

# Medical School: Application, MCAT & Admission

William J. Higgins

Department of Biology

University of Maryland, College Park



**Some questions  
for you:**

# Why are we here?

- Today, I plan to:
  - Review the application process
  - Examine & evaluate YOUR application
  - Review the MCAT and relevant information
  - Suggest a method of study
  - Assist you to establish a productive study schedule
  - Answer your questions

# Disclaimer

No absolutes in this process,  
but the data don't lie!

**Always listen to good  
advice...**





What % of applicants  
matriculate?

42%

# Overview of application process

You **MUST** identify the strengths and weaknesses of your application before you begin!

# Homework:

[www.aamc.org/students/amcas](http://www.aamc.org/students/amcas)

*American Medical College Application  
Service*

[www.aamc.org/students/mcat](http://www.aamc.org/students/mcat)

*Medical College Admission Test*



<http://www.aamc.org/students/applying/msar.htm>

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Special intro offer

**Medical School  
Admission  
Requirements  
2008-2009**

## Medical School Admission Requirements (MSAR™)

The most authoritative guide to all U.S. and Canadian medical schools just got better with a complete redesign and more information than ever before.



The MSAR is the #1 source for:

- Application procedures and deadlines
- Selection factors such as MCAT and GPA data
- Medical school class profiles
- Costs and financial aid packages
- MD/PhD and other combined degrees
- Graduates' specialty choices

[Order Information](#)

The following resources can be helpful as you go through the application process. While not exhaustive, this list provides a comprehensive overview of information available to help you make a decision about a career in medicine.

### Chapter One: Medicine as a Career

[Association of American Medical Colleges \(AAMC\)](#)

[Careers in Medicine](#)

[AAMC Curriculum Directory](#)

[Liaison Committee on Medical Education \(LCME\)](#)

[American Medical Association](#)

[Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada \(AFMC\)](#) - formerly Association of Canadian Medical Colleges

[Complete list of U.S. and Canadian medical school Web sites](#)

# Medical School Admission Requirements (MSAR) 2008-2009

April 2007, 406 Pages

This must-have book -- often called the "bible of medical school guides" -- is the #1 source for medical school applicants. The 2008-2009 edition features more information than ever before and is designed to improve functionality and access to the information you need when applying to medical school.

## The MSAR is the #1 source for:

- Application procedures and deadlines
- Selection factors such as MCAT & GPA data
- Medical school class profiles
- Costs and financial aid packages
- MD/PhD and other combined degrees
- Graduates' specialty choices
- Updated USMLE Policies

**MSAR is the only resource fully authorized by medical schools.**

ID	Price	
MSAR07	\$25.00	<a href="#">Add to Cart</a> 



## Related Publications

- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 10 \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 3 - Special CB Practice Online Offer \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 4 \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 5 \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 6 \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 7 \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 8 \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 9 \(Web\)](#)
- [Minority Student Opportunities in United States Medical \(2007\) \(Book\)](#)

AMCAS Home

AMCAS for Applicants  
Home

Support for AMCAS 2008

Support for AMCAS 2007

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Admission  
Requirements**

**2008-2009**

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for med school  
applicants

MSAR™ is the  
only resource fully  
authorized by  
medical schools.

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## AMCAS - The American Medical College Application Service

The American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) is a non-profit, centralized application processing service for applicants to the first-year entering classes at participating U.S. medical schools. For the 2008 entering class, most medical schools are participating in AMCAS. Regardless of the number of AMCAS schools to which you apply, you submit just one application to AMCAS via the Web.

