

Health Professions Advisors' Guide

A collaborative guide brought together by a special team from: TAAHP, TXHES, TMDSAS, & JAMP



JAMP



Sections

Special Programs

- 3 About TMSAS
- 4 About JAMP
- 5 About TXHES

Pre-Dental

- 6 Preparing for Dental School
- 7 ADEA & AADSAS

Pre-Medical

- 8 Preparing for Medical School
- 9 MCAT
- 10 AACOMAS & AAMCAS

Pre-Veterinary

- 11 Preparing for Veterinary School
- 12 AAVMC & VMCAS



- 13 TAAHP, SAAHP, NAAHP

Contact

TMSAS:

info@tmsas.com
512-499-4785
www.tmsas.com

JAMP:

info@texasjamp.org
512-499-4352
www.texasjamp.org

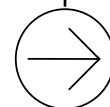
TXHES:

info@txhes.com
www.txhes.com
www.insidehealtheducation.com

P.O. Box 2175
Austin, TX 78768



The Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service (TMSAS) is the centralized application processing service for applicants to the first-year entering classes at all of the public medical, dental, and veterinary schools in the State of Texas.



Beyond the Application

TMSAS simplifies the application process for both the applicants and the participating schools. We provide one standardized application, relieving students of the need to complete a separate application for each of the participating schools.

The TMSAS participating schools benefit by receiving uniform information on all applicants and by designing the questions on the application. TMSAS is housed within the Texas Health Education Service in Austin, Texas.

Member Institutions [↗](#)

Dental

Texas A&M University College of Dentistry
 Texas Tech University Woody L. Hunt School of Dental Medicine
 The University of Texas Health San Antonio School of Dentistry
 The University of Texas Health School of Dentistry at Houston

Medical

Baylor College of Medicine School of Medicine
 Long School of Medicine at UT Health San Antonio
 McGovern Medical School at UT Health Science Center Houston
 Sam Houston State University College of Osteopathic Medicine
 Texas A&M University Health Science Center College of Medicine
 Texas Tech University Health Science Center Paul L. Foster School of Medicine at El Paso
 Texas Tech University Health Science Center School of Medicine at Lubbock
 University of Houston College of Medicine
 University of North Texas Health Science Center Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine
 The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School
 The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
 The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine
 The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School

Veterinary

Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine
 Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine

Resources

Application Handbook

<https://www.tmsas.com/PLAN/references/application-handbook.html>

Timeline

<https://www.tmsas.com/PLAN/references/deadlines.html>

Application Statistics

<https://www.tmsas.com/PLAN/references/statistics>

Determining Texas Residency

<https://www.tmsas.com/PLAN/references/residency.html>

Applicant User Agreement

<https://www.tmsas.com/PLAN/references/policies.html>

TMSAS Match

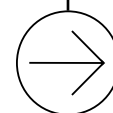
<https://www.tmsas.com/PLAN/medical/medical-admissions/match.html>

* COVID-19 Updates

<https://www.txhes.com/newsroom/updates/tmsas-covid-impacts-ey21.html>



The Joint Admission Medical Program (JAMP) is a unique program, created by the Texas Legislature to provide support and encouragement for economically disadvantaged students from across the state of Texas to successfully matriculate into medical school and pursue a career in medicine.



Amplified Efforts

Since 2003, JAMP has been helping Texas students achieve their dreams, providing:

- Undergraduate scholarships & summer stipends
- [JAMP Summer Internship experiences](#)
- Clinical enrichment opportunities
- Comprehensive [MCAT preparation program](#)
- Personal & professional development mentoring
- Admission to a [participating Texas medical school](#)
- Scholarships to attend medical school

