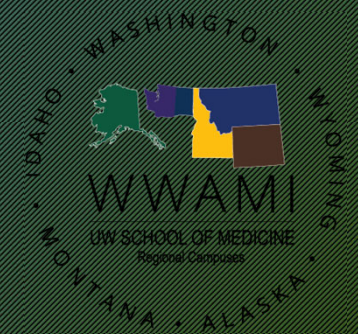


# UW Admissions Process for Medical School

LeeAnna Muzquiz, MD  
Associate Dean for 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

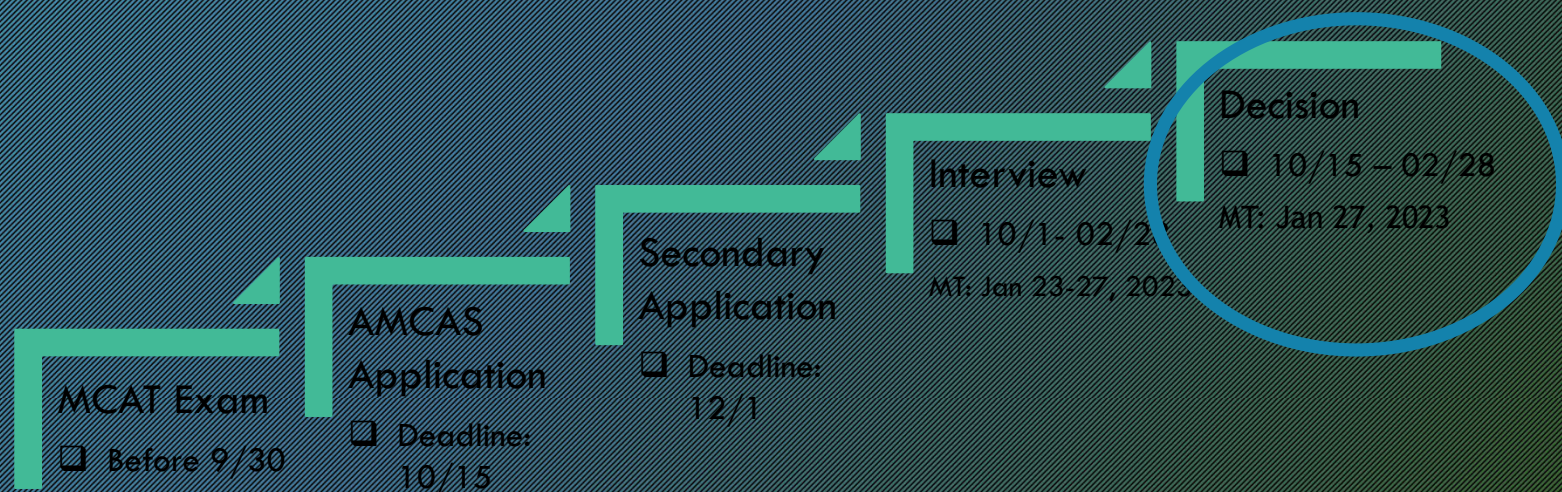
## All Applicants

- 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

- Ties to the WWAMI region
- Extensive record of service with underserved
- Disadvantaged background

# Application Process



# Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)



Total Score:  
472 (lowest) to 528 (highest)

118 to 132 for each section

- MCAT required (was waived for E21, E22)
- We accept MCAT scores for 4 years prior to application year
  - For example: 2023 scores are valid for Fall 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027 cycles
- MCAT should be taken no later than September the year of application

Visit <https://www.uwmedicine.org/school-of-medicine/admissions/mcat> for more guidance

# Premedical Course Requirements

## Social Science, Humanities, or “Human Condition”: Demonstrated Competency

- Understand social forces that shape the health of individuals and communities they will serve

## Biology: 1 Year (lab recommended)

- The subject matter in these courses must include college-level biology, molecular genetics and cell biology/cell physiology

## Chemistry/Biochemistry: 2 years (lab recommended)

- The subject matter in these courses must include college-level inorganic and organic chemistry and biochemistry.