AMCAS does not render any admission decisions and does not advise applicants where to apply. Each participating school is completely autonomous in reaching its admissions decisions. AMCAS provides only the application processing service. [More >>](#)

### Frequently Asked Questions

- [How does AMCAS process applications?](#)
- [How much does it cost to use AMCAS?](#)
- [When is the deadline for applications to be received by AMCAS?](#)
- [I applied last year, so you already have my transcripts. Do I need to send them again?](#)

[More Frequently Asked Questions >>](#)

### AAMC Fee Assistance Program (FAP)

Those with extreme financial limitations may apply for the AAMC's Fee Assistance Program (FAP). If approved, you will reduce the MCAT fee from \$210 to \$85 and will receive 13 free medical school applications. [More >>](#)



# Overview of application process

- MCAT
  - Sign up dates
  - No ‘practice’ attempts!
- AMCAS
  - Will be accepted beginning ~ 1 June; submit ASAP !
- Your institution’s pre-professional office
  - Letters
  - Transcripts & judicial clearance
- Secondary applications
- Interviews

# Selection Criteria

- GPA - overall and science
  - Strength of transcript
  - ALL grades reported
- MCAT scores
- Application essays
- Experience(s)
- Letters
- Interview
- State of residence



# GPA for Applicants & Matriculants, 2007

	<u>Applicants</u> (42,315)		<u>Matriculants</u> (17,759)
GPA Science	3.39	<-- 0.2 -->	3.59
GPA non-science	3.62	<-- 0.1 -->	3.73
GPA Total	3.49		3.65

source: [www.aamc.org/students/mcat](http://www.aamc.org/students/mcat)

# Selection Criteria

- GPA - overall and science
  - Strength of transcript
  - ALL grades reported
    - Repeated courses?
- MCAT scores
- Application essays
  - What do I tell the schools?
  - Are they really important?
- Experience
- Letters

# Statistics, 2007

Applicants                      Matriculants

#

VR

PHYS

BIOL

Writing

42%

O

P

*Subject Averages*    27.8        30.8

# Selection Criteria

- GPA - overall and science
  - Strength of transcript
  - ALL grades reported
    - Repeated courses?
- MCAT scores
- Application essays
  - What do I tell the schools?
  - Are they really important?
- Experience
- Letters

# A word about recommendation letters.....



Never underestimate the  
importance of your college pre-  
professional committee letter

# Selection Criteria

- GPA - overall and science
  - Strength of transcript
  - ALL grades reported
- MCAT scores
- Application
- Letters
- Experience
- Essays
- Interview
- State of residence

**Is age a factor?**

# Addressing weak sections of your application:

- GPA - overall and science
  - Take REAL, upper division, graded science courses!
- MCAT scores
  - Read, read, read, and read
  - Practice tests (timed!) before study!
- Application essays
  - Get help and prepare 7 drafts over 2 weeks

# Addressing weak sections of your application:

- Experience
  - Patient contact in a clinical setting
  - Research
- Letters
  - Rethink your assets
- Interview
  - Practice, public speaking courses/opportunities
  - Read more!
- State of residence and choice of schools



**The role of your research  
experiences in your application?**

## Examinee Data

### Summary Data Tables and Characteristics of Examinees

April/August 1991 - April 2006 MCAT Summary Data and Characteristics of MCAT examinees, 1997-1999

### Applicants/Matriculants Data

MCAT scores and GPA for Applicants and Matriculants

### Retesters Data

Tables on the percentage of score changes for MCAT retesters

## Table 1: U.S. Medical School Applications and Matriculants by School, State

The numbers of year 2007 applications and matriculants by U.S. medical schools, showing percent of in-state, out of state, percent of women, and percent of men, are displayed below. Please [e-mail](#) us if you need further assistance or have additional inquiries.

AMCAS YEAR 2007		Applications	Applications			
			State of Legal Residence		Sex	
			% In State	% Out of State	% Women	% Men
State	Medical School					
AL	Alabama	1,990	22.3	77.7	46.2	53.8
	South Alabama	1,054	35.7	64.3	44.3	55.7

## of Legal Residence, and Sex, 2007

Percent of state, percent of women, and percent of men, are displayed

Matriculants	Matriculants			
	State of Legal Residence		Sex	
	% In State	% Out of State	% Women	% Men
176	89.2	10.8	40.9	59.1
74	87.8	12.2	43.2	56.8

<b>Totals</b>	546,817 <sup>4</sup>	23.7	76.3	48.0	52.0
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Note:

1. 163 Matriculants include 16 to UC Berkeley/UCSF joint program.
2. 145 Matriculants include 24 to UC Riverside-Haider.
3. Special 6 year undergraduate/MD program at UMKC.
4. 546,817 is the number of applications from 42,315 applicants, an average of 13 applications per applicant.

