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Medical School Applications & Interviews

Sites of Interest to Medical School Applicants

AAMC: Association of American Medical Colleges

www.aamc.org/students/start.htm

- Curriculum Directory - Provides description of medical school programs
- Information on admissions policies and requirements of different programs
- Info on the AAMC Fee Assistance Program which provides a reduction in fee of the MCAT exam and 10 free medical school applications for those in financial need
- Information on financial planning and the application process
- Links to what medical school is like and other resources for potential medical students

AMCAS: American Medical College Application Service

www.aamc.org/students/amcas/start.htm

- Many potential medical students utilize this service
- Non-profit centralized application processing service for applicants to first year medical programs
- The primary application are, assembles a file, verifies it, and forwards the application to designated medical schools.
- Sends the transcript and MCAT scores

chemistry.about.com/od/medicalschoools/

- MCAT prep, top study guide rankings, articles and resources about applying

www.accepted.com/medical/

- Do's and Don'ts of Essay Writing
- 10 Secrets to Good Writing
- Getting Letters of Recommendation
- Secondary Essays
- Medical School for Non-Science Backgrounds
- Sample Medical School Essays

Additional Sites

- www.studentdoctor.net
- www.nd.edu/~preprof/medical.html
- www.medicalhelpnet.com
- www.bestpremed.com
- honors.missouri.edu/current-students/premed-info.html
- www.medhelper.com/students.htm

Interview Recommendations & Observations

- Review your Personal Statement
- Many students report that the interviews were very "laid back," conversational, and informal. You may spend more time with current students and admissions staff than with faculty.
- May be difficult to prepare for an interview because there's no way to know what will be asked.
- Important that you can articulate not just why you want to become a physician, but why you want to attend that school. Never state or imply that this school is not your first choice.
- Interviewers may ask you to explain or elaborate on AMCAS and Secondary essays (i.e., your most difficult situation in the past 3-5 years)
- Know the school and program (via website, literature). Do a PubMed search and read articles written by the people who will be interviewing you.
- Be prepared to discuss ethical scenarios
- Group interviews are the most stressful and the ones applicants feel they performed the most poorly on.
- **Errors of Commission:** Acting arrogant, demanding, selfish, stressed out, indecisive, racist, sexist, etc.
- **Errors of Omission:** Having no questions, being overly quiet, unenthused, disinterested, or unmotivated

Books in the Career Resource Center (235 Campus Life Building)

Plan Your Career in Alternative Medicine ▪ The Making of a Chiropractor ▪ How to Succeed in Chiropractic College
Becoming a Physician ▪ Vital Signs: Working Doctors Tell the Real Story Behind Medical School and Practice

To access all Career Services' handouts, visit: www.niu.edu/careerservices/handouts.html

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