UW Admissions Process for Medical School

STELLA V. YEE, M.ED.
DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS
UWSOM is Committed to:

The states of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho (WWAMI)

Training physicians of all specialties to practice in the region
  ◦ Recognizing the special importance of training primary care doctors

Contributing to biomedical research

Providing educational opportunities for educationally and economically disadvantaged
UWSOM Expectations

ALL APPLICANTS
Meet our mission
Knowledge of being a physician
Understanding of current issues facing medicine
Academic ability
Analytical thinking
Communication and interpersonal skills

NON-WWAMI APPLICANTS
Extensive record of service with underserved
Disadvantaged background
Application Process

- MCAT Exam
  - Before 9/30

- AMCAS Application
  - Submit by 10/15
    - Received by 12/1

- Secondary Application
  - 10/1-3/31
    - MT: 1/13-1/16/20

- Interview
  - 10/15-3/31
    - MT: 1/17/20

- Decision
But First:

I'm not a procrastinator

I just prefer doing all my work in a deadline-induced panic

invisiblebread.com
Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)

MCAT scores are good for 3 years
- For example: 2019 scores are valid for Fall 2020, 2021, and 2022 cycles

MCAT should be taken no later than September the year of application

Take the MCAT AFTER completing all of your prerequisites

Total Score: 472 (lowest) to 528 (highest)
118 to 132 for each section
Premedical Course Requirements

4 semesters or 6 quarters of Social Sciences or Humanities

6 semesters or 9 quarters of Chemistry and Biology
  ◦ general chemistry, general biology, biochemistry, molecular genetics, and cell biology/cell physiology

2 semesters or 3 quarters of Physics; or 1 semester or 2 quarters of Physics plus 1 semester or 2 quarters of calculus or linear algebra

Recommended: Ethics, Anatomy/Comparative Anatomy, Human/Mammalian Physiology, and Embryology
AMCAS: The Primary Application

Deadline: October 15th, 2019

AMCAS® Processing Fee: $170 (includes one medical school designation). Additional medical school designations: $39 each.
AAMC Fee Assistance Program (FAP)

- Reduced MCAT registration fees
  - from $310 to $120
- The Official Guide to the MCAT Exam and other MCAT preparation materials
- Medical School Admission Requirements (MSAR)
- Waiver for all AMCAS fees for one application submission (up to 16 medical schools) ($730 value)

https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/fap/
Experiences

- Domestic Physician Shadowing
- Community Service
- Patient Contact
- Leadership Roles
- Research
- Employment
- Hobbies, interests, or any activities that are meaningful
Reflection and Understanding

- Have you gone outside of your comfort zone?
- What insights did you gain?
- Are you someone who learns from their experience?
- How do you interact with other people?
- Do you seem mature?
- What did you learn?
I helped to collect patient folders or to take files to labs. I shadowed in ob/gyn, pediatrics, internal medicine, and anesthesiology often attending morning rounds or observing surgeries. The experience gave me the opportunity to see the roles and importance of different departments.
Getting Closer

While I was initially uncomfortable in dealing with terminally-ill persons, in time I became at ease with these interactions. I was amazed at the perspective of some of these persons and their acceptance of their terminal condition.
Reflection

As I shadowed a wide variety of physicians in rural medicine, I saw that I thrive on the fast paced, demanding, and intellectually challenging daily routine of a doctor. I saw the importance of non-verbal communication during interactions with patients and how body language plays a role in patient care just as much as spoken words. It was captivating to see how every patient brings with them their own story, a unique personality, and a diverse background that determines how advice is heard.
Why do you want to be a doctor?

- Motivation for medicine
- A description of prior experiences in health care
- Steps taken to explore a career in medicine
- Eventual goals as a physician
UWSOM Secondary Application

Applicants complete the secondary application online:
- Additional statements
- Letters of recommendation
- CASPer Test Score
- Montana WWAMI Eligibility
- $35 application fee

Deadline: December 1st, 2019
Secondary Statements

- How have your experiences prepared you to be a physician?
- How have societal inequities in the U.S. affected you or patients you’ve worked with?
- What perspectives or experiences do you bring that would enrich the class?
- What obstacles to your goals have you experienced and how have you dealt with them?

For re-applicants: From your most recent application until now, how have you strengthened your application?
Letters of Recommendation

Required: a committee letter or 3 letters of recommendation
  ◦ Well-rounded picture of applicant

An additional 3 letters will be accepted
TRUST Application

Please describe why you desire to participate in the TRUST program. Given your experience to date, which specialty is most interesting to you and where would you like to practice?

Please identify the rural and underserved areas wherein you have lived/worked for more than two months (community name, population, state and dates lived in that community).
CASPer: Situational Judgment Test

Your role is the more experienced employee

https://takecasper.com/
Application Process

- **AMCAS Application**
  - Submit by 10/15

- **Pre-Screening & Academic Screen**

- **MCAT Exam**
  - Before 9/30
Preliminary Screening

Applicants with low GPA AND low MCAT score will be rejected
  ◦ Montana applicants below the cut off will go to the Montana Executive Committee Member for review.