JAMP Criteria

- **Apply to a Texas college or university** to enroll for the fall semester immediately following graduation from high school or a home-school program.
- **Take the SAT or ACT.** You must earn a score not less than the mean for the state of Texas.
- **Apply for Financial Aid.** You must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) up to 8000.
- **Complete at least 27 hours of undergraduate credit.**
 - *Early Admission:* Earn at least 27 hours of college credit during Senior year of high school as a full-time student (Dual Credit or Early College high school) including two semesters of General Chemistry with associated labs with a grade of "C" or better. (No more than 3 hours of AP credit can be counted toward the 27-hour requirement). **COVID-19 Update*
 - *Regular Admission:* Complete at least 27 hours of college credit during first year of college after graduation from high school as a full-time student including two semesters of General Chemistry with associated labs with a grade of "C" or better. (No more than 3 hours of AP credit can be counted toward the 27-hour requirement). **COVID-19 Update*
- **Earn a 3.25 GPA** or higher and **3.25 BCPM GPA** in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Math courses
- **Meet with the JAMP Faculty Director (JFD).** The JFD at your school will provide academic advising and assistance in applying to JAMP. Contact your JFD prior to beginning your application to JAMP.
- **Apply to JAMP.** Click on the 'Applicants Log In' link at the top of any page of our website.
- **Be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident** and be a **Texas Resident.** Please refer to the TMDAS Texas residency page for more information.

[Admission Criteria & Guidelines](#)

Resources

Application Handbook

 <https://www.texasjamp.org/prospective-students/application/index.html>

Timeline

Students should start learning about this program as soon as they enter into the institution as there are specific guidelines for when a student must apply. Any student interested in JAMP should absolutely meet with their JAMP Faculty Director for guidance.

Participating Universities & JAMP Faculty Directory List

 <https://www.texasjamp.org/about/participating-schools.html>

Application Statistics

 <https://www.texasjamp.org/facultyofficials/index.html>

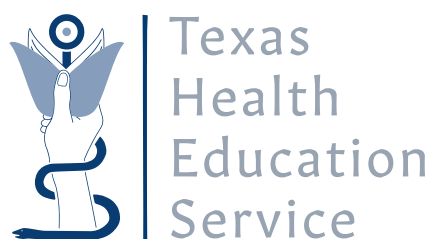
Featured JAMPers

Visit our Featured Student Profiles to learn about how JAMP helps our students achieve their goals.

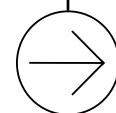
 <https://texasjamp.org/outreach/featuredstudents/index.html>

*COVID-19 Updates

 <https://www.txhes.com/newsroom/jamp/JAMP-Covid-19.html>



The Texas Health Education Service amplifies TMDSAS and JAMP's missions to serve students, collegiate advisors, and professional schools in Texas.



Goals for TXHES

Students

Providing students with accurate educational resources to enhance their preparation for a career in the health professions.

Advisors

Supporting efforts by advisors and professional schools to reach students and enrich the applicant pool.

Resources



One-stop-shop for applicants to TMDSAS schools with resources and guidance from TMDSAS, JAMP, and TXHES as well as member institutions and health professions advisors.

🌐 insidehealtheducation.com



Explore episodes tailored to focus on different parts of the application and preparation process to help you build a competitive application to professional school.

Listen at:

- [Apple Podcasts](#)
- [Spotify](#)



Watch live Q&A sessions that address how preparation to dental, medical, or veterinary school has been affected by changes caused by COVID-19.

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts."

-Winston Churchill

🌐 <https://www.youtube.com/texashealtheducationservice>



The Inside Health Education Newsletter is for current and prospective applicants to receive updates and resources from TXHES and TMDSAS. [Please encourage your students to register!](#)

The Advisors' Newsletter connects you with TMDSAS, TXHES and our member institutions to receive the latest news and updates to support your students. Sign up at:

[Subscribe](#)

Resources for Pre-Dental Students

How DAT Registration Works

Students must obtain a **DENTPIN** to take the DAT (Dental Admissions Test)

🌐 <https://www.ada.org/en/education-careers/dental-admission-test/apply-to-take-the-dat>

Students are required to read the DAT guide before applying to take the exam.

