



| Medical College Admission Test

# The MCAT<sup>®</sup> Essentials for Testing Year 2015

(Exams administered beginning April 2015)

## 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<sup>®</sup> is a program of the  
Association of American Medical Colleges

[www.aamc.org/mcat](http://www.aamc.org/mcat)

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## The MCAT® Essentials for Testing Year 2015

(Exams administered beginning April 2015)

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

The *MCAT Essentials* is the official policy and procedure guide to the MCAT exam. On the following pages, you will find fundamental information about registration, test-day policies, rules to protect the integrity of the exam, and post-test procedures. This includes 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 that which was in effect at the time of registration.

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

All of us at the AAMC would like to wish you much success as you move forward with your career in medicine. The path you have chosen will have many challenges, but the rewards will long outweigh them.

**Note:** *At the time of reservation and on test day, you must agree to all the policies and procedures contained within the MCAT Essentials.*

## Part 1: The Essential MCAT

The Medical College Admission Test® (MCAT®) is a standardized examination that has been part of the medical school admissions process for more than 85 years. Virtually all medical schools in the United States and many in Canada require applicants to submit recent MCAT scores as part of their application packet, 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 more than 85,000 examinees sit for the exam each year.

The MCAT exam tests examinees on the skills and knowledge medical educators and physicians have identified as key prerequisites for success in medical school and the practice of medicine. Content is divided into four multiple-choice sections.

In conjunction with its member medical schools, the AAMC (Association of American Medical Colleges) 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 ten foundational concepts or ‘big ideas’ in the sciences and draw from the following disciplines: biology, biochemistry, organic chemistry, general chemistry, physics, 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 last section listed, 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.

Increasing diversity within the study of medicine is something the AAMC and our members actively promote and endeavor to advance. It is hoped that the new 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 at: [www.aamc.org/mcat2015exam](http://www.aamc.org/mcat2015exam)

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                |
| <b>Total “Seated” Time*</b>  |                | <b>Approx. 7 hours   33 minutes</b> |
| *Total seated time does not include check-in time on arrival at the test center. |                |                                     |

**Note:** Each of the four scored multiple-choice sections includes some experimental items that do not count toward your score.

## 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. Questions in this section draw from the following disciplines: biology, biochemistry, general chemistry, organic chemistry, and physics. Most questions are organized around a descriptive passage. The other questions are not based on a descriptive passage and are independent of each other.

The Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems section is divided as follows:

- Total of 59 questions
- 10 passage-based sets of questions
  - 4–6 questions per set

- 15 independent questions

Concepts tested on this section are typically taught at many colleges and universities in introductory-level biology, organic chemistry, general chemistry, and physics courses as well as first semester biochemistry courses.

To learn more about The Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems section in greater detail visit: [www.aamc.org/mcat2015exam](http://www.aamc.org/mcat2015exam)

## 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 is divided as follows:

- Total of 53 questions
- 9 passages
  - 5–7 questions per passage

Participation in a variety of 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 more about The Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills section in greater detail visit: [www.aamc.org/mcat2015exam](http://www.aamc.org/mcat2015exam)

## 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. Questions in this section draw from the following disciplines: biology, biochemistry, organic chemistry, and general chemistry. Most questions are organized around a descriptive passage. The other questions are not based on a descriptive passage and are independent of each other.

The Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems section is divided as follows:

- Total of 59 questions
- 10 passage-based sets of questions
  - 4–6 questions per set
- 15 independent questions

Concepts tested on this section are typically taught at many colleges and universities in introductory-level biology, organic chemistry, and general chemistry courses as well as first semester biochemistry courses.

To learn more about The Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems section in greater detail visit: [www.aamc.org/mcat2015exam](http://www.aamc.org/mcat2015exam)

## 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. Questions in this section draw from the following disciplines: biology, psychology, and sociology. Most questions are organized around a descriptive passage. The other questions are not based on a descriptive passage and are independent of each other.

The Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior section is divided as follows:

- Total of 59 questions
- 10 passage-based sets of questions
  - 4–6 questions per set
- 15 independent questions

Concepts tested on this section are typically taught at many colleges and universities in introductory biology and first-semester psychology and sociology courses.

To learn more about The Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior section in greater detail visit: [www.aamc.org/mcat2015exam](http://www.aamc.org/mcat2015exam)

***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. This resource can be found here:*

*<https://www.aamc.org/students/download/411460/data/dsm5.pdf>*

## 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.

*Note: Examinees who elect to void the scored portion of the MCAT exam will not receive a score on the exam*

- Each section is scored from a low of 118 to a high of 132.
- Every 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 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 forms.
- There is no penalty for guessing.
- Your total score is the sum of the four individual section scores and will range from 472 to 528.