## Physics: 1 Year

- The subject matter in these courses must include college-level physics principles including mechanics, kinetics, thermodynamics, properties of matter, wave theory, electricity and magnetism and optics

<https://www.uwmedicine.org/school-of-medicine/admissions/course-requirements>

# AMCAS: The Primary Application

The screenshot shows the AAMC website's 'Students & Residents' section. The navigation bar includes 'AAMC.ORG', 'STUDENTS & RESIDENTS', 'CAREERS IN MEDICINE', and 'AAMC STORE'. A search bar is located on the right. Below the navigation, there are links for 'Choosing a Medical Career', 'Applying to Medical School' (which is highlighted), 'Attending Medical School', 'Applying to Residency', 'Training in a Residency or Fellowship', and 'Quick Links'. The main heading is 'Applying to Medical School with AMCAS®'. Below this, a paragraph explains that AMCAS is the AAMC's centralized medical school application processing service. To the right, there is a 'Sign In' button for AMCAS, social media links for '@AMCASinfo' and 'AMCASinfo', and contact information for AMCAS, including a 'Send us a message' link, operating hours (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. ET; Closed Wednesday, 3-5 p.m. ET), and a phone number (202-828-0600). An image of a young woman looking at a laptop is also visible.

Deadline: October 15<sup>th</sup>

2023 AMCAS® Processing Fee: \$170 (includes one medical school designation). Additional medical school designations: \$43 each.

# 2022 AAMC Fee Assistance Program (FAP)

- Reduced MCAT registration fees
  - from \$325 to \$130
- The MCAT Official Prep Online-Only Bundle(\$268.80 value)
- Medical School Admission Requirements (MSAR)-2 yr subscription (\$36 value)
- Waiver for all AMCAS fees for one application submission (up to 20 medical schools) (\$987 value)
- AAMC PREview™ Benefit (\$100 value)

<https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/fap/>



# Your Experiences



- Clinical Exposure
  - Shadowing (Virtual or Live)
  - Scribing, Medical Interpreting, MA, CNA, etc.
- Community Service
  - Can include non-clinical volunteering
- Patient Engagement
- Leadership Roles
- Research
- Employment
- Hobbies, interests, or any activities that are meaningful

# Continue Learning About Medicine

- Read news articles or listen to podcasts about current health care issues
  - Health inequities
  - Public policies
- Talk to physicians about their careers
  - Read memoirs by doctors
- Watch videos related to medicine or patient care
- Attend panels and conferences related to fields you are interested in



# 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?

# Three Different Examples

## Description

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.

# Personal Comments/Statement

Essays | AMCAS

Secure | https://apps.aamc.org/amcas/#/application/essays

AAMC Mickey Mouse

American Medical College Application Service® 2019 Application My AAMC Profile Main Menu My Application Help

Identifying Information Schools Attended Biographic Information Course Work Work/Activities Letters of Evaluation Medical Schools Essays Standardized Tests

« Back Save Save & Continue »

Personal Comments Essay\*

Personal Comments Essay

**Why you want to go to medical school**

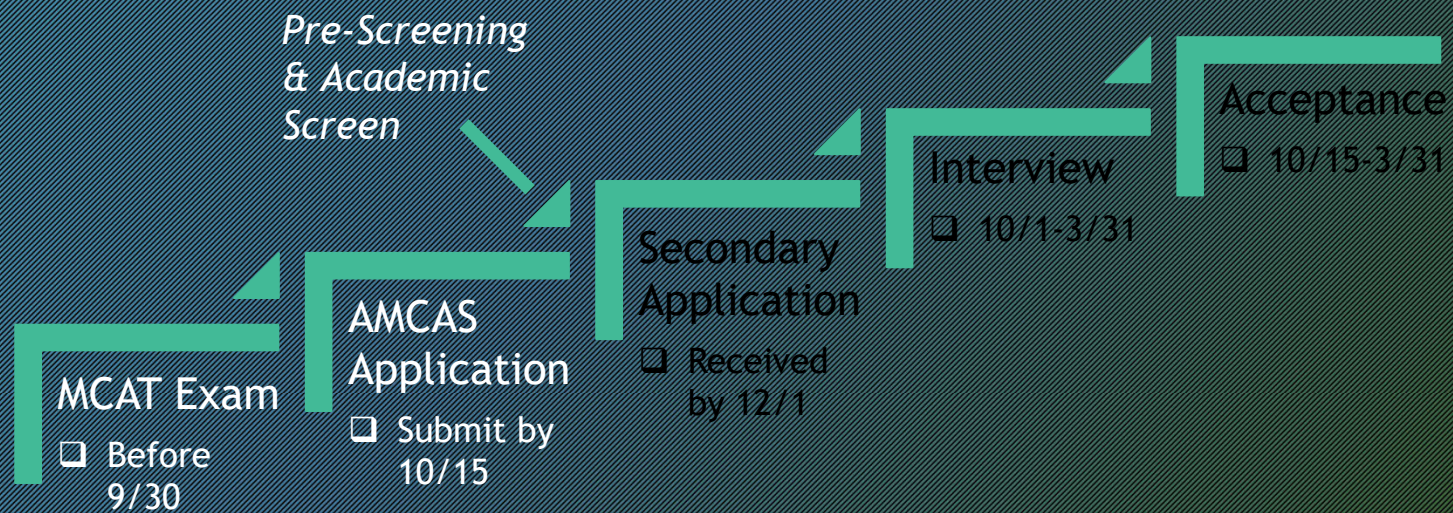
Consider and write your Personal Comments carefully; many admissions committees place significant weight on this section. Make sure you proofread carefully because no changes may be made after you submit your application. [What information should I consider including in my personal comments?](#)