🌐 <https://www.ada.org/en/education-careers/dental-admission-test/dat-guide>

The cost of the DAT is \$475 and includes score reports to all dental schools selected at the time of the exam.

Fee Assistance Program: available for eligible first-time examinees experiencing documented financial hardship.

🌐 <https://www.ada.org/en/education-careers/dental-admission-test/dat-fee-waiver-information>

Dental School Explorer (ADEA)

The online ADEA Dental School Explorer is a companion product to the Official Guide printed book. The Dental School Explorer expands on the printed edition's two-page basic profiles of the U.S. and Canadian dental schools.

How to Prepare for DAT

Preparation for the DAT can begin as early as the summer after the second year of college (with the completion of Organic Chemistry I & II). The DAT program offers practice tests with questions written by actual DAT test constructors.

DAT Reference Texts

DAT Structure/Scoring

The DAT is composed of multiple-choice test questions (items). It consists of four sections: Survey of the Natural Sciences, Perceptual Ability, Reading Comprehension, and Quantitative Reasoning.

Scores for the DAT range from 1 to 30. Official passing or failing scores are not published; a scale score of 19 typically signifies average performance nationally.

Competitive scores are unique to each program; however scores of 21 or higher in each section (Academic Average, Perceptual Ability, Total Science) are considered competitive for many programs. Students should review the websites of individual programs to learn more about school-specific competitive scores.

Applicants, Enrollees and Graduates

Improving DAT Scores

The DAT provides an unofficial score report at the end of the exam. Retesting is not available for 90 days. Students are encouraged to evaluate areas of weakness before repeating the exam. Completing additional upper-level Biology courses (Anatomy & Physiology, Molecular Biology, Developmental Biology) may be helpful. Spending adequate time to study and taking a prep course, if the student self-prepped, may be advisable.

DAT Resources & Contact

ADEA & AADSAS

ADEA [↗](#) American Dental Education Association is the national organization which represents dental education.

AADSAS [↗](#) Associated American Dental Schools Application Service is the centralized application service for non-Texas dental schools, including programs in Canada.

Application Handbook

The ADEA Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (ADEA AADSAS®) simplifies the process of applying to dental programs nationally. To get started, visit the website below for a Quick Start Guide, FAQs, and guidance for completing the application.

Timeline

The ADEA AADSAS application opens in mid-May and closes in mid-February; however, deadlines to apply are set by each school. Students begin receiving notifications of acceptances in early December.

Fee Structure

The cost to apply to AADSAS dental programs varies based on the number of schools selected. The primary application fee (\$259) includes application to ONE dental school. The cost to apply to each additional school is \$112. Fees are subject to change each application cycle. A fee assistance program (FAP) is available to eligible applicants.

Statistics

AACOMAS Applicant and Matriculant Profile Summary Report

Resources for Pre-Medical Students

Preparing for Medical School (AAMC) [↗](#)

Medical students share their perspectives on taking anatomy lab, seeing a patient for the first time, participating in a white coat ceremony, and more.

Pre-Med Navigator Newsletter (AAMC) [↗](#)

Get important information, resources, and tips to help you on your path to medical school—delivered right to your inbox each month.

Anatomy of an Applicant (AAMC) [↗](#)

Medical students share their perspectives on taking anatomy lab, seeing a patient for the first time, participating in a white coat ceremony, and more.

FIRST Financial Information, Resources, Services and Tools (AAMC) [↗](#)

Whether you're thinking about how to pay for medical school, manage your finances during medical school, or determine your loan repayment options after medical school, with AAMC's FIRST (Financial Information, Resources, Services, and Tools) program you'll find unbiased, reliable guidance along your pathway to medical school and beyond.

MSAR Medical School Admission Requirements (AAMC) [↗](#)

Get important information, resources, and tips to help you on your path to medical school—delivered right to your inbox each month.

