, you may separate out your names as necessary between the first name and middle name fields. Middle initials and/or names are not required and will not be verified on test day.

The following are a few of the potential issues you may encounter regarding your valid ID, as well as steps to correct them:

- **After submitting your registration, you realize that the first and last name(s) you entered do not exactly match the valid ID you will use on test day:** You MUST change your name in the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System to match your valid ID no later than the Bronze Zone registration deadline associated with your test date. After that time, you will not be able to alter your name in the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System and you will not be able to take the test.
- **Two last names appear on your ID:** If two last names appear on your valid ID, *both* names MUST be entered into the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System.
- **Initials on your ID:** If your valid ID has your initials in place of your full first and/or last name(s), you must contact [AAMC Services](#) for instructions *prior* to the Silver Zone registration deadline associated with your test date.
- **Mononymous name:** If you only have a single name (e.g., Madonna), you must contact [AAMC Services](#) for instructions *prior* to the Silver Zone registration deadline associated with your test date.

For information on what constitutes a qualifying form of identification, see [Providing Identification on Test Day](#).

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

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** application. All initial applications for accommodations must be submitted electronically via the [MCAT Accommodations Online](#) system on our website.

You should submit your application far enough in advance to allow us time to review your request and confirm any approved accommodations on your test day. Visit our website for more information on [application types and submission time frames](#). You must be approved for accommodations no later than the Silver Zone deadline associated with your test date (see [Figure 1: Registration Zones and Fee Structure](#) on the following pages) to allow us time to prepare and implement any approved accommodations. If you have not received a response by the Silver Zone deadline, you may test under standard conditions or reschedule to a later test date. Applicable [rescheduling fees](#) apply.

We encourage you to register for your preferred test date as soon as possible to increase the likelihood of testing in a convenient location on your preferred test date. We will notify you via email when we have made a decision on your request. If your request is approved, be sure to follow the instructions provided with your approval letter to avoid delays in confirming your accommodations. If your request for accommodations is *not* approved, your initial registration for the exam remains valid, and you may test under standard conditions.

For detailed information about the accommodations application and registration processes, visit the [MCAT Exam with Accommodations](#) page of the MCAT website.

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

The AAMC Fee Assistance Program[®]

The AAMC Fee Assistance Program is for MCAT examinees and American Medical College Application Service[®] (AMCAS[®]) applicants who, without financial assistance, would not be able to take the exam or apply to medical schools that use the AMCAS application.

***Note:** You must be approved for the Fee Assistance Program prior to registering for the MCAT exam to receive the reduced MCAT registration fees.*

For complete information regarding the Fee Assistance Program, including eligibility requirements, application processes, benefits, and associated deadlines, please visit the [Fee Assistance Program](#) page on our website.

Selecting a Test Date and Location

Registration Details

The MCAT exam is administered at hundreds of locations throughout the United States, Canada, and select locations internationally. The most **current** list of test centers **with available seats** is viewable in the [MCAT Scheduling & Registration System](#).

All registrations for the MCAT exam must be made online via the [MCAT Scheduling & Registration System](#). You will receive an email confirming your registration. If you do not receive an email confirmation within 24 hours of your registration (be sure to check your spam folder), please contact [AAMC Services](#) immediately.

- Upon submission of the online registration form, 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 qualifying ID being used on test day. **The name you used to register must exactly match the name on your qualifying ID in order to be admitted to the exam** (See [Providing Identification on Test Day](#)).
- If a testing location is not listed within the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System, we are not offering the exam at that location on your preferred test date or all of the seats at that location are currently reserved. **We do not offer a wait-list for seats that become available.**
- To review a list of *all* testing locations, *regardless of current availability*, without logging into the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System, visit [MCAT Testing Center Locations](#). Please be aware that not every test center will administer the MCAT exam on every MCAT exam date. This list only becomes available once registration opens for the testing year.

Registration Fees and Deadlines

Test centers have limited capacity and seats are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you do not find an available seat at your preferred location or on your preferred test date, we advise you to continue to check the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System. Seats may become available as examinees may cancel or reschedule their exam reservation, especially near registration deadlines and score-release dates.

***Note:** If you are registering, rescheduling, or canceling on the day of the registration deadline and experience technical problems, we may not be able to assist you in time to meet the deadline to secure your reservation.*

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

All deadlines for the Gold, Silver, and Bronze Zones are at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the day of the deadline. [Figure 1: Registration Zones and Fee Structure](#) on the following page shows all fees and restrictions applicable to registering for this year's MCAT exam. Refer to [Appendix B: Registration Deadlines](#) for details about specific deadline dates.

Note: The AAMC does not grant deadline extensions and there is no appeal process.