Use the space provided to explain why you want to go to medical school.\*

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

# Application Process



# 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



## 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
  - Have ties to the WWAMI region

## 2022 Statistical Outline of Montana Applicant Pool (127) and Entering Class (30)

	Applied	Offered	Entering
Undergraduate GPA and Standard Deviation	3.68 (0.3)	3.69 (0.24)	3.67 (0.24)
MCAT Mean and Standard Deviation	507.8 (7.46)	509.45 (5.06)	509.13 (5.17)

# UWSOM Secondary Application

- Applicants complete the secondary application
  - Additional statements
  - Letters of recommendation
  - Casper Test Score
  - Montana WWAMI Eligibility
- Deadline: December 1st

# Secondary Statements

- Please share how COVID-19 has impacted you, your family, your community, and/or the patients that you would like to serve.
- 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?
- Describe your competency by explaining how you have explored and come to understand issues in the social sciences and humanities related to the “human condition”.
- 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
- An additional 3 letters will be accepted
- Letters should:
  - eh edøqfng dqg surybgh d z hœø  
urxqghg yhz ri |rxufdqgqgdf| iru  
p hgflbh
  - jlyh wkh frp p lwhh d ehwhu  
xqghuvdqgqkj riz kr |rx duh1
- Frqvlghu fxuhqwhp sör |huv/shrsdn dw  
|rxuyroxqwhhuruvkdgrrz kj  
rssruwxq lwhv/w hdfk kj dvvlwdqw/hwf1