Choose DO Explorer [↗](#)

The Choose DO Explorer is AACOM's fully searchable database that allows students to explore all accredited colleges of osteopathic medicine in the US. Users can easily navigate application deadlines, tuition rates, letters of recommendation requirements, GPA and MCAT data, and more with just a few clicks. Registration for the Explorer is free of charge.

Universal Advisor Portal

The UAP is a cloud-based platform that provides our health professions advisors with a centralized location to access, query, and report on individuals applying to many health professions programs.

[Get Started](#)

Fee Assistance Program (AAMC)

The AAMC Fee Assistance Program assists those who, without financial assistance, would be unable to take the Medical College Admission Test® (MCAT®), apply to medical schools that use the American Medical College Application Service® (AMCAS®), and more.

[Eligibility](#)

[Information](#)

MCAT

How Registration Works [↗](#)

The MCAT exam is offered multiple times in 2021 from January and March through September at hundreds of test sites in the United States, Canada, and around the world.

[MCAT FAQ's](#)

Strategies For Improving Score [↗](#)

Have I mastered the content tested on the exam?

The MCAT exam tests content found in introductory-level courses at most undergraduate institutions, including biology, general and organic chemistry, and physics, as well as first-semester biochemistry, psychology, and sociology. While there aren't specific courses you have to take to be able to register and take the exam, it's important to feel comfortable with the content and skills tested. If you feel that additional coursework or studying is needed to help you prepare, think about testing after you've had time to complete that coursework and study.

Also keep in mind, medical schools will be able to see all of your scored exams, and there are limits on the number of times you can take the exam. See the MCAT Essentials for more information about viewing your scores, releasing your scores to programs and lifetime limits.

Most importantly, take the exam when you're ready, not when you think you should be.

[Practice Tests](#)

[Percentile Ranks](#)

How to Prepare

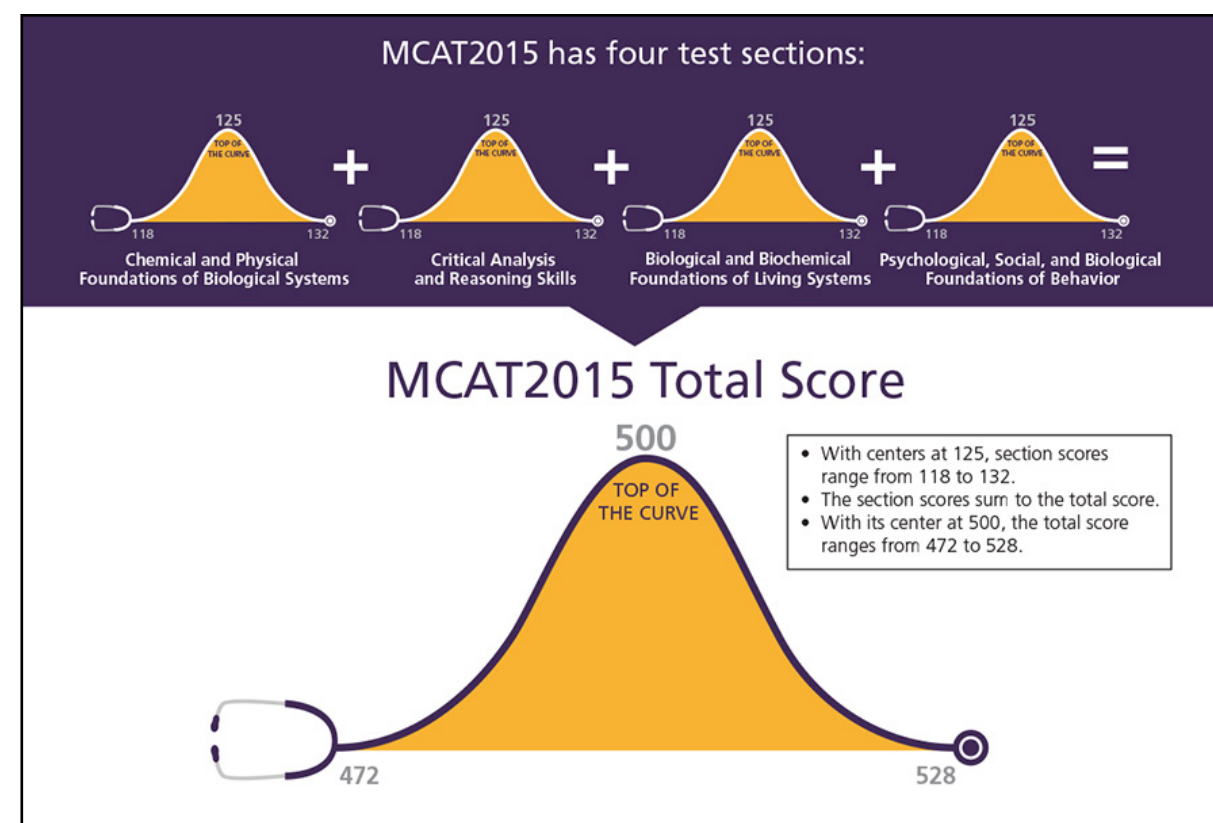
Four sections:

- Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems Section
- Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems Section
- Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior Section
- Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills Section

Scoring:

The AAMC does multiple things when we score your exam.

- MCAT scores are scaled ranging from 118 (lowest) to 132 (highest) per section, and for a total score from 472 to 528.



Create a Study Plan:

Get a six-step guide, developed by the MCAT team at the AAMC, to help you create your own study plan.

Medical School Application Services

AACOMAS American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

Application Handbook

The AACOMAS Applicant Help Center functions as the application handbook for AACOMAS. The Quick Start Guide and FAQs is a great jumping off point for applicants who are just starting the process of opening their application with AACOMAS. Advisors can refer to the AACOM webpage Resources for Health Professions Advisors to learn more about the application service.

Participating Texas Institutions:
University of the Incarnate Word, School of Osteopathic Medicine

Timeline

AACOMAS opens the first week in May each year for entrance into medical school in the fall of the following year. It is important to note that while applicants can submit at any time, colleges of osteopathic medicine do not begin receiving and processing applications in mid-June. While AACOMAS suggests that students submit when ready, they do encourage students to submit by August to ensure that their application is reviewed before priority interview slots are filled. All individual college application deadlines range from October through April of the following year; however, most AACOMAS programs maintain deadlines prior to Feb 1.

Fee Structure

The AACOMAS Fee Waiver Program covers 1) funds for the initial application fee and 2) access to AACOM's Big Interview Platform free of charge. For the 2021-2022 Application cycle, the initial application fee is \$197 and each additional designation is \$48. AACOM also provides a list of eligible fee waiver program applicants to the individual colleges of osteopathic medicine, because many of the individual colleges will then waive their secondary application fees.

Statistics

AACOMAS Applicant and Matriculant Profile Summary Report

AMCAS American Medical College Application Service

Application Handbook

These pages outline the sections of the AMCAS® application. Full details can be found in the AMCAS® Applicant Guide. Visit the FAQ page for answers to your questions.

 [FAQ's](#)

Participating Texas Institutions:
TCU and UNTHSC School of Medicine

Timeline

Use the AAMC American Medical College Application Service® (AMCAS®) Medical Schools and Deadlines search tool to find application deadlines at participating regular MD programs.

Fee Structure

AMCAS® Processing Fee: \$170 (includes one medical school designation). Additional medical school designations: \$41 each. Tax, where applicable, will be calculated at checkout.

Statistics

Applicant and Matriculant Data available by institution, legal residency and sex, race and ethnicity, MCAT Scores and GPAs, and summary formats.