Additional information on MCAT exam scoring can be found here:

<https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/mcat2015/mcat2015scores/>

Please view the following short video to learn more about the new score scale at

[www.aamc.org/mcat2015/scorevideo](http://www.aamc.org/mcat2015/scorevideo).

## Part 2: Registration Essentials

### Eligibility

#### Eligible Health Professions Graduate Programs

You may sit for the exam if you are preparing to apply to 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)

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 a health professions school*.

If you are **not** applying to 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 being banned from the MCAT exam for a 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 registered to take the MCAT to explain his/her purpose for taking the exam and to confirm that s/he meets the eligibility requirements. Failure to fully cooperate with the AAMC's request, including responding in the time period specified or failure to respond truthfully may cause the individual's current seat to be revoked, negatively impact future opportunities to sit for the exam, or result in other consequences.

### Obtaining Special Permission

Individuals **not** meeting the eligibility requirement above must apply for special permission to take the MCAT exam. This includes one or both of the following:

- You wish to take the test for any reason other than applying to a health professions school
- You are a currently enrolled medical student looking to change medical schools

To apply for special permission, please send an email explaining the reason(s) you wish to take the exam to [mcats@aamc.org](mailto: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 is a high number of inquiries. *We cannot extend deadline dates for any reason.*

## International Students

There are no additional eligibility requirements for international students.

## Identification

### AAMC ID

You will need an AAMC ID, an associated user name, and password to register for the MCAT exam.

If you have already created an AAMC ID, you must use this user name and password when registering for your MCAT exam. Note that you would have created an AAMC ID to access other products and services, such as the AAMC practice tests, MSAR® database, Fee Assistance Program, or AMCAS® application, so this AAMC ID (and associated user name and password) is part of your requisite identity.

If you do not have an existing AAMC ID, you will be directed to create a new user name and password when entering the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System.

**If you forget your user name or password, DO NOT create a new AAMC ID.** Try resetting your password on the registration login page. If you are still having problems, contact AAMC Services at [mcat@aamc.org](mailto:mcat@aamc.org), or 202-828-0600.

The following are violations of the AAMC's registration rules in which you may be subject to registration or score cancellation, suspension of registration eligibility, and investigation by the AAMC for providing false or misleading information at the time you create your AAMC ID (See [Investigation Procedures](#)):

- 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
- Obtaining more than one AAMC ID
- Holding multiple reservations at the same time under different AAMC IDs
- Taking the MCAT exam more than the allowable testing limits by using multiple AAMC IDs

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

## Registration and 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 ID you will use on test day. If you do not provide the proper identification or your registered name does not match your ID, you will be considered a “no-show”, you will not receive a refund, and the attempt to test will count toward allowable testing limits.

The following are a few of the potential issues you may encounter regarding your 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 ID you will use on test day.*** You MUST change your name in the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System to match your 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 will not be able to take the test.
- ***Two last names appear on your ID:*** If two last names appear on your ID, *both* names MUST be entered into the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System.
- If your ID has your initials, you must contact AAMC Services for instructions *prior* to the Silver Zone registration deadline associated with your test date at 202-828-0600.

## Selecting a Test Date

### 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 available in the [MCAT Scheduling & Registration System](#).
- If a testing location is not listed within the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System, we are not offering the exam at that location for your preferred test date, or all of the seats at that location are currently reserved.
- To review a list of *all* testing locations, *whether there is current availability or not*, 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.
- The only way to register for the MCAT exam is online via the [MCAT Scheduling & Registration System](#). 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 your government-issued ID being used on test day; the name you used to register must exactly match the name on your government-issued ID in order to be admitted to the exam (See [Providing Identification on Test Day](#)).
- If you do not receive email confirmation within 24 hours, please immediately contact AAMC Services at [mcats@aamc.org](mailto:mcats@aamc.org) or 202-828-0600.

**Note:** *Online preregistration is required. Walk-in registration is not available.*

## Benefits of Testing in April 2015

An incentive will be offered to examinees who attend and complete an April 17 or 18 MCAT exam. These examinees will receive an Amazon.com gift card for \$150, half the cost of registering for the new

exam. Recipients of the AAMC Fee Assistance Program will receive this benefit in the amount of a \$60 Amazon.com gift card, which is also half the cost of their registration fee. Please note that eligibility for this incentive does not require the submission of the exam for scoring (i.e. you may void your exam). The gift card code will be sent via email approximately three weeks after your exam date.