Figure 1: Registration Zones & Fee Structure

Registration Fees (in USD)					
GOLD ZONE		SILVER ZONE		BRONZE ZONE	
Approx. 1 month or more prior to the exam		Approx. 3–4 weeks prior to the exam		Approx. 1–2 weeks prior to the exam*	
Exact registration deadlines for each zone can be found in Appendix B: Registration Deadlines . All deadlines are at 11:59 PM ET on the day of the deadline.					
Initial Registration	\$310	Initial Registration	\$310	Initial Registration	\$365
Date and/or Test Center Reschedule Fee*	\$85	Date and/or Test Center Reschedule Fee*	\$145	No Reschedule Option	N/A
Cancellation Refund	\$155	No Cancellation Refund	N/A	No Cancellation Refund	N/A
International Fee*	\$100	International Fee*	\$100	International Fee*	\$100
Fee Assistance Program Recipients (in USD)					
Fee Assistance Registration	\$120	Fee Assistance Registration	\$120	Fee Assistance Registration	\$175
Fee Assistance Reschedule*	\$40	Fee Assistance Reschedule*	\$60	No Fee Assistance Reschedule Option	N/A
Fee Assistance Cancellation Refund	\$60	No Fee Assistance Cancellation Refund	N/A	No Fee Assistance Cancellation Refund	N/A
Fee Assistance International*	\$100	Fee Assistance International*	\$100	Fee Assistance International*	\$100
BENEFITS		BENEFITS		BENEFITS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More flexibility for dates and locations 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No increase in registration fee 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can cancel reservation, but no refund 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can reschedule exam date and/or location for the lowest fee 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can reschedule exam date and/or location for a fee 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can cancel reservation and get a partial refund 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can cancel reservation, but no refund 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower reschedule and cancellation fees for FAP recipients 					
*These fees are <u>in addition to</u> the initial registration fee.					
❖ Payment can only be made with a major credit or debit card (MasterCard or VISA), payable in U.S. funds.					
❖ Your registration will be processed immediately upon submission.					
❖ The registration process cannot be reversed once completed. You will be responsible for all fees. The AAMC may cancel your registration, withhold all scores, and/or disallow future registration and other services if payment is withheld.					
❖ International test sites include all countries, provinces, or territories outside the United States, Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.					
❖ Rescheduling into an exam date that is within the Bronze Zone requires an additional \$55 fee. This fee is the difference between the initial Silver Zone registration fee (\$310) and the initial Bronze Zone registration fee (\$365).					

Changing Your Test Center or Testing Date

All requests to reschedule must be made online via the [MCAT Scheduling & Registration System](#). You will receive an email confirming your rescheduled registration. If you do not receive an email within 24 hours of your registration, please contact [AAMC Services](#) immediately.

Please note **additional fees will apply** regardless of how quickly a change is requested after your initial registration. No exceptions will be made. ([Figure 1: Registration 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:

- Registration has opened for the desired MCAT exam date.
- Space is available. Current availability can be found online via the [MCAT Scheduling & Registration System](#).
- Changes are made prior to the Silver Zone registration deadline for the exam that you are currently scheduled to take. Once your current exam date is within the Bronze Zone, the option to reschedule is no longer available, and you may only cancel your reservation and re-register at the Bronze Zone initial registration fee. Rescheduling into an exam date within the Bronze Zone requires an additional \$55 fee. This fee is the difference between the initial Gold or Silver Zone registration fee (\$310) and the initial Bronze Zone registration fee (\$365).

Note: You cannot reschedule into a future testing year.

Testing More Than Once and Testing Limits

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

- You may only hold **one** MCAT exam reservation at a time.
- You may attempt the exam **up to three times** in a testing year.
- You may attempt the exam **up to four times** over two consecutive testing years.
- You may attempt the exam **up to seven times** in your lifetime (beginning with the April 2015 administrations).

A voided exam *does* count as one of your attempts, regardless of the reason.

A “no show” *does* count as one of your attempts, regardless of the reason.

Registering for Another Test Date

Upon completion of an exam attempt, you may register for another test date no sooner than **48 hours after your scheduled test date and time**. This rule applies to all registered examinees, including examinees who sit for an exam, experience a problem at the test center, are turned away for improper ID, or do not show up for the exam for any reason. **Attempting to register for another test date prior to the 48-hour waiting period is a violation of MCAT policies.**

Cancellations and Refunds

All cancellation requests must be made online via the [MCAT Scheduling & 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 [AAMC Services](#) immediately.

The Bronze Zone registration deadline associated with your current exam date is the last day to cancel your reservation. If you do not cancel your reservation, and you want to test at a later date, you must wait at least 48 hours after your scheduled exam time to register again.

If you cancel *on or before* the **Gold Zone registration deadline** associated with your exam date, you will receive a refund in accordance with the current year registration fees found in [Figure 1: Registration Zones and Fee Structure](#). If you cancel *after* the **Gold Zone registration deadline**, you will not receive a refund. Refer to [Appendix B: Registration Deadlines](#) for details about specific deadline dates.

- Additional fees paid for rescheduling or for international sites are non-refundable. Refunds are automatically applied to the credit card used for the initial registration; however, the funds may not appear in your account for a few days, depending on your bank's policy. **If you cancel and decide to re-register for a date within the same calendar year that you canceled, you will have to pay the full initial registration fee.**

Emergency Refund

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

The maximum refund amount is that of the current year gold zone cancellation refund found in [Figure 1: Registration Zones and Fee Structure](#) and this exam may still count as one of your attempts toward your testing limits. You will be asked to provide documentation that includes the date of onset or deployment

or jury duty, the duration of the illness or service, funeral program or death certificate, and indicate its impact on your ability to take the exam on your scheduled date.

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 following [MCAT Emergency Refund Request Form](#). Forms can be submitted by logging into the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System and using the “Upload a Document” feature found on the home page.

We will provide notification of approved refunds within two weeks of receipt of the required documentation. Approved refunds will be processed to the method of payment used during the initial registration process. *Refunds are not guaranteed.*

Absences/“No-Shows”

If you do not attend an exam for which you are registered, neither your registration nor your absence will be reported to schools. However, it *will* count toward the maximum number of attempts that you are allowed within the testing year and over your lifetime. In addition, your registration fee will not be refunded. *This policy also applies to examinees who are not admitted due to improper identification or other policy violations.*

If you wish to schedule a new test date, registration will be available **48 hours after the date and time you missed**. You will have to pay the full registration fee again—we cannot transfer the fees from the date you were absent to a new date.

MCAT Reservations are Subject to Change or Cancellation

The AAMC and its test delivery administrator, Prometric, 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 a small percentage of examinees to new locations and/or dates based on availability.