17,759	62.1	37.9	48.3	51.7
--------	------	------	------	------

$$17,759 / 42,315 \approx 42\%$$

## Applicants and Matriculants Data

### By Institution

1. [U.S. Medical School Applications and Matriculants by School](#), State of Legal Residence, and Sex, 2007
2. [Undergraduate Institutions](#) Producing the Most Medical School Applicants, 2007

### By Legal Residence, Age, Sex

3. [Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools by State](#) of Legal Residence, 1996-2007
4. [Matriculants to U.S. Medical Schools by State](#) of Legal Residence, 1996-2007
5. [Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools by In or Out State](#) Matriculation Status, 2007
6. [Age of Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools](#) at Anticipated Matriculation by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, Non-Hispanic or Latino Race, and Sex, 2003-2007
7. [Applicants, First-Time Applicants, Acceptees, and Matriculants](#) to U.S. Medical Schools by Sex, 1996-2007

### By Race and Ethnicity

8. [Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools by Race, Selected Combinations within Hispanic or Latino](#) Ethnicity, and Sex, 2005-2007
9. [Matriculants to U.S. Medical Schools by Race, Selected Combinations within Hispanic or Latino](#) Ethnicity, and Sex, 2005-2007
10. [Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools](#) by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, Non-Hispanic or Latino Race, and State of Legal Residence, 2007
11. [Matriculants to U.S. Medical Schools](#) by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, Non-Hispanic or Latino Race, and State of Legal Residence, 2007
12. [Applicants, First-Time Applicants, Acceptees, and Matriculants](#) to U.S. Medical Schools by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, Non-Hispanic or Latino Race, and Sex, 2005-2007
13. **New!** [Race and Ethnicity Responses of Applicants](#) to U.S. Medical Schools, 2002-2007
14. **New!** [Race and Ethnicity Responses \(Alone, and In Combination\)](#) of Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools, 2002-2007
15. **New!** [Race and Ethnicity \(One Race Response\)](#) of Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools, 2002-2007
16. **New!** [Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools by Race and Ethnicity, Selected Combinations](#), 2002-2007



## FACTS - Applicants, Matriculants and Graduates

The numbers of applicants by state of legal residence are displayed below. Please [e-mail](#) us if you need further assistance or have additional inquiries.

**Table 1: Applicants by State of Legal Residence, 1995-2006**

Applicants by State		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Change 2005-06
<b>Region</b>	<b>State of Legal Residence***</b>													
<b>Northeast</b>	<b>Connecticut</b>	495	521	470	377	373	369	329	306	373	408	431	414	-3.9%
	<b>Delaware</b>	104	110	100	90	82	93	64	70	71	64	78	78	0.0%
	<b>District of Columbia</b>	122	96	87	84	71	71	78	90	76	92	81	87	7.4%
	<b>Maine</b>	105	104	85	75	61	62	65	53	73	73	82	84	2.4%
	<b>Maryland</b>	1,287	1,287	1,213	1,090	971	922	845	820	876	810	909	913	0.4%
	<b>Massachusetts</b>	1,094	1,208	1,038	940	944	831	762	705	776	787	867	897	3.5%
	<b>New Hampshire</b>	94	73	75	76	82	82	74	56	76	67	73	97	32.9%
	<b>New Jersey</b>	1,645	1,625	1,511	1,317	1,236	1,267	1,165	1,104	1,107	1,199	1,189	1,358	14.2%
	<b>New York</b>	3,953	3,917	3,413	3,167	2,891	2,779	2,542	2,494	2,636	2,601	2,705	2,702	-0.1%
	<b>Pennsylvania</b>	1,829	1,844	1,612	1,520	1,365	1,272	1,242	1,115	1,190	1,210	1,283	1,423	10.9%
	<b>Rhode Island</b>	78	89	81	85	71	66	60	62	73	79	71	80	12.7%
	<b>Vermont</b>	105	119	115	106	101	95	76	70	77	79	98	87	-11.2%
	<b>All</b>	10,911	10,993	9,800	8,927	8,248	7,909	7,302	6,945	7,404	7,469	7,867	8,220	4.5%

# Applicant - Matriculant Data: *Maryland*

Maryland	922	845	820	876	810	909	913
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Maryland	18	439	439	395	442	413
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How many schools?