## Registration Fees and Deadlines

*Don't wait until the last minute to register!* For the best chance of reserving your preferred test date and location, we recommend you register at least 60 days in advance. 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 continue to check the MCAT Scheduling & Registration System as examinees may cancel or reschedule and seats may become available, especially near deadline dates.

Please keep in mind that 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.

Refer to [Appendix B: Registration Fees and Policies](#) for an easy-to-use chart of all applicable fees and restrictions, and [Appendix C: Registration Deadlines](#) for details about specific deadline dates. There are three registration zones for each testing date in testing year 2015: 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.
- **GOLD ZONE fees** are required for reservations submitted approximately one month or more before the exam date:
  - \$300 for initial registration or \$115 for Fee Assistance Program (FAP) recipients
  - \$70 for rescheduling a test center location and/or test date or \$30 for FAP recipients
- **SILVER ZONE fees** are required for reservations submitted approximately two to three weeks before the exam date:
  - \$300 for initial registration or \$115 for FAP recipients
  - \$130 for rescheduling test center location and/or test date or \$50 for FAP recipients
  - *The reschedule option is not available after this deadline has passed.*
- **BRONZE ZONE fees** are required for reservations submitted approximately one to two weeks before the exam date:

- \$350 for initial registration or \$165 for FAP recipients
- *The cancellation option is not available after this deadline has passed.*
- The International Registration fee is \$95 for all examinees during all registration zones, and is in addition to the cost of initial registration or rescheduling. International test sites include all countries, provinces, or territories outside the United States, Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- Payment can only be made online 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.

## 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 our [Web site](#).

## Testing More Than Once and Testing Limits

Beginning with the April 2015 MCAT exam there are NEW testing limits. Examinees who opt to test more than once must adhere to the following restrictions:

- Only **one** MCAT reservation may be held at a time
- You may attempt the exam **up to three times** in a testing year (beginning with the April 2015 administrations).
- You may attempt the exam **up to four times** over two consecutive testing years (beginning with the April 2015 administrations).
- 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 for the void.

- ❖ “No shows” also count as one of your attempts, regardless of the reason for the no show.
- ❖ Test administrations occurring *prior* to April 2015 *do not* count toward any of these testing limits.

## Changing Your Test Center or Testing Date

You may change your test date and/or test center, provided:

- Space is available. (The most current availability can be found online via the [MCAT Scheduling & Registration System](#).)
- You make the change prior to the Silver Zone registration deadline for your currently scheduled exam.
- Registration has opened for the desired MCAT exam date.
- Rescheduling into an exam date that is within the Bronze Zone requires an additional \$50 fee. This fee is the difference between the initial Silver Zone registration fee (\$300) and the initial Bronze Zone registration fee (\$350).

All requests to reschedule must be made online via the [MCAT Scheduling & Registration System](#). Please note that **additional fees will apply** regardless of how quickly the change is requested after your initial registration. No exceptions will be made. ([Appendix B: Registration Fee Structure and Policies](#))

Making all your changes at one time will save you some money. For example, if you make a simultaneous change to both test date and test center, you will be charged one rescheduling fee; however, if you make the changes separately, a fee will be assessed for each change.

## 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 at [mcat@aamc.org](mailto:mcat@aamc.org) or 202-828-0600.

**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, you must wait 48 hours after the exam to register again.**

- **If you cancel *on or before* the Gold Zone registration deadline** associated with your exam date, you will receive a refund of \$150.
  - **If you are a Fee Assistance Program recipient**, your refund will be \$60.
- **If you cancel *after* the Gold Zone registration deadline**, you will not receive a refund.
- **If you decide to re-register for a date within the same calendar year that you cancelled**, you will have to pay the full registration fee.

- Additional fees paid for rescheduling or international sites are *non-refundable*.
- In most cases, the refund will be automatic and applied to your original form of payment; however, the funds may not appear in your account for a few days, depending on the policy of your bank.

Selling or giving away your registration to someone else is strictly prohibited, as is switching registrations with another examinee. (See [AAMC ID](#))

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

## 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

*The maximum refund is \$150 for standard reservations or \$60 for Fee Assistance Program registrants, 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, 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.*

Please contact AAMC Services by phone at 202-828-0600 or by email at [mcat@aamc.org](mailto:mcat@aamc.org) for more detailed rules and instructions. We will provide notification of approved refunds within two weeks of receipt of the required documentation.