Infrequently, rescheduling is not possible. In this case, the examinee will receive a full refund. Please keep your contact information current so that the AAMC or Prometric can contact you in the unlikely event that we need to notify you of a change.

The AAMC cannot arrange for make-up exams after the testing year ends, reimburse for lost wages, or compensate for travel expenses.

Use of Personal Information

Personal information is collected during the registration process for the MCAT exam. You will be asked to consider the options below.

Identity Verification Consent

The MCAT program collects biometric and other identity data in order to identify applicants, to help prevent fraud, and to protect the integrity of the MCAT exam and the medical school admissions and matriculation process. The biometric and other identity data collected may include digital fingerprints, a

test day photo, a digitization of your valid ID, and handwritten signature(s), and may be used for the following purposes: identification during the testing process, including future MCAT administrations; investigation and other responsive actions regarding MCAT-related or admissions-related fraud and other misconduct, or as required by law; and identification during the medical school admissions and matriculation process to U.S. health-professions schools.

MCAT Recruiting Service

If you choose to participate in the MCAT Recruiting Service, you will authorize the AAMC to release your name, address, age, sex, state of residence, undergraduate major, email address, and MCAT scores to those U.S. and Canadian schools of medicine, osteopathy, podiatry, veterinary medicine, other health-related programs and scholarship programs of the U.S. Government that request the MCAT Recruiting Service and accept MCAT exam results to satisfy a test-score admissions requirement. 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 choose to participate in the service.

Participation in the MCAT Recruiting Service is voluntary and elected during the MCAT registration process only. Your decision cannot be changed once the registration is complete.

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 indicated school’s designated 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 release your AMCAS application to your health-professions advisor, the released 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.

Medical Minority Applicant Registry (Med-MAR)

The [Medical Minority Applicant Registry \(Med-MAR\)](#) is an AAMC service designed to identify students applying to medical school who are economically disadvantaged or are 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 college, undergraduate major, group identification, email address, and MCAT scores are 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, a 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.

Release to Alternate Contact

For the protection of your private information, the MCAT Program office will not accept inquiries from or provide information to third parties regarding your exam registration, administration and/or score delivery, unless specifically authorized to do so by you through this release form. Even if the office has a release on file, MCAT staff will not reveal certain details to third parties, for example your specific MCAT scores or other sensitive personal information.

By completing this authorization, the AAMC will be released 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.

AAMC Policies Regarding MCAT Examinee Data

The AAMC recognizes its 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 through its website (including the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System), web-based applications, and other AAMC programs, and how the AAMC uses this information.

As described in the [AAMC Privacy Statement](#), 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 and as directed by you in the course of your registration or use of an AAMC service or program;
- Service providers who assist us in activities such as technology management, administration management, or communications management; and
- 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 that is related to MCAT testing is done so with aggregate statistics. Individual test scores are not published or released to third parties unless permitted by the [AAMC Privacy Statement](#) or otherwise authorized by you.

By registering for and taking the MCAT exam, you give the AAMC permission to use your personal information, including your MCAT score, in accordance with the [AAMC Privacy Statement](#).

Part 3: Test Day Essentials

Know the Basics

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.

Current Address

Make sure you have the current address of your test center, which is available in the [MCAT Scheduling and Registration System](#). On rare occasions, a test center may change its address. If such an address change occurs, the AAMC or Prometric will make every effort to email or call you before your test date.

If you have registered for a to-be-determined (TBD) location, your final testing location will be communicated via email, and updated in the MCAT Scheduling and Registration system at least three weeks (21 days) prior to your exam day.

It is best to plan ahead by locating the test center prior to test day—you won't be allowed to enter the testing room, but you will know how to get there and how long it will take.

Check-In

Please report to the test center at least 30 minutes prior to your start time in order to be admitted to the exam. The test center administrator will begin checking in examinees 30 minutes before the confirmed start time. If you arrive earlier than 30 minutes, do not be alarmed if the test center is not yet open.

Check-in will include verification of your ID, assignment of secure storage of your personal items, admissions and security procedures, and receipt of your seat assignment. Missed start times may occur for a variety of reasons. There are a few important things you should note regarding missed start times:

- 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.

Most test centers will be open in the event of inclement weather, and examinees will be expected to report for their appointments. *Registration 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.

Providing Qualifying Identification on Test Day

- Only those examinees whose identity can be verified through [qualifying forms](#) will be admitted. Typically, a **driver’s license or passport will meet the acceptable criteria noted below.**
 - If you do not provide the proper identification, you will be considered a “no-show,” you will not receive a refund, and the attempt to test will count toward your [testing limits](#).
- **An acceptable ID must meet the following conditions in a single form:**
 - Be current (document must have an expiration date that has not passed)
 - Have been issued by a government agency
 - Include a photo, which can be used to positively identify you
 - Include your signature, which you will be asked to duplicate on test day
 - Be whole, with no evidence of tampering (e.g., no clipped corners or holes punched)
- **The Test Center Administrator (TCA) cannot accept:**
 - Temporary IDs, paper IDs, IDs with extension stickers, or ID application receipts of any quality since we are unable to validate authenticity
 - 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 registration deadline associated with your test.
 - Virtual IDs
 - Employee IDs
 - School IDs
 - Library cards
 - Any single ID that does not fulfill the above requirements, even if issued by government-sponsored institutions
- **The first and last name(s) on your ID (that you will use on test day) must EXACTLY MATCH the name(s) and name order in your MCAT registration.** If you registered using a partial name, nickname, or any derivation of the name that appears on your official ID (including misspellings), *you will not be admitted to the testing room.*
 - If your valid ID has your initials in place of your full first and/or last name(s), you must contact [AAMC Services](#) for instructions *prior* to the Silver Zone registration deadline associated with your test date.
 - If your valid ID contains a mononymous name, you must contact [AAMC Services](#) for instructions *prior* to the Silver Zone registration deadline associated with your test date.
- It is your responsibility to obtain and present a qualifying form of identification to the TCA.
- If your identification will expire before your scheduled test date, you are responsible for obtaining an updated ID prior to your exam.
 - If your ID has expired and you will not receive a new acceptable ID prior to exam day, you must reschedule your exam to a later administration or risk that your new ID will not arrive in time. Examinees must account for the processing time of government agencies when selecting an exam date.
- If you will not have a current ID by your scheduled test date, change your test date. (See [Changing Your Test Date or Test Center.](#))