International students without United States permanent residency or citizenship will be rejected

Applicants who have three previous applications will be rejected
## MCAT-GPA Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MCAT Percentile Rank</th>
<th>0-14</th>
<th>15-26</th>
<th>27-42</th>
<th>43-60</th>
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<th>79-90</th>
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<td>4</td>
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https://www.uwmedicine.org/school-of-medicine/admissions/mcat
# 2019 Statistical Outline of Montana Applicant Pool (111) and Entering Class (30)

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Applied</th>
<th>Offered</th>
<th>Entering</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Undergraduate GPA and Standard Deviation</strong></td>
<td>3.62 (0.30)</td>
<td>3.65 (0.25)</td>
<td>3.63 (0.24)</td>
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<td><strong>MCAT Mean and Standard Deviation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PSBB</td>
<td>126.47 (2.53)</td>
<td>127.24 (2.22)</td>
<td>127.03 (2.24)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CARS</td>
<td>126.26 (2.63)</td>
<td>126.53 (2.38)</td>
<td>126.43 (2.34)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BBFL</td>
<td>126.32 (2.37)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPBS</td>
<td>125.85 (2.34)</td>
<td>125.91 (2.38)</td>
<td>125.73 (2.07)</td>
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Preliminary Screening (cont.)

WWAMI applicants above the academic cut off will get a secondary

Non-WWAMI applicants above the academic cut off will get a secondary if they:

- Demonstrate commitment to working with underserved
- Come from a disadvantaged background
Application Process

- **Pre-Screening & Academic Screen**
  - **MCAT Exam**
    - Before 9/30

- **AMCAS Application**
  - Submit by 10/15

- **Secondary Application**
  - Received by 12/1

- **Screening for Interview**
  - 10/1–3/31

- **Acceptance**
  - 10/15–3/31

- **Interview**
  - 10/1–3/31
Screening Applications

Complete applications are reviewed by two to three screeners for an invitation to interview.

Montana applicants with a negative screen will go to the Montana Executive Committee Member for a final review.

Decision to extend an interview can take up to 6 weeks.
Considerations When Screening

Academic ability
  ◦ Upward trajectory
  ◦ GPA and MCAT are consistent and solid

Experiences/Activities
  ◦ Domestic physician shadowing
  ◦ Experiences that are consistent with goals

Clear and coherent motivation for medicine

Solid letters of recommendation
Application Process

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Secondary Application
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Pre-Screening & Academic Screen

Screening for Interview

EXCOM Meetings
- MT: 1/16/20

Interview
- 10/15-3/31

Decision
- 10/15-3/31
- MT: 1/17/20

Stay tuned for more details!
Decision

Applications are reviewed throughout the season ("rolling admissions") by the Executive Committee

- Montana applicants will hear an update the week after interviews

Timing of decisions are affected by competitiveness of the applicant pool

All applicants will be notified of final decisions by the end of March
Application Process

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Screening for Interview

Interview
- 10/1-3/31
  MT: 1/13-1/16/20

EXCOM Meetings

Decision
- 10/15-3/31
  MT: 1/17/20
Disappointed Applicants

Applicants are encouraged to reapply
  ◦ Demonstrate growth from previous application
  ◦ New essays
  ◦ New experiences

Check out UWSOM resources
  ◦ Annual Forum Sessions
  ◦ Feedback from Admissions
## 2019 Applicant Pool and Entering Class

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>WA</th>
<th>WY</th>
<th>AK</th>
<th>MT</th>
<th>ID</th>
<th>OOR-MD only</th>
<th>OOR-MSTP</th>
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<td>1,030</td>
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<td>81</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>184</td>
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<td><strong>Completed</strong></td>
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<td>867</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>88</td>
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<td><strong>Interviewed</strong></td>
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<td>518</td>
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<td>47</td>
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<td>60</td>
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<td><strong>Offers Made</strong></td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>49</td>
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<td><strong>Accepted</strong></td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>9</td>
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</table>
## 2019 Applicant Pool and Entering Class

<table>
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<th>Gender</th>
<th>Applied</th>
<th>Offered</th>
<th>Entering</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>10</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age at Application</th>
<th>Applied</th>
<th>Offered</th>
<th>Entering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>(22) 24 (30)</td>
<td>(23) 25 (30)</td>
<td>(23) 25 (30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>(22) 25 (39)</td>
<td>(22) 26 (29)</td>
<td>(22) 26 (29)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(XX) YY (ZZ): (XX)=Youngest, YY=Median, (ZZ)=Oldest
For More Information

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

http://www.uwmedicine.org/admissions

Advice from the Admissions Dean
Application procedure
Resources to prepare your application
FAQs

CONTACT OUR OFFICE

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Thank you