

Timeline for Medical School Admission

For the most part will work for dental school applicants as well

This process normally starts in the Junior year

- ❑ **Nov - April** -Study for MCAT; Materials available in Chemistry Department Office and online. (More on this later)
- ❑ **Mid-Nov through March** -Register for MCAT online. Check the available dates and which ones will work for you. Be sure to register as early as possible to help assure you get the desired date for the exam.

It is very important that you **release your scores** to me, your pre-med advisor.

Review courses & materials for MCAT study. Research potential medical schools (see Medical School Admissions Requirements MSAR in Chemistry office or get one of your own from Amazon - \$25). -Apply for summer research and medical-related internship opportunities.

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□ **April** - Write drafts of your AMCAS application essay. Have Dr. Marten, your advisor, and/or an English professor critique it if you wish.

Form your evaluation committee. Dr. Marten is the *ex officio* chair of your committee, and all evaluation forms should be completed by the individuals you choose and have them sent to him. The evaluation forms are available at the [Health Website](#).

Before you leave for the summer, have the Registrar send transcripts to AMCAS, non-AMCAS schools you are applying to, a copy to Dr. Marten and to you. You will want this semester's grades on them, so they will not be out right away, but arrange for it now.

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❑ **May** -Check with Dr. Marten before you depart and ensure that letters of evaluation from your committee members have been received. Follow up on letters which have not arrived. Begin the AMCAS application which is available in early May. This will take some time.

Be sure to release your information to your pre-med advisor, Dr. Marten.

❑ **June 1-5** -AMCAS will take applications beginning this week, or within a few of days. It helps to have yours in early, so submit the first day it is possible! Complete and send non-AMCAS applications according to dates specified (Texas System - TMDSAS; Osteopathic - AACOMAS; Off-Shore Schools). Send a copy of the complete-processed AMCAS application to Dr. Marten as a pdf attachment to an email.

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- ❑ **Summer** - Take the MCAT as soon as possible, but no later than early September. Check the registration dates for your chosen exam date. You really should complete the MCAT by the middle of June to have the best chances with schools who have rolling admissions. Also, an early exam date will allow you to re-take it if you did not receive the score you wanted.
- ❑ **August** - Check with Heidi Henes-Van Bergen and Dr. Marten to make sure all your letters of evaluation are in. We are using Eureka to track the status of the files this. Please sign up for the course: **Pre Med 2009-1**

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❑ **Aug-Oct** - Send in Secondary (supplemental) applications sent to you, fees included. These may require photos, additional essays, high school info, etc. Return them ASAP. Communicate with Heidi Henes-van Bergen in the Chemistry Office and Dr. Marten when committee letters of evaluation are requested from your schools. We use the VirtualEvals service to submit the letters and there are only a couple of schools that do not use this service.

❑ **Oct-Jan** - Interviews! Please send Dr. Marten information about your medical school interview for each interview you receive. Check with other students and sites like “studentdoctor.net” for help in finding out what happens at specific schools. Practice interviewing with other students and friends. Become a reader of the NY Times and the Wall Street Journal, especially in relation to issues in medicine. Send a “Thank You” note to schools that interviewed you.

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❑ **Jan** Send fall transcripts to schools that require them.

❑ **Anytime** -Medical School financing is important. You can access information on loan programs of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC.org), and the Scholarship Programs of the National Health Service Corps and the Armed Services. Some schools have scholarships for their students. A good resource for those living in the western US can be found at the WICHE website:

<http://www.wiche.edu/sep/psep/stateInventory.pdf>

Pause for Questions



MCAT Study Aids

Formal Study Courses

Kaplan

Princeton Review

Positives: Thorough review with lectures.

Practice exams very helpful

Exam strategy provided

Negatives: Cost (close to \$2k)

Timing

Teacher quality varies

Commuting time may be a factor

MCAT Study Aids

Guided Study

ExamCrackers (costs around \$150 plus exams)

Seems to be one of the best in this area

Many of our grads have used it with success

Negatives:

Not as structured as a formal course

The Process at Westmont

We have a Committee Structure for taking care of the letters of evaluation required by the medical schools.

The Committee involves me (David Marten, the committee chair) and
Between 3 and 5 other members.

Normally at least two faculty from the sciences/math and one outside.

An extra letter from a Practitioner (MD) is also an option (required for Dental and Osteopathic programs).

No more than 5 letters is recommended.

I write a composite letter based on the submitted letters. All are included in the letter packet that goes to the schools.

The Process at Westmont

Three forms (these forms are hyperlinked)

1. [Declaration Form](#)
2. [Committee Form](#)
3. [Faculty Evaluation Form](#)

The Process at Westmont

1. Declaration Form

Due by May 1, 2008

Tells us that you are going to use our service. We will provide a committee letter and collect the individual letters.

This can be filled out by hand.

The Process at Westmont

2. Committee Form

Due by May 1, 2008

This form lists your committee members and is used as a cover sheet for your letters file. It contains a waiver to insure confidentiality of the content of the letters.

This **MUST** be typed, and signed, as it will be part of the file sent to the schools

The Process at Westmont

3. Evaluation Form

Give to evaluators by May 1, 2008

Your letter writers will fill this out and return it to me with their letter of evaluation, printed on letterhead paper and signed and dated by them.

Please inform your letter writers to have them back to me by May 31, 2008.

File is kept for 3 years and then destroyed.

Final Comments and Questions

Eureka!

Please sign up for the Eureka course at Westmont called

Pre Med 2009-1

We will use this to keep track of all the items required for us.

- Declaration form
- Committee form
- Letters of evaluation from faculty
- Westmont Transcripts
- AMCAS (final version in pdf format)

Final Comments and Questions

Join the Facebook Group; So you want to be a Doctor!?

Become my Friend on Facebook.

Keep me updated on your progress

Questions