- At the test center, your ID may be electronically swiped to check its validity, and a scanned image of the ID may be captured.
- Your consent to the AAMC’s identity verification procedures and uses is collected when you register for the MCAT exam.
- **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 registration deadline to discuss your options.**

Voiding Your Exam

On test day, you have the option to void your MCAT exam if you do not wish for your test to be scored.

You will only have ONE opportunity to void your exam. When you finish your exam, you will be asked to select one of the following options:

*I wish to have my MCAT exam **SCORED**.*

*I wish to **VOID** my MCAT exam.*

Please note:

- Your exam will be voided *only if you select the option on test day*.
- You may not void scores at a later date for any reason.
- Voiding your scores on test day means that you will not receive scores.
- Scores cannot be reinstated at a later date for any reason.
- Your test will not be automatically voided if you fail to complete one or more sections.
- If you do not click on one of the options within the time limit, your exam will be scored.
- If you click on one of the options but do not click NEXT, your selection will be automatically submitted for you when time expires.
- Notifying the test center 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.
- Once you begin a section, your exam will be scored—regardless of whether or not you answered any questions. The only remedy for this is to choose “I wish to VOID my MCAT exam” when prompted on your computer screen.
- If you must leave due to illness or other unforeseen circumstances and have not started every section, the AAMC may void your scores for you if you submit a *Test Center Concern*. (See [Reporting a Test Day Incident](#).)
- Information from voided exams is not included on any score reports that are sent to medical schools. However, indication of a voided exam will be displayed in the [MCAT Score Reporting System](#) after the scheduled score release date for you to see.

- A voided exam *does* count toward your testing limits. (See [Testing More Than Once and Testing Limits.](#)) Regardless of the reason you choose to void your exam, you must wait at least 48 hours from your original test date and time to register for a new test date.
- Voiding an exam is not grounds for a refund.

Reporting a Test Day Incident

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 should do both of the following:

- Ask the test center administrator to file a *Center Problem 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 Center Problem Report is necessary for the AAMC to take action regarding your Test Center Concern. If you do not ask the test center administrator to witness and document your concern at the time the problem occurs, the AAMC may not be able to confirm the problem.
- Submit the [MCAT Test Center Concern Form](#) to the AAMC via the MCAT Document Uploader in the [MCAT Scheduling & Registration System](#) **no later than five calendar days following your exam.** Concerns received after five calendar days will not be investigated.

MCAT Test Center Concern Forms submitted in the timeframe noted above will receive a written response detailing the findings of our investigation. If a testing irregularity is confirmed, you may provide AAMC's written response to any interested party as documentation of the incident.

The AAMC may not reverse your decision to void or score your exam as a result of a confirmed test center problem. Furthermore, examinees who complete their exam and submit it for scoring despite the occurrence of a testing irregularity may not be eligible for a refund or a free retest.

Test Day Rules

The AAMC is deeply committed to ensuring the accuracy and validity of test scores. In order to ensure the accuracy and validity of test scores and to provide fair and secure testing conditions for all examinees, the staff at each test center strictly adheres to a set of common procedures.

Below is a list of guidelines for you to follow on test day to help ensure that you are following the test day rules and procedures.

Testing Room Entrance and Exit

- Examinees will be checked in and allowed into the testing room one at a time by the test center administrator.
- The only personal items you may bring into the testing room are your ID and a pair of foam, wireless earplugs (sealed and inspected by the test center administrator). You will be provided with a storage key, scratch paper, and pencils. No other items are **permitted unless approved by the AAMC.**
- All other personal items, including jewelry, must be stowed in the provided secure storage, unless authorized by the AAMC prior to your test date. *The AAMC recommends that you bring*

as few personal items as possible to the test center on test day. Neither the AAMC nor Prometric will be responsible for lost or stolen items.

- A digital image of your fingerprint will be taken at check-in.
- You will be scanned with a metal detector wand when you enter into the testing room, as well as each time you re-enter the testing room (i.e., following breaks). If you refuse, you may not be allowed to test.
- Upon entering the testing room, you may begin your exam. Due to volume and check-in procedures, actual starting times will vary by individual. On rare occasions, wait times may extend past one hour.
- Every time you enter or leave the testing room, you must sign the Signature Log and present your ID. You also will be asked to provide your fingerprint.

In the Testing Room

- Follow all directions and verbal instructions of the testing staff.
- If you require assistance while taking the exam, raise your hand. The test center administrator will either come to you or have you step outside the testing room for assistance.
- You will be assigned a seat upon entrance. Assignments are predetermined and requests for seat changes will not be granted. You are required to use this seat assignment for the duration of the exam and you must return to your assigned seat when returning from a break.
- Once you begin, you are considered to have tested even if you void or do not complete the test. (See [Voiding Your Exam.](#))
- You may not bring a timer or watch into the testing room. A testing clock will be visible on your monitor throughout the examination and will start counting down as soon as you begin your exam.
- Time is counted down by section. If you finish a section early, you may continue on to the next section, but *additional time will not be counted toward any subsequent sections or breaks.* You will also not be able to return to a previous section once it has been completed.
- You may not eat, drink, or smoke in the testing room.
- Be sure to dress comfortably and come prepared for varying room temperatures. You may find the testing room cooler or warmer than you expected as energy-saving practices vary widely among testing centers.
- If you need to remove an item of clothing (e.g., sweater) during the exam, you will be instructed to place it on the back of your chair during your exam or in the secure area outside of the testing room. *The exam clock will not stop during this time.*

Scratch Paper

- You will be provided with scratch paper for note taking during any timed sections of the exam and during breaks while you are at your workstation. You may not remove your scratch paper from the testing room during breaks or at the end of the test.