# The MCAT

What is it?

## Welcome to the Official Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) Web Site

MCAT Home

About the MCAT Exam

Registration

Examinees with  
Disabilities

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MCAT Scores

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### About the MCAT Exam

Almost all U.S. medical schools require applicants to submit MCAT scores. Medical college admission committees consider MCAT scores as part of their admission decision process. [More >>](#)

#### News

**Registration is open for the January through May administrations of the MCAT exam.**

Summer 2008 Graduate Student Research Program details are [now available](#).

An extensive listing of [Writing Sample items](#) have been posted for student use.

### Prepare to Register

[2008 MCAT Essentials](#) (PDF, 24 pages)

**Required reading for all MCAT registrants:** Includes information about the MCAT refund policy, registration opening dates, and much more.

[MCAT Exam Schedule FAQ](#)

[Schedule of 2008 MCAT Exam Test Dates and Times](#) (PDF, 1 page)

Please note that 2007 MCAT appointments may not be rescheduled into 2008, as registration periods do not overlap from year to year.

[2008 Registration Deadlines and Score Release Schedule](#) (PDF, 1 page)

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You can change  
the face of  
medicine.

### Prepare to Take the MCAT Exam

**2008 MCAT Essentials**  
(PDF, 24 pages)

**Required reading** for all MCAT exam registrants. Provides information about registration, preparation, and administration.

[Preparing for the MCAT Exam](#)

[MCAT Practice Tests](#)

[Related Resources](#)

[AMCAS](#)

[Fee Assistance Program](#)



## About the MCAT Exam

[MCAT Home](#)[About the MCAT Exam](#)[Registration](#)[Examinees with  
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### Taking the MCAT exam?

Take charge of

The Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) is a standardized, multiple-choice examination designed to assess the examinee's problem solving, critical thinking, writing skills, and knowledge of science concepts and principles prerequisite to the study of medicine. Scores are reported in Verbal Reasoning, Physical Sciences, Writing Sample, and Biological Sciences.

Medical colleges consider MCAT scores as part of their admission process. Almost all U.S. medical schools require applicants to submit MCAT scores. Many schools do not accept MCAT scores that are more than three years old.

### The Testing Experience

[Testing Experience FAQ](#)[Schedule FAQ](#)[Testing Center Regulations and Procedures](#)[Transition to the Computerized MCAT Exam](#)[Miscellaneous FAQ](#)

This page contains documents in Portable Document Format (PDF). The Adobe Acrobat® Reader® is required to view PDF documents. [Download Acrobat® Reader®.](#)

### Related Resources

[Preparing for the MCAT Exam](#)

Includes detailed information on each test section.

[2008 MCAT Essentials  
\(PDF, 24 pages\)](#)

**Required reading** for all MCAT exam registrants. Provides information about registration, preparation, and administration.

[Medical School Admission  
Requirements \(MSAR™\)](#)

# Your MCAT Day

TEST SECTIONS	TIME
Non-Disclosure Agreement	10 minutes
Tutorial (Optional)	
Physical Sciences	70 minutes
52 Questions	
Break (Optional)	10 minutes
Verbal Reasoning	60 minutes
40 Questions	
Break (Optional)	10 minutes
Writing Sample	60 minutes
2 Essays	
Break (Optional)	10 minutes
Biological Sciences	70 minutes
52 Questions	
Survey (Optional)	10 minutes
Total Content Time	4 hours, 20 minutes
Total "Seat" Time*	5 hours, 10 minutes

## Preparing for the MCAT Exam

### [Preparing for the MCAT FAQ](#)

[Schedule FAQ](#)

