

PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION

Being a Doctor

Making the right decision

THE APPLICATION

1. Experiences
2. Personal Statement
3. Academics
4. Letters of Recommendation
5. Make it easy for screeners to find information
6. Anything on the application is fair game for interviewers

EXPERIENCES

1. Broad interests and life experiences help you relate to other people
2. Never choose an experience "to get in"
3. Choose an experience because it appeals to you or is important to you
4. Record what you learned from each experience
5. Reflect rather than describe

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

1. Motivation
2. Why are you interested?
3. In what ways are you suited for medicine?
4. Show us how you know that this is the right career for you.

ACADEMICS

| MCAT | 2-3 | | 4-5 | | 6-7 | | 8-9 | | 10-11 | | 12-13 | | 14-15 | |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|
| | acc | tot | acc | tot | acc | tot | acc | tot | acc | tot | acc | tot | acc | tot |
| >3.75 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 12 | 23 | 102 | 60 | 215 | 35 | 112 | 3 | 7 |
| 3.5-3.74 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 12 | 29 | 152 | 42 | 209 | 14 | 48 | 0 | 2 |
| 3.25-3.49 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 23 | 121 | 18 | 107 | 2 | 16 | 0 | 0 |
| 3.00-3.24 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 4 | 55 | 2 | 31 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 2.75-2.99 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 19 | 3 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 2.50-2.74 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.10-2.48 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTALS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 54 | 80 | 451 | 125 | 574 | 54 | 181 | 3 | 9 |

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MEAN SCORES

1. GPA 3.65
2. MCAT 10.45
3. Verbal score on MCAT 10
4. Writing sample Q

GPA < 3.5

1. Inadequate high school preparation
2. Time to adjust to college
3. A bump in the road for personal or family reasons
4. An **upward trajectory** or some compelling reason for lower than average grades

Compensating for low GPA

1. Graduate level science courses
 - Also if you've been out of school > 5 years
2. Post-baccalaureate program

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MCAT

2. Verbal reasoning is critical- a measure of problem solving ability
3. VR < 7 is associated with problems on USMLE
4. Writing sample-ability to communicate ideas clearly

MCAT < 9

2. Was the MCAT taken before completion of pertinent course work?
3. Out of school > 5 years before taking MCAT
4. Prep course taken?
5. Problems with standardized tests
6. Test anxiety

Compensating for low MCAT

2. More school course work and repeat
3. MCAT practice tests on line
4. MCAT commercial preparation course
5. Learning specialist
 - SAT problems?