*Requests for emergency-related refunds must be received no later than three weeks after your scheduled test date.*

Except for the limited emergency situations described above, *no refunds will be issued* for failure to sit for the exam or “no shows.” *No exceptions* will be granted for any reason, and there is no appeal process.

*Note: 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 attempts you are allowed within

the testing years 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.*

**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 appointment date.

## Registering for Another Test Date

*You may register for another test date 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.*

## Testing Appointments are Subject to Change or Cancellation

Testing appointments 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.

Infrequently, rescheduling is not possible. In this case, the examinee will receive a full refund. Please keep your contact information current so that we 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 travelling expenses.

## Accommodated Testing

**If you have a disability or medical condition** that you believe requires an adjustment to testing conditions, we encourage you to apply for testing accommodations. We recommend that you submit documentation of your disability or condition at the time of registration. A decision regarding most requests will be made within 60 days of receipt of a complete application; therefore, you will want to submit a complete application well in advance of (but no later than 60 days before) the [Silver Zone registration deadline](#) associated with your preferred test date. This allows time for the review cycle and the time needed to confirm any approved accommodations.

Before submitting your request, we strongly encourage you to review the different [application time-frames and types](#).

We highly recommend that you register for a "standard" testing seat prior to requesting accommodated testing. This increases your likelihood of obtaining the date and test site you prefer. The MCAT Office of Accommodated Testing will notify you in writing within 60 days if your request has been approved and will provide you with additional steps to confirm your registration. Be sure to follow the instructions

provided with your approval letter to avoid delays in processing your request. **If your request for accommodations is *not* granted**, your initial registration for the exam remains valid, and no further action is required. If you decide you want to cancel your registration, refer to [Cancellation and Refunds](#).

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

*Note: The accommodations pages of our Web site are required reading for all applicants seeking accommodated testing.*

## Use of Personal Information

Personal information is collected during 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 to identify applicants, help prevent fraud, and 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, digitization of your government-issued 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. medical schools. For more information about the use of your data in the medical school admissions and matriculation process, please read these [FAQs](#).

### MCAT Recruiting Service

If you choose to participate in the MCAT Recruiting Service, your name, address, email address, state of legal residence age at the time of the exam, sex, undergraduate college, undergraduate major, degree of primary interest, and MCAT scores may be made available for medical student recruiting efforts to the following:

- Accredited medical schools located in the U.S. and Canada
- Schools of Osteopathic medicine
- Schools of Podiatry
- Schools of Veterinary Science
- Scholarship programs of the U.S. government (including the U.S. military)

Participation in the MCAT Recruiting Service is elected during the MCAT registration process only. You will be prompted to accept or reject this offer.

### Health Professions Advisor Release

Choosing the Health Professions Advisor Release permits the AAMC to include your scores and demographic information in a Web-based report that is distributed to your undergraduate health professions advisor(s). Advisors use this information when counseling students and may share your

scores with members of their premedical committees and other individuals involved in preparing your letters of recommendation.

You may only release your scores to your advisor(s) at one undergraduate institution you have attended. If you chose to release your AMCAS application to your health professions advisor, your MCAT scores will be included regardless of how you answer this question during the MCAT registration process.

*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 a service of the AAMC designed to identify medical school applicants who are economically disadvantaged, or who self-identify as a member of a racial or ethnic group historically underrepresented in medicine. The purpose of the program is to help increase opportunities for minorities in medicine.

You are eligible for Med-MAR if you meet one of the following sets of criteria:

- You are a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident, *and* you are economically disadvantaged
- You are a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident, *and* 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).

If you agree to participate, your name, address, age, sex, state of residence, undergraduate college, undergraduate major, group identification, email address, and MCAT scores will be made available to all U.S. medical schools and other health-related agencies. Participation in Med-MAR is elected during the MCAT registration process only, at which time, you will be prompted to accept or reject this offer.

## Release to Alternate Contact

For the protection of your private information, the AAMC 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 the Release to Alternate Contact consent. Even if the office has a release on file, MCAT staff will not reveal certain details to third parties, such as your specific MCAT scores or other personal information such as social security numbers, etc.

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 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 organization, 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, administration, 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 AAMC's services or networks; or (iv) enforce or protect 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 states. There are also 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 you before your test date.

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.

#### Arrive 30 Minutes before the Scheduled Start Time

**You must 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 examinees in 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 procedures, and receipt of your seat assignment.

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 leave ample travel time to reach your test center safely.