## The Testing Experience

[Testing Experience FAQ](#)

[Testing Center Regulations and Procedures](#)

[Transition to the Computerized MCAT Exam FAQ](#)

[Miscellaneous FAQ](#)

## Test Sections

[How do I prepare for the Science sections?](#)

[What is in the Biological Sciences section?](#)

[Topics for Biological Sciences Sections of the MCAT Exam \(PDF, 25 pages\)](#)

[What can I expect in the Physical Sciences section?](#)

[Physical Sciences—General Chemistry Topics \(PDF, 10 pages\)](#)

[How should I prepare for the Writing Sample?](#)

[Examples of MCAT Writing Sample Prompts](#)

[How is the Writing Sample scored?](#)

[How do I get ready for the Verbal Reasoning Skills section?](#)

[Verbal Reasoning Skills Topics \(PDF, 1 page\)](#)

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MCAT Practice Online



# Topics for Biological Sciences Section of the MCAT

## Biology

### Molecular Biology: Enzymes and Metabolism

#### A. ENZYME STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

1. Function of enzymes in catalyzing biological reactions
2. Reduction of activation energy
3. Substrates and enzyme specificity

#### B. CONTROL OF ENZYME ACTIVITY

1. Feedback inhibition
2. Competitive inhibition
3. Non-competitive inhibition

#### C. BASIC METABOLISM

1. Glycolysis, anaerobic and aerobic, substrates and products
2. Krebs cycle, substrates and products, general features of the pathway
3. Electron transport chain and oxidative phosphorylation, substrates and products, general features of the pathway
4. Metabolism of fats and proteins



## Oxygen Containing Compounds

### A. ALCOHOLS

1. Description
  - a. nomenclature
  - b. physical properties
  - c. infrared absorption of OH group
2. Important reactions
  - a. substitution reactions:  $S_N1$  or  $S_N2$ , depending on alcohol and derived alkyl halide
  - b. oxidation
  - c. pinacol rearrangement in polyhydroxyalcohols; synthetic uses
  - d. protection of alcohols
  - e. reactions with  $SOCl_2$  and  $PBr_3$
  - f. preparation of mesylates and tosylates
  - g. esterification
  - h. inorganic esters
3. General principles
  - a. hydrogen bonding
  - b. acidity of alcohols compared to other classes of oxygen-containing compounds
  - c. effect of chain branching on physical properties



## **Physics**

### **Translational Motion**

1. Units and dimensions
2. Vectors, components
3. Vector addition
4. Speed, velocity (average and instantaneous)
5. Acceleration
6. Freely falling bodies

### **Force and Motion, Gravitation**

1. Center of mass
2. Newton's first law, inertia
3. Newton's second law ( $F = ma$ )
4. Newton's third law, forces equal and opposite
5. Concept of a field
6. Law of gravitation ( $F = K_G m_1 m_2 / r^2$ )
7. Uniform circular motion
8. Centripetal acceleration ( $F = mv^2/r$ )
9. Weight
10. Friction, static and kinetic
11. Motion on an inclined plane
12. Analysis of pulley systems
13. Force

# The MCAT

When?