- You must adhere to the time allotted for each section. If your timer expires before you accept the Examinee Agreement at the beginning of the test, your exam will shut down and may not be restarted.
- You may not rip, tear, or separate the scratch paper booklet or attempt to conceal or remove it, in part or in whole, from the exam room. Your provided scratch paper must remain on your desk and in one piece. If you require additional scratch paper while you are completing the exam, raise your hand to alert the test center administrator, who will replace your original booklet with a new one.

Breaks

- Two optional 10-minute breaks and one optional 30-minute mid-exam break are provided during the exam.
- You must remain in the test center vicinity. Please ask the test center administrator for more information.
- You are permitted to bring your own food or drinks, which you may only access on your breaks. These items must be stored outside of the testing room.
- You are not permitted to possess, access, or use electronic devices, including cellular phones, at any time after check-in and prior to completing the exam.
- You are not permitted to possess, access, or use books, notes, or any other written materials of any kind from the time the check-in process begins through the full completion of your exam (other than scratch paper provided for your use by test center staff).
- 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.

Other Security Rules and Procedures

- If you have an item you need in the testing room for medical reasons, you must request testing accommodations and obtain approval from the AAMC prior to test day. (See [Testing With Accommodations.](#))
- You will be asked to turn your pockets inside-out to show they are empty.
- Access to the test center is restricted to test center personnel, examinees, and authorized observers.
- Test Center Administrators will perform periodic security walk-throughs of the testing room.
- You may not wear hats or scarves (except for religious purposes) during the test. If your clothing has a hood, it must not cover your head at any time.
- You may not remove your shoes or sandals during the test.
- Your photo ID must be visible on your desk at all times.
- You must conduct yourself in a civil manner while in the testing center. Aggressive, disruptive, or uncooperative examinees will be asked to leave and will not receive a refund.
- Attempting to gain an unfair advantage by any means is absolutely prohibited.

Prometric Testing Center Regulations

The AAMC contracts with Prometric for administration of the MCAT exam. For a list of [Testing Center Regulations](#) maintained at each Prometric testing center, or more information about the company, please visit their [website](#).

Violations and Investigations

Examinee Agreement

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 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. You must acknowledge and accept all terms of the Examinee Agreement, including those contained in *The MCAT Essentials*, each time you register and sit for the MCAT exam. Because the Examinee Agreement, including any additional terms contained in the current version of *The MCAT Essentials*, is a legally binding contract, you should read it and *The MCAT Essentials* very carefully. You can also find the current version of *The MCAT Essentials* on the AAMC website at www.aamc.org/mcat. *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 complete your registration for the exam or proceed with your exam on test day.*

The Examinee Agreement will appear on five screens on test day: an introduction screen, a screen identifying prohibited items and behaviors during the test, and three screens that describe the terms governing your access to the MCAT exam. On the last screen you will be asked to indicate your agreement to all of the obligations described on the preceding screens.

Note: On test day, you must once again agree to the terms of this Examinee Agreement in the time indicated at the bottom of your screen; if you do not, your exam will time out and may not be restarted. You will not receive a refund.

Below is the full text of the Examinee Agreement:

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Before you continue with this exam, you must agree to each of the terms described on the following screens. You will be asked to indicate your agreement at the end of this section. Adherence to the Examinee Agreement is necessary to enable the AAMC to maintain for you and other examinees a fair and secure testing process. Each of these statements reflects a requirement that has previously been communicated to you in *The MCAT Essentials*, which sets forth MCAT registration and testing policies and procedures, all of which are expressly incorporated into the terms of the Examinee Agreement. You previously agreed to be bound by these terms when you registered for the MCAT exam, and to proceed with this exam, you must reaffirm your agreement to these terms. If you do not do so within the allotted time, you will not be permitted to test today. You will not receive a refund.

By selecting “I Agree” at the end of the Examinee Agreement, you acknowledge that you have read and understand these rules.

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The following items and behaviors are strictly prohibited during the MCAT exam and during lunch or any other 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 scratch paper provided for your use by test center staff);
- Looking at the content of another examinee’s monitor or scratch paper; and
- Disruptive or abusive behavior, talking in the testing room with anyone other than a proctor, or talking about or discussing the exam during lunch or any other break.

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

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I am aware that the MCAT exam is a confidential exam and that its contents are being disclosed to me today 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 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 the registered copyrights for the MCAT exam include all MCAT exam questions, passages, graphics, incorrect responses, and correct answers. I agree that disclosure, reconstruction, and/or copying 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. In addition, I understand and agree that the following confidential contents of the MCAT exam constitute trade secrets that I am bound to keep confidential indefinitely: MCAT exam topic selection, frequency and order of exam topics, exam questions, passages, incorrect responses, correct answers, and graphics, as described in greater or more specific detail in the [AAMC MCAT Content Outline](#). I understand and agree that protecting and preserving the confidentiality and security of the MCAT exam ensures the validity of exam results and the integrity of the admissions process.