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 will not be allowed to test.*
- There are no refunds granted for late arrivals or missed exams (“no shows”).
- You may register for another exam date 48 hours after your original test date and time. Just log in to the [MCAT Scheduling & Registration System](#) to register for another test date. Please note that you will be charged the full registration fee.

Due to the nature of the check-in process, not all examinees will begin testing precisely at the scheduled start time.

It is not unusual to wait an additional half hour or more beyond the scheduled start time. This will not affect your total testing time.

## Providing Identification on Test Day

- Only those examinees whose identity can be verified through qualifying forms will be admitted.
  - 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 allowable testing limits.
- **An acceptable ID must meet the following conditions:**
  - Be current (document must have expiration date that has not passed)
  - Have been issued by a government agency (driver’s license or passport)
  - Include a photo, which can be used to positively identify you
  - Include your signature, which you will be asked to duplicate on test day
- **The Test Center Administrator (TCA) cannot accept:**
  - Temporary IDs and ID application receipts of any quality
  - Virtual IDs
  - Employee IDs
  - School IDs
  - Library cards
  - Any ID that does not fulfill the above requirements, even if issued by government-sponsored institutions.
- **Your 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.*
- It is your responsibility to obtain and be prepared to present a qualifying form of identification to the Test Center Administrator.
- Know when your ID expires. If your identification will expire before your scheduled test date, you are responsible for obtaining an updated ID.
  - 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.
- Temporary IDs and ID application receipts will *not* be accepted at the test center because we are unable to validate their authenticity.
- 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. Electronic capture of your biometric data allows for easier and quicker return to the testing facility after breaks. See the [Identity Verification Web site](#) for more information about the AAMC’s collection and use of biometric information.
- **If you are unable to provide the required identification (driver’s license or passport), 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 for further assistance at 202-828-0600.**

## Voiding Your Exam

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 request it on test day*.
- You cannot 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 statements during that time, your exam will be scored.
- If you click on one of the statements, but do not click NEXT, the selection you clicked on 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 the option is provided 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 the option is provided 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.

- A voided exam *does* count as one of the attempts in your allowable testing limits. (See [Testing More Than Once and Testing Limits](#))
- Indication of a voided exam will be displayed in the [MCAT Score Reporting System](#) after the scheduled score release date, but your decision to void an exam is not released to any medical schools.
- Regardless of the reason you choose to void your exam, you must wait 48 hours from your original test date and time to register for a new test date.
- No refunds are provided for a voided test — regardless of the reason.

## Reporting a Test Day Incident

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

- File a *Center Problem Report* with the test center administrator at your **facility 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 raise your concern with the test center administrator at the time the problem occurs, the AAMC may not be able to confirm the problem
- Upload the [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.

*Test Center Concerns* 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 the written response to any interested party as documentation of the incident.

The AAMC will not reverse your decision to void or score your exam as a result of a confirmed test center problem. No exceptions will be made to this policy under any circumstances. Furthermore, examinees who complete their exam and submit it for scoring despite the occurrence of a testing irregularity are not 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. You may bring only your ID, storage key/bag, scratch paper and pencils provided by the test center, and a pair of foam, wireless earplugs (sealed and inspected by the test center administrator) into the testing room. All other items are prohibited and 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 on test day.*
- You will be scanned with a metal detector wand when you enter into the test room, as well as each time you re-enter the test room (i.e., following breaks). If you refuse, you cannot 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; please be prepared to wait up to one half hour. 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.
- A digital image of your fingerprint will be taken at check-in. For more information, visit the [Identity Verification Web site](#).

## 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. This seat must be maintained 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 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 colder 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 in the secure area. *The exam clock will not stop during this time.*

## Scratch Paper

- You may use your scratch paper during the Tutorial and Examinee Agreement section.
- You may use your scratch paper for note taking during any timed sections of the exam and during the breaks. However, you must adhere to the time allotted for each section. If your timer expires without accepting the Examinee Agreement, 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.

## 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 access on your breaks. These items must be stored outside of the testing room.
- Accessing food or drinks or any other personal items without explicit permission from the test center administrator, except during breaks, is a security violation and will be reported to the AAMC.
- You are not permitted to study or access cell phones or other electronic devices during the exam or while on break.
- 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

- 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). **Nothing else is permitted unless approved by the AAMC.**
  - 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 [Accommodated Testing](#))
- You may 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.
- 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, an outside vendor, 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 [Web site](#).

## Violations and Investigations

### Examinee Agreement

In addition to agreeing to the policies contained herein when you register for the MCAT exam, you will also be asked to accept the Examinee Agreement on test day.