# 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).

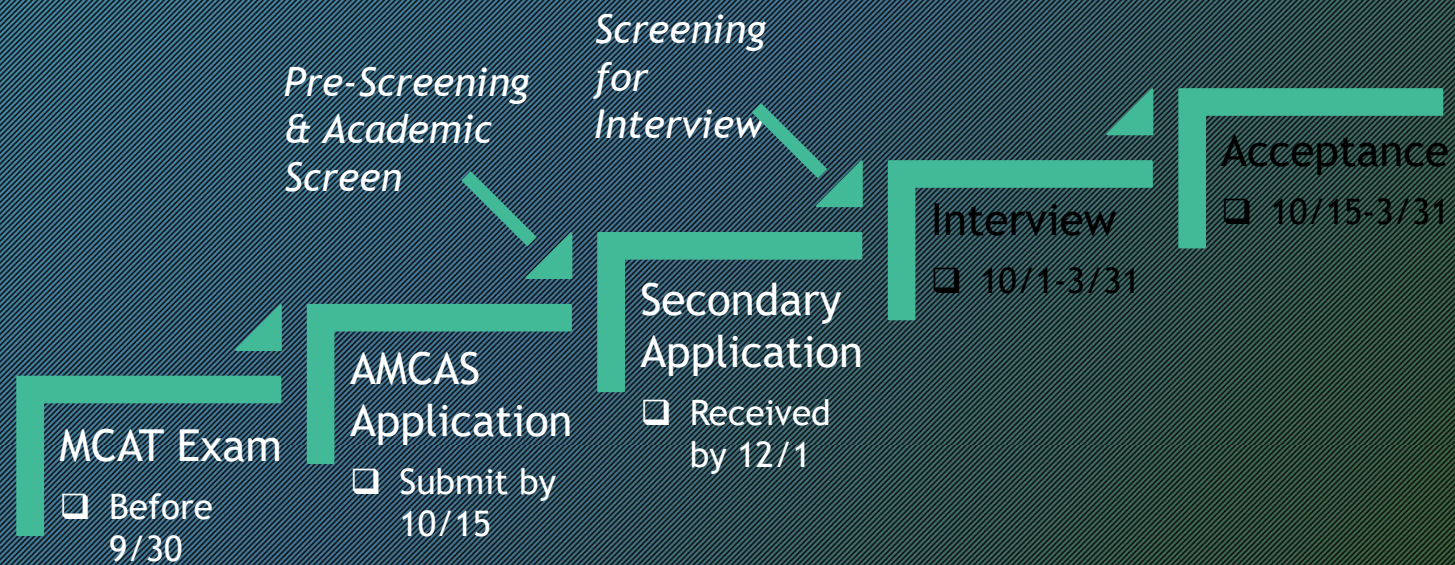
# Casper: Situational Judgment Test

Your role is the more experienced employee



<https://takealtus.com/casper/>

# Application Process





# 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.

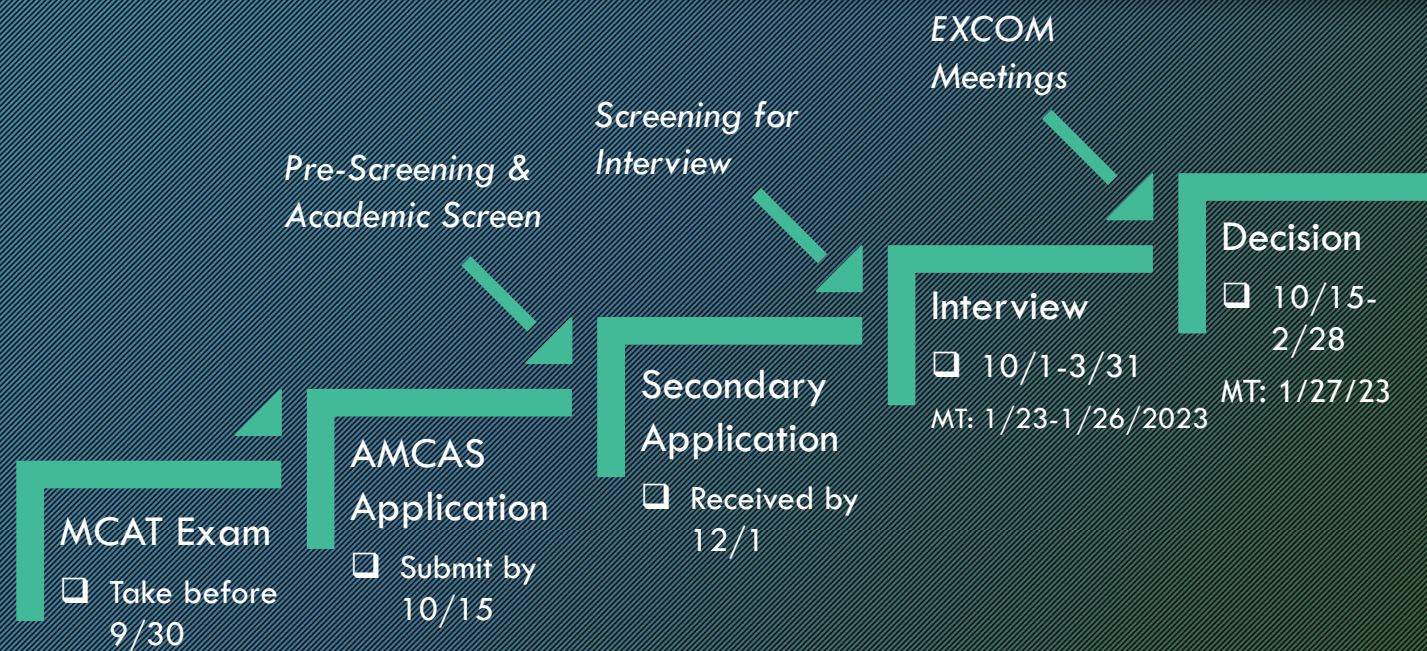
# Considerations When Screening

- Academic ability
  - Upward trajectory
  - GPA and MCAT are consistent and solid
- Experiences/Activities
  - Clinical Exposure
  - Service
  - Experiences that are consistent with goals
- Clear and coherent motivation for medicine
- Solid letters of recommendation
- How do you fit our mission, how do we fit yours

# Interviews

- All Montana applicants interviewed the same week
- 3-person 30-minute panel interviews - done virtually
- 2/3 interviewers are from MT, one from another WWAMI location
- 2/3 interviewers blinded to metrics (gpa, grades, MCAT, Casper)
- Goal is to get to know you better, fill in the gaps of the application
- More about this later...