I agree that I will not discuss or share with anyone any information about the questions, answer choices, or other content appearing on the MCAT exam after I take the exam. I agree that I will not discuss or disclose any MCAT content orally, in writing, on the Internet, or through any other means, nor will I assist anyone else in doing so. I further agree that I will not reconstruct any portion of the exam from memory—whether orally or in writing—for the purpose of sharing that information with any other

individual or entity. I understand that I may comment on my general exam experience; however, I understand that discussing or disclosing MCAT content, by any means, is a violation of this Examinee Agreement. I understand that I cannot share information about what I saw on the exam, or discuss exam content, with anyone. Prohibited sharing includes, but is not limited to, describing any passage or exam topic, question, incorrect response, correct answer, or graphic in greater or more specific detail than described in the [AAMC MCAT Content Outline](#), to include discussing or disclosing a topic list, or describing the frequency or order in which such topics appear.

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, digital or 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 by the AAMC related to my receipt or access to information believed or represented to contain confidential MCAT exam content, as set forth in *The MCAT Essentials*.

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I certify that all information that I provided to the AAMC at the time of registration for the MCAT exam and at any time thereafter was complete, accurate, and true in every respect and that, if any of the information that I previously provided to the AAMC has changed since the time I provided it, I have submitted updated information that is complete, accurate, and true and that reflects all such changes. I understand that providing false, misleading, or incomplete information to the AAMC shall be considered an intentional and willful breach of the Agreement and will subject me to one or more of the consequences provided herein for violations of the 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 presented 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 and 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 I understand the circumstances under which individuals are required to apply for special permission to take the MCAT exam as set forth in *The MCAT Essentials*, and that, if those circumstances apply to me at the time of my registration or at any time prior to taking the MCAT exam, I have applied for and received special permission to take the MCAT exam.

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 updated any change in such status that took place after registration, as required in *The MCAT Essentials*. 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 and 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.

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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 will be investigated. 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 or the terms and conditions of *The MCAT Essentials*, 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 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.

Information about the AAMC's investigation process may be found in *The MCAT Essentials*.

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

Investigation Procedures

- If the AAMC receives information that any individual has engaged in irregular behavior or any conduct that may compromise the integrity of the MCAT exam (including copyright infringement or violation of the terms of the Examinee Agreement), MCAT officials will investigate the claim and may issue a report of the factual findings of the investigation.
- Any examinee who is the subject of an investigation by the AAMC shall: fully cooperate with the AAMC's 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. Examinees shall truthfully and completely answer all questions posed during investigative interviews conducted by or on behalf of the AAMC. An examinee's refusal to cooperate with the AAMC's investigation or presentation of false or misleading information to the AAMC or its representatives in the course of an AAMC investigation shall constitute a

serious and material breach of the Examinee Agreement and shall serve as a separate and independent basis for the AAMC to take action against the examinee as described below.

- If a report of the incident is to be issued, the AAMC first notifies the examinee about available options, which may include the opportunity to submit a statement explaining the examinee's actions, request reconsideration, or appeal the AAMC's decision.
- At its sole discretion, the AAMC may elect to send the report documenting the incident, with any attachments provided by the examinee, to legitimately interested parties, including all persons or agencies to which the examinee has instructed that scores be sent, both presently and in the future.
- The AAMC also may elect to cancel an examinee's test scores when there is reason to believe that the scores are invalid, or that the examinee has engaged in behavior that violates the Examinee Agreement. The AAMC also may elect to suspend an individual's eligibility to test for a limited period of time or permanently.
- The AAMC may, at its sole discretion, file a civil lawsuit against an examinee for material breaches of the Examinee Agreement that cause damage to the AAMC and/or a third party. In addition, the AAMC may, at its sole discretion, refer an examinee to one or more federal, state, or local prosecuting attorneys for criminal investigation and prosecution when it has a reasonable basis to conclude that the examinee may have committed a crime in the course of violating the Examinee Agreement.

Arbitration for Investigation Disputes

There is one exclusive remedy available to examinees who wish to appeal or otherwise challenge a decision made by the AAMC to send an investigation report to legitimately interested parties. That remedy is binding arbitration obtained through written submissions before a single arbitrator under the JAMS Streamlined Arbitration Rules and Procedures in the District of Columbia. Examinees electing to proceed with arbitration understand that they are waiving their rights to file suit against the AAMC in any court of competent jurisdiction. **The sole issue for arbitration shall be whether the AAMC acted reasonably and in good faith in making its decision.**

Registration Violations

The investigations process as described in *The MCAT Essentials* also applies to registration rules violations. Examples of violations include, but are not limited to:

- Providing false or misleading information at the time you create your AAMC ID or while registering to take the MCAT exam
- Using another examinee's AAMC ID
- Allowing someone to use your AAMC ID
- Obtaining more than one AAMC ID for any purpose, including holding more than one exam registration at the same time or to bypass the MCAT exam allowable testing limits (see [AAMC ID](#))
- Providing false or inaccurate information or answers while registering for an MCAT administration

If the AAMC suspects that you may have committed a registration violation that, if true, would threaten the validity, integrity, and/or security of the MCAT exam and there is not enough time to fully investigate and resolve the issue prior to your scheduled exam date, AAMC may cancel or reschedule your exam to afford time to conclude the investigation.

Testing Irregularities

The AAMC reserves the right to investigate any behavior by any examinee which may be considered detrimental to a fair and secure testing process or which impacts the testing environment, security, and integrity of the exam. If an examinee violates procedures or engages in any irregular behavior, it will be reported to the test center administrator and to the AAMC.

At the AAMC's discretion, the investigation process, as described in *The MCAT Essentials*, may apply to any rules violation. The AAMC also may investigate any indicators that scores may not be valid, such as unusual similarities to the answers of other examinees.