The Examinee Agreement sets forth terms under which you agree to sit for the MCAT exam, including, but not limited to, a prohibition on discussion or disclosure of exam content. *If you do not indicate that you agree to abide by the terms of the Examinee Agreement, or if you do not respond within the time provided, you will be unable to test and you will not receive a refund.*

The Examinee Agreement will appear on five screens before you start your test.

They are in the order they will appear:

- A screen that describes prohibited items on exam day
- An introduction and instruction screen, and
- Three screens that describe the terms for taking the MCAT exam.

On the last screen you will be asked to indicate your agreement to all information contained on the preceding screens.

**Note:** *You must agree to the Examinee Agreement in the time indicated on your screen on test day; if you don't, your exam will time out and may not be restarted.*

Below is the full text of the Agreement:

**Page 1 of 5**

The following items and behaviors are strictly prohibited during the MCAT exam and during breaks:

- Electronic devices, including cellular phones;
- Recording equipment of any kind;
- Books, notes, or study materials of any kind; and
- Disruptive or abusive behavior, talking in the testing room with anyone other than a proctor, or talking about or discussing the exam during a break.

By selecting ‘I Agree’ at the end of the Examinee Agreement, you acknowledge that you have read and understand the rules above. Possession of any prohibited item or exhibition of any prohibited behavior shall be considered an intentional and willful breach of MCAT security policies.

**Page 2 of 5**

Before you continue with this exam, you must agree to each of the statements on the following screens, as well as the previous prohibited items screen just displayed. You will be asked to indicate your agreement at the end of this section. Adherence to the Examinee Agreement is necessary if the AAMC is 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® testing policies. If you do not agree to these terms within the allotted time, you will not be permitted to test today. You will not receive a refund.

**Page 3 of 5**

I certify that I am the person whose name and address appear on the registration. I further certify that I am the person whose name appears on the identification I presented for admission to the testing room. I am taking the MCAT® exam solely for the purpose of applying to an allopathic, osteopathic, podiatric, public health, veterinary medicine, or other health professions school. I certify that I am not taking the exam for any other reason. I certify that I am not taking the MCAT exam in my capacity as a test preparation agent or tutor, or for the purpose of obtaining such employment. If I am taking the exam for any purpose other than to apply to a health professions school, I have applied for and received special permission to take the MCAT exam as set out in *MCAT® Essentials*.

I have read and will comply with the terms set forth in *MCAT® Essentials*, including, but not limited to, the rules and regulations concerning test-day procedures, the ban on bringing study materials or other prohibited information or items into the testing room, and other prohibited conduct before, during, or following the exam administration. I have read, understand, and agree to the limited remedies available to examinees in the event of any errors in test delivery or administration, scoring, or score reporting.

**Page 4 of 5**

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 have been informed that the MCAT exam and exam questions are copyrighted and that they are protected by U.S. and international copyright and trade secret laws.

I agree that I will not discuss or disclose MCAT exam content orally, in writing, on the Internet, or

through any other medium. I agree that I will not copy, reproduce, adapt, disclose, or transmit exams or exam questions, in whole or in part, or assist anyone else in doing the same. I further agree that I will not reconstruct exam content from memory, by dictation, or by any other means, for the purpose of sharing that information with any other individual or entity.

I understand that prohibited acts include, but are not limited to: describing questions, passages, or graphics from the exam; identifying terms or concepts contained in exam questions; sharing answers to questions; referring others to information I saw on the exam; reconstructing a list of topics on the test; and discussing exam questions, answers, passages, graphics, or topics on Internet "chat" rooms, message boards, forums, or through other means.

### **Page 5 of 5**

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. I also understand and agree that if I provide false information, violate the terms of this Examinee Agreement, any other terms or conditions stated in the *MCAT® Essentials*, or any test center rules and regulations, 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*, including a post-exam identity verification:

- That the AAMC may issue a report of the factual findings of the investigation to legitimately interested parties;
- That I might be subject to a civil lawsuit and/or criminal charges;
- That my scores may be canceled, before or after the scores are reported, without a refund; and
- That 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 online.

I agree to comply with the terms of the Examinee Agreement and 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 may incur fees as determined through the arbitration process. **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 Examinee Agreement 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
- 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](#))

**If we find that you are in violation of any rule pertaining to AAMC IDs, we may cancel your registration or test scores, and you will not be eligible for a refund.**

## 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 Examinee Agreement, may apply to any rules violation. The AAMC also may investigate any indicators that scores may not be valid, such as unusual similarities in 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, answer documents, 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 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
- Examinees may not provide false or misleading information about their MCAT exam, score or testing history to any institution

**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 and/or criminal law suit
- 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:**
  - Discussing or posting the text (full or partial) of a test question and/or answer
  - Reconstructing an exam question (in whole or in part), list of topics, or exam question arrangement tested in a particular section
  - Mentioning a specific topic that was tested on an exam
  - Outlining the steps or process to answer a question
  - Speculating about which passages are field-test or experimental items
  - 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.