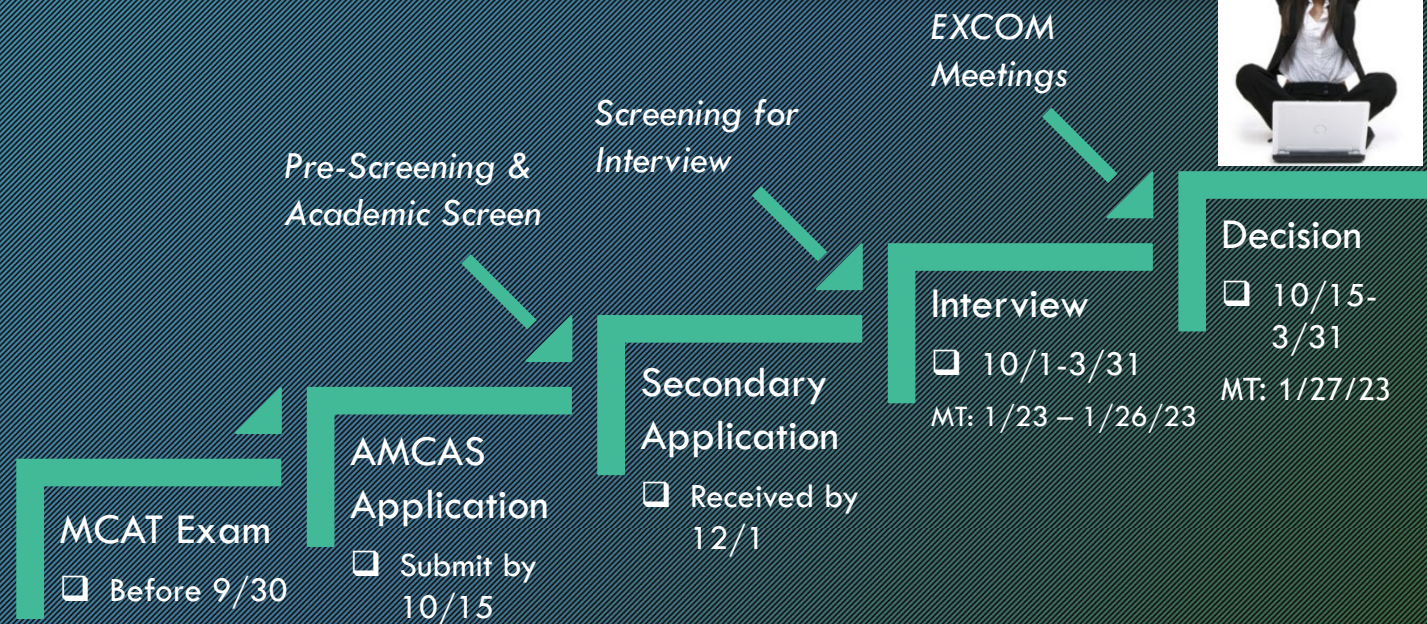
# Application Process



# Decision

- Applications are reviewed throughout the season (“rolling admissions”) by the Executive Committee
  - Montana applicants will hear an update the week after interviews
- All applicants will be notified of final decisions by the end of March

# Application Process



# 2022 Applicant Pool and Entering Class

	Total	WA	WY	AK	MT	ID	OOR-MD only	OOR- MSTP
Applied	7,632	1,001	57	85	127	182	5,681	499
Interviewed	774	437	46	52	77	100	84	N/A
Offered	344	173	22	23	33	49	23	21
Accepted	270	142	20	20	30	40	8	9

# 2022 MT Applicant Pool and Entering Class

Gender	Applied	Offered	Entering
Female	66	22	20
Male	59	11	10
Age at Application	Applied	Offered	Entering
Female	(21) 25.1 (37)	(21) 25.8 (34)	(21) 25.7 (34)
Male	(21) 25 (40)	(23) 27.3 (40)	(23) 27.5 (40)
(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

Office of Admissions Email:  
[askuwsom@uw.edu](mailto:askuwsom@uw.edu)

Office of Admissions Phone:  
206-543-7212

Facebook



Instagram



YouTube



Thank you