Examples of prohibited actions include, but are not limited to:

- Giving or receiving assistance
- Copying the work of another examinee
- Using prohibited aids (e.g., desktop timers, watches, calculators, or other electronics)
- Impersonating an examinee or engaging someone else to take the examination for you
- Presenting false, altered, or tampered identification to attempt to gain admission to the test center
- Tearing or ripping scratch paper, attempting to remove scratch paper from the testing room
- Attempting by any means to duplicate, record, or memorize test content or any other test materials
- Failing to follow the test center administrator's instructions after being warned
- Creating a disruption of any kind
- Destruction of test center property
- Verbally or physically harassing or threatening other examinees or test center or AAMC staff
- Violating test center regulations or procedures
- Violating state, federal, or local laws, regulations, or policies
- Being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs
- Soliciting, discussing, or disclosing exam content, or otherwise violating the terms of the Examinee Agreement
- Providing false or misleading information about an MCAT exam, score, score submission, or testing history to any institution, entity, or individual

Note: *Video surveillance is used in all test centers.*

Consequences for examinees found to be in violation may include, but are not limited to:

- Registration or score cancellation without a refund
- Suspension of registration eligibility
- Submission of an investigation report to legitimately interested parties
- Being subjected to a civil lawsuit and/or criminal charges
- Being banned from taking the MCAT exam for a limited time, or permanently

Discussion of the MCAT Exam

The AAMC developed a set of guidelines to help you understand the terms under which you sit for the MCAT exam, the prohibition on disclosure of exam content, and how to 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
- **What is NOT permitted**
 - Describing any passage or exam topic, question, incorrect response, correct answer, or graphic in greater or more specific detail than described in the [AAMC MCAT Content Outline](#), which includes discussing or disclosing a topic list, or describing the frequency or order in which such topics appear
 - 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.

Reporting Violations

The MCAT exam is administered under strict supervision and security measures. Nevertheless, some examinees choose to disregard the rules in an effort to gain an unfair advantage. As a condition of permitting you to take the exam, the Examinee Agreement requires that if you 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, digital or electronic files and/or paper documents, that you reasonably believe contains confidential MCAT exam content, or has been represented to contain confidential MCAT exam content, you will immediately report its existence to the AAMC by sending an email to mcatsecurity@aamc.org.

During or before test day, please report to the AAMC and/or the test center 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.

Reports of violations of the Examinee Agreement, cheating, disclosure of confidential MCAT exam content, wrongdoing, and other actions, or 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.

Please report all potential violations to 202-903-0840, and/or MCATSecurity@aamc.org.

Part 4: Post-Test Essentials

Receiving and Sending Scores

Receiving Test Scores

Your test scores will be available for viewing by no later than 5:00 p.m. ET on the day of the score release for your exam. You may view your scores by signing in to the [MCAT Score Reporting System](#). Until scores are released, you will not see your recent exam date(s) in the history section of the MCAT Score Reporting System. See the [Testing Year MCAT Schedule](#) for tentative release dates (Appendix B).

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

Score Reporting through AMCAS

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 insert your scores into 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.

In the event that 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.

Since the April 2003 test, the AAMC has followed a full disclosure policy. This means 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.

Score Reporting through the MCAT Score Reporting System

The [MCAT Score Reporting System](#) is used to view your test scores, and it can also be used to release your scores to institutions not participating in the AMCAS service.

Through this system, you have the ability to print official score reports, or send them electronically, to whomever you wish. Recipients can verify official score reports online, and there is no additional charge to examinees for use of this system.

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.

False or inaccurate claims made to the AAMC, any institution, or any other entity related to scores or score submissions is a violation of AAMC policy that is subject to [Investigation Procedures](#).

Retaking the Exam

If you feel that your scores are low or do not accurately reflect your abilities, you may wish to take the MCAT exam again. Examinees are allowed to test up to three times in a testing year, up to four times over two consecutive testing years, and up to seven times in a lifetime. (See [Testing More Than Once and Testing Limits.](#))

Rescoring Exams

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 extremely remote. 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 request within three weeks of receipt via email. The response letter will either confirm that your original scores were correct 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)	
Entire Exam (all four sections)	\$60

To request a rescore, upload the [MCAT Rescore Request form](#) via the MCAT Document Uploader in the [MCAT Scheduling & Registration System](#) **no later than 30 calendar days following the score release date.**

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 service is not delivered or completed, the AAMC may permit the affected examinee(s) either to retest at no additional fee or receive a partial or full refund of the registration fee.

***Note:** The remedies described below 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.*

Disruptions in Testing and Potential Compromises

Events leading to any of the following may be considered cause for the AAMC to examine the situation:

- Cancellation or interruption of testing or deviation from required testing procedures
- Possible advance access to exam content by one or more examinees
- Other disruptions or compromises to the normal testing process

If the AAMC concludes that corrective action is warranted, you may be offered the option to either retest at no additional fee or receive a full or partial refund of your registration fee.

Note: Examinees choosing to retest must retake the entire exam to produce a valid score.

If affected examinees are found to have caused or been involved in the conduct that resulted in corrective action, the AAMC may withhold either or both of the aforementioned options and may pursue the investigations process. (See [Investigation Procedures](#).)

Test Center Closures or Workstation Outages

For those examinees unable to complete their exam due to test center closures or workstation outages, 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.

After you are rescheduled to a new test date, the same cancellation policies, change fees, and deadlines apply; therefore, if you decide to make any additional changes or cancel, you must do so by the deadlines associated with the new date and submit any applicable fees.

In the event that the AAMC or Prometric cancels your reservation for any reason, you must reschedule to a new test date or request a refund *within the same testing year in which the cancellation occurred*.