Please report to the test center administrator and/or the AAMC any questionable behavior you observe, or have reason to believe has occurred or 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 as a medical school applicant as well.

We encourage you to report violations of questionable behavior to the AAMC; however, we recognize that anonymity is sometimes important to individuals who report alleged wrongdoing. You may anonymously report violations to us by making clear in your email or telephone call that you wish to remain anonymous. If you report such activity anonymously, we will not disclose your identity unless required to do so by a subpoena or court order. **Please report all potential violations to 202-903-0840, and/or [MCATSecurity@aamc.org](mailto:MCATSecurity@aamc.org).**

## Part 4: Post-Test Essentials

### Receiving and Sending Scores

#### Releasing Test Scores

Your test scores will be available by signing in to the MCAT Score Reporting System after 5:00 p.m. ET on the day of the score release for your exam. See the [Testing Year 2015 MCAT Schedule](#) for tentative release dates.

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 your 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.

While it will take longer than the usual 30-35 days for April and May examinees to receive official score reports, you will still be able to submit your applications to medical schools at the same time as examinees who took the previous version of the exam. This is because official score reports for examinees taking April and May exams will be released (and thus transmitted to AMCAS applications) before the first round of verified applications are sent by AMCAS to medical schools in early July.

#### Score Reporting through the MCAT Score Reporting System

The MCAT Score Reporting System is used to both view your test scores as well as release your scores to institutions not participating in the AMCAS service.

Through this system, you have the ability to print official score reports and send them 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.

#### Preliminary Percentile Rank Ranges

If you test early in the 2015 testing year, you will have to wait longer than the usual 30-35 days for your official score reports. Because of this delay, the AAMC will be providing **April, May, and June examinees preliminary percentile rank ranges** approximately three weeks after your exam date in the MCAT Score Reporting System. These preliminary percentile rank ranges will help you understand your

scores so you can make decisions about whether or not to retest or to which schools to apply while waiting for your official score reports. These preliminary percentile rank ranges will not be sent to medical schools, only to you. You are welcome to share the information with your pre-health advisors.

## 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.

Approximately three weeks after we have received your request, you will receive your results in writing. 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 |

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.**

## 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. Starting with the new exam in April 2015, examinees are allowed to test up to three times in a testing year, up to four times over two testing years, and up to seven times in a lifetime (See [Testing More Than Once and Testing Limits](#)).

## 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. If 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 appointment 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 appointment or approve a refund after the testing year ends.*

## Test Question Challenges

Please notify the AAMC immediately 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](#) **no later than five calendar days following your exam.** Challenges received after five calendar days will not be investigated.

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](mailto:mcats@aamc.org)

### Hours:

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

On MCAT exam days, limited staff are available at a minimum from 7:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m. (ET)

*These hours are subject to change. Please visit our [Web site](#) for the most up to date information.*

To report violations or questionable behavior to the AAMC, please contact the MCAT Security Tip Line:

### **MCAT Security Tip Line**

202-903-0840

[mcatssecurity@aamc.org](mailto:mcatssecurity@aamc.org)

***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

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**Accommodations** <https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/accommodations/>  
Email: [accommodations@aamc.org](mailto:accommodations@aamc.org)

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

**Exam Scores** <https://services.aamc.org/mcatthx>

**Fee Assistance Program** [www.aamc.org/fap](http://www.aamc.org/fap)  
Email: [fap@aamc.org](mailto:fap@aamc.org)  
Phone: 202-828-0600

Email: [mcat@aamc.org](mailto: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