Resources for Pre-Veterinary Students

Preparing for Veterinary School

What to Know Before You Apply (AAVMC)

<https://www.aavmc.org/becoming-a-veterinarian/what-to-know-before-you-apply/>

My Vet Life (AVMA)

<https://myvetlife.avma.org/current-student/your-career>

Pre-Vet Webinars and Events (AAVMC)

Get important information, resources, and tips to help you on your path to vet school.

Funding your DVM Degree (AAVMC)

Find out more on financial information using the school cost comparison tool, scholarship information, and the Veterinary Debt Initiative (VDI) which is focused on helping veterinarians thrive in financially sustainable and rewarding careers.

Veterinary Medicine Admissions 101 (AAVMC)

Get important information, resources, and tips to help you on your path to vet school.

Admitted Student Statistics (AAVMC)

This data is gathered on an annual basis from AAVMC member institutions.

Texas Vet Schools Admission

[Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine](#)

[Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine](#)

Veterinary Application Services

AAVMC [↗](#) Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges

VMCAS [↗](#) Veterinary Medical College Application Service

Application Handbook

The Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS) is sponsored by the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC). The VMCAS simplifies the process of applying to veterinary programs nationally. To get started, visit the website below for a Quick Start Guide, FAQs, and guidance for completing the application.

Timeline

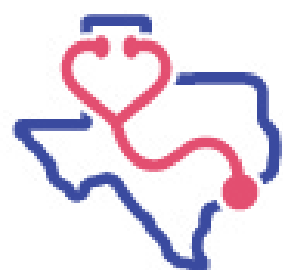
The VMCAS application cycle opens in January, but applicants cannot select programs until May. The application closes in September.

Fee Structure

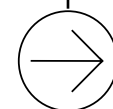
Application fees are calculated based on the number of colleges to which you are applying. VMCAS has implemented a fee reimbursement program for those that qualify. The program will open in May when applicants have the ability to submit applications to schools. A limited number of VMCAS fee reimbursements are available through this program.

Statistics

The Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges has developed the Profile of Admitted Students (PAS) tool to help prospective students understand the admissions landscape at each college of veterinary medicine to which they are applying. This tool, as a guideline, provides data from the veterinary schools on individual applicant pool size, GPA averages, GRE scores, and more.



**Texas Association
of Advisors for the
Health Professions**



Better Experience Through Connection

TAAHP is a state network of health professions advisors and staff of health professions schools working to promote excellence in pre-health professions advising. Our reach stretches across the state of Texas to promote excellence in pre-health professions advising.

TAAHP [↗](#)

Mission:

The purpose of TAAHP is to advance undergraduate education for all the health professions, further the development of health science curricula, facilitate the exchange and dissemination of information and conduct educational meetings.

Conference:

At the annual TAAHP conference, advisors and schools learn from each other to improve the training of Texas undergraduates to enter health professions schools. The state-wide conference is held yearly in early February in various locations around the state. The conference is held in the location of the medical school hosting the event.

Fees:

Annual membership dues: \$40 (due October each year)

SAAHP [↗](#)

The Southeastern Association of Advisors for the Health Professions is comprised of colleges and universities in the Southeastern U.S. concerned with the preparation of students for further study in a wide variety of health-related professions.

Conference:

The regional conference is held every other year (opposite of NAAHP's conference) in the city of the medical school hosting the event.

Fees:

SAAHP Dues: \$20 (due October each year)

NAAHP [↗](#)

The National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions is an organization of health professions advisors at colleges and universities throughout the United States, and abroad.

Conference:

The regional conference is held every other year (opposite of SAAHP's conference) in the city of the medical school hosting the event.

Fees:

NAAHP Dues (for southeast region): \$160

We're excited to hear from you!

Share your questions or concerns

We want to continue improving this resource, please reach out using the form below and we will bring feedback from the TMSAS member institutions in the next newsletter.

[Feedback Form](#)