Note: We are unable to approve requests to schedule a new reservation or approve a refund after the testing year ends.

Test Question Challenges

Please notify the AAMC **no later than five calendar days following your exam** if you discover a question you believe to be flawed or ambiguous.

Upload the [MCAT Test Question Challenge form](#) via the MCAT Document Uploader in the [MCAT Scheduling & Registration System](#). Challenges received after five calendar days will not be investigated.

The AAMC will provide a written response 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.

Contacting Us

AAMC 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 registration deadline associated with your test date*. Please allow two business days for a reply to your email.

AAMC Services

202-828-0600

mcats@aamc.org

Hours:

Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. (ET)

Closed Wednesday, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. (ET)

On MCAT exam days, staff are available at a minimum from 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.

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

Appendix A: Contacts and Online Resources

Accommodations www.aamc.org/mcat/accommodations
Email: accommodations@aamc.org

**American Medical College
Application Service (AMCAS®)** www.aamc.org/amcas
Email: amcas@aamc.org
Phone: 202-828-0600

MCAT Scores <https://apps.aamc.org/score-reporting-web>

Fee Assistance Program www.aamc.org/fap
Email: fap@aamc.org
Phone: 202-828-0600

Email: mcat@aamc.org

Phone: 202-828-0600

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

MCAT Security Email: mcatsecurity@aamc.org
Phone: 202-903-0840

Practice Products www.aamc.org/mcat/preparing
Email: mcatprep@aamc.org
Phone: 202-828-0600

Appendix B: Registration Deadlines

All exams begin at 8:00 a.m.

All deadlines are at 11:59 p.m. ET on the day of the deadline.

2017 Exam Dates	GOLD ZONE BEGINS	GOLD ZONE DEADLINE	SILVER ZONE BEGINS	SILVER ZONE DEADLINE	BRONZE ZONE BEGINS	BRONZE ZONE DEADLINE
Thursday, January 19, 2017	October 19, 2016	December 19, 2016	December 20, 2016	January 4, 2017	January 5, 2017	January 10, 2017
Saturday, January 28, 2017	October 19, 2016	December 28, 2016	December 29, 2016	January 13, 2017	January 14, 2017	January 20, 2017
Friday, March 31, 2017	October 19, 2016	March 1, 2017	March 2, 2017	March 16, 2017	March 17, 2017	March 23, 2017
Saturday, April 22, 2017	October 19, 2016	March 22, 2017	March 23, 2017	April 7, 2017	April 8, 2017	April 14, 2017
Friday, April 28, 2017	October 19, 2016	March 28, 2017	March 29, 2017	April 13, 2017	April 14, 2017	April 20, 2017
Saturday, May 13, 2017	October 19, 2016	April 13, 2017	April 14, 2017	April 27, 2017	April 28, 2017	May 5, 2017
Thursday, May 18, 2017	October 19, 2016	April 18, 2017	April 19, 2017	May 3, 2017	May 4, 2017	May 10, 2017
Friday, May 19, 2017	October 19, 2016	April 19, 2017	April 20, 2017	May 3, 2017	May 4, 2017	May 10, 2017
Thursday, June 1, 2017	October 19, 2016	May 1, 2017	May 2, 2017	May 17, 2017	May 18, 2017	May 23, 2017
Friday, June 16, 2017	October 19, 2016	May 16, 2017	May 17, 2017	June 1, 2017	June 2, 2017	June 8, 2017
Saturday, June 17, 2017	October 19, 2016	May 17, 2017	May 18, 2017	June 1, 2017	June 2, 2017	June 8, 2017
Thursday, June 29, 2017	October 19, 2016	May 30, 2017	May 31, 2017	June 14, 2017	June 15, 2017	June 21, 2017
Friday, June 30, 2017	October 19, 2016	May 30, 2017	May 31, 2017	June 14, 2017	June 15, 2017	June 21, 2017
Friday, July 21, 2017	TBD	June 21, 2017	June 22, 2017	July 6, 2017	July 7, 2017	July 13, 2017
Saturday, July 22, 2017	TBD	June 22, 2017	June 23, 2017	July 6, 2017	July 7, 2017	July 13, 2017
Thursday, July 27, 2017	TBD	June 27, 2017	June 28, 2017	July 12, 2017	July 13, 2017	July 19, 2017
Friday, July 28, 2017	TBD	June 28, 2017	June 29, 2017	July 12, 2017	July 13, 2017	July 19, 2017
Thursday, August 3, 2017	TBD	July 3, 2017	July 4, 2017	July 19, 2017	July 20, 2017	July 26, 2017
Friday, August 11, 2017	TBD	July 11, 2017	July 12, 2017	July 26, 2017	July 27, 2017	August 3, 2017
Friday, August 18, 2017	TBD	July 18, 2017	July 19, 2017	August 4, 2017	August 5, 2017	August 10, 2017
Saturday, August 19, 2017	TBD	July 19, 2017	July 20, 2017	August 4, 2017	August 5, 2017	August 10, 2017
Thursday, August 24, 2017	TBD	July 24, 2017	July 25, 2017	August 9, 2017	August 10, 2017	August 16, 2017
Friday, September 1, 2017	TBD	August 1, 2017	August 2, 2017	August 17, 2017	August 18, 2017	August 24, 2017
Saturday, September 2, 2017	TBD	August 2, 2017	August 3, 2017	August 17, 2017	August 18, 2017	August 24, 2017
Saturday, September 9, 2017	TBD	August 9, 2017	August 10, 2017	August 25, 2017	August 26, 2017	August 31, 2017



**Association of
American Medical Colleges**

655 K Street, N.W., Suite 100, Washington, D.C. 20001-2399

T 202 828 0400

www.aamc.org