**Practice Products** <http://www.aamc.org/mcat/preparing>

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## Appendix B: Registration Fee Structure and Policies

| 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 E: Registration Deadlines.<br>All deadlines are at 11:59 PM ET on the day of the deadline.   |       |  |       |   |       |
| Initial Registration  | \$300 | Initial Registration   | \$300 | Initial Registration  | \$350 |
| Date and/or Test Center Reschedule Fee**  | \$70  | Date and/or Test Center Reschedule Fee**   | \$130 | No Reschedule Option  | N/A   |
| Cancellation Refund   | \$150 | No Cancellation Refund   | N/A   | No Cancellation Refund  | N/A   |
| International Fee**   | \$95  | International Fee**  | \$95  | International Fee**   | \$95  |
| Fee Assistance Program Recipients (in USD)  |       |  |       |   |       |
| Fee Assistance Registration   | \$115 | Fee Assistance Registration  | \$115 | Fee Assistance Registration   | \$165 |
| Fee Assistance Reschedule**   | \$30  | Fee Assistance Reschedule**  | \$50  | 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*   | \$95  | Fee Assistance International*  | \$95  | Fee Assistance International*   | \$95  |
| ADDITIONAL BENEFITS   |       | ADDITIONAL BENEFITS  |       | ADDITIONAL BENEFITS   |       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More flexibility for dates and locations</li> </ul>  |       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No increase in registration fee</li> </ul>                    |       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can cancel reservation, but no refund</li> </ul> |       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can reschedule exam date and/or location for the lowest fee</li> </ul>   |       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can reschedule exam date and/or location for a fee</li> </ul> |       |   |       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can cancel reservation and get a partial refund</li> </ul>   |       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can cancel reservation, but no refund</li> </ul>              |       |   |       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower reschedule and cancellation fees for FAP recipients</li> </ul>   |       |  |       |   |       |
| **These fees are <u>in addition to</u> the initial registration fee.  |       |  |       |   |       |
| ❖ Payment can only be made with a major credit card (MasterCard or VISA), payable in U.S. funds.  |       |  |       |   |       |
| ❖ Your registration will be processed immediately upon submission.  |       |  |       |   |       |
| ❖ <b>The registration process cannot be reversed once completed.</b> 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 \$50 fee. This fee is the difference between the initial Silver Zone registration fee (\$300) and the initial Bronze Zone registration fee (\$350).            |       |  |       |   |       |

## Appendix C: 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.*

| 2015 Exam Dates              | GOLD ZONE BEGINS  | GOLD ZONE DEADLINE | SILVER ZONE BEGINS | SILVER ZONE DEADLINE | BRONZE ZONE BEGINS | BRONZE ZONE DEADLINE |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Friday, April 17, 2015       | February 11, 2015 | March 17, 2015     | March 18, 2015     | April 3, 2015        | April 4, 2015      | April 10, 2015       |
| Saturday, April 18, 2015     | February 11, 2015 | March 18, 2015     | March 19, 2015     | April 6, 2015        | April 7, 2015      | April 13, 2015       |
| Friday, May 22, 2015         | February 11, 2015 | April 22, 2015     | April 23, 2015     | May 8, 2015          | May 9, 2015        | May 15, 2015         |
| Friday, June 19, 2015        | February 11, 2015 | May 19, 2015       | May 20, 2015       | June 5, 2015         | June 6, 2015       | June 12, 2015        |
| Saturday, June 20, 2015      | February 11, 2015 | May 20, 2015       | May 21, 2015       | June 8, 2015         | June 9, 2015       | June 15, 2015        |
| Friday, July 17, 2015        | TBD               | June 17, 2015      | June 18, 2015      | July 6, 2015         | July 7, 2015       | July 10, 2015        |
| Saturday, July 18, 2015      | TBD               | June 18, 2015      | June 19, 2015      | July 6, 2015         | July 7, 2015       | July 13, 2015        |
| Wednesday, August 05, 2015   | TBD               | July 6, 2015       | July 7, 2015       | July 22, 2015        | July 23, 2015      | July 29, 2015        |
| Thursday, August 06, 2015    | TBD               | July 6, 2015       | July 7, 2015       | July 23, 2015        | July 24, 2015      | July 30, 2015        |
| Friday, August 21, 2015      | TBD               | July 21, 2015      | July 22, 2015      | August 7, 2015       | August 8, 2015     | August 14, 2015      |
| Saturday, August 22, 2015    | TBD               | July 22, 2015      | July 23, 2015      | August 10, 2015      | August 11, 2015    | August 17, 2015      |
| Thursday, September 03, 2015 | TBD               | August 3, 2015     | August 4, 2015     | August 20, 2015      | August 21, 2015    | August 27, 2015      |
| Friday, September 11, 2015   | TBD               | August 11, 2015    | August 12, 2015    | August 28, 2015      | August 29, 2015    | September 4, 2015    |
| Saturday, September 12, 2015 | TBD               | August 12, 2015    | August 13, 2015    | August 31, 2015      | September 1, 2015  | September 8, 2015    |



**Association of  
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