# When do I take the MCAT?

TEST DATE	REGISTRATION OPENS	REGULAR REGISTRATION CLOSES 11:59 PM EASTERN	LATE REGISTRATION CLOSING 11:59 PM EASTERN	TENTATIVE SCORE RELEASE DATE AFTER 5 PM EASTERN
Friday, January 25	October 30, 2007	January 11, 2008	January 18, 2008	February 26, 2008
Saturday, January 26	October 30, 2007	January 12	January 19	February 26
Saturday, April 5	December 5, 2007	March 22	March 29	May 6
Friday, April 18	December 5, 2007	April 4	April 11	May 20
Saturday, April 19	December 5, 2007	April 5	April 12	May 20
Saturday, May 10	December 5, 2007	April 26	May 3	June 10
Friday, May 23	December 5, 2007	May 9	May 16	June 24
Tuesday, May 27	December 5, 2007	May 13	May 20	June 26
Saturday, May 31	December 5, 2007	May 17	May 24	July 1
Friday, June 13	TBA	May 30	June 6	July 15
Tuesday, July 8	TBA	June 24	July 1	August 12
Thursday, July 10	TBA	June 26	July 3	August 12
Friday, July 18	TBA	July 4	July 11	August 19
Tuesday, August 5	TBA	July 22	July 29	September 9
Thursday, August 7	TBA	July 24	July 31	September 9
Friday, August 15	TBA	August 1	August 8	September 16
Friday, August 22	TBA	August 8	August 22	September 23
Tuesday, August 26	TBA	August 12	August 19	September 30
Wednesday, September 3	TBA	August 20	August 27	October 7
Friday, September 5	TBA	August 22	August 29	October 7
Saturday, September 6	TBA	August 23	August 30	October 7
Friday, September 12	TBA	August 29	September 5	October 14
Saturday, September 13	TBA	August 30	September 6	October 14

# Spring & Summer 2008 Testing Dates

<i>April</i>						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

<i>May</i>						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

<i>June</i>						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

<i>July</i>						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

<i>August</i>						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

<i>September</i>						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



**Schools accepting September  
MCATs ?**



# The MCAT

How well must I do?

How to do well?

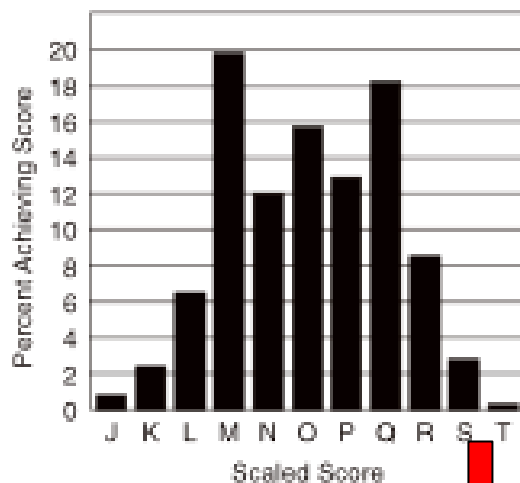
# The MCAT

- Biological Sciences (1 - 15)
- Physical Sciences (1 - 15)
- Verbal Reasoning (1 - 15)
- Writing Sample (J - T)

*Note: these scores are scaled, not absolute.*

# MCAT Data: 2006 Combined

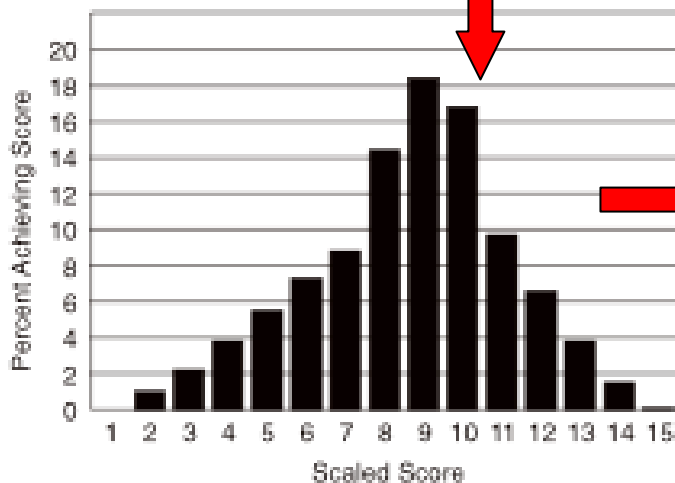
## Writing Sample



Scaled Score	Percent Achieving Score	Percentile Rank Range
T	0.3	99.7–99.9
S	2.8	96.9–99.6
R	8.5	88.4–96.8
Q	18.2	70.2–88.3
P	12.9	57.3–70.1
O	15.7	41.6–57.2
N	12.0	29.6–41.5
M	19.8	09.8–29.5
L	6.5	03.3–09.7
K	2.4	00.9–03.2
J	0.8	00.0–00.8

**Scaled Score**  
 75th Percentile = Q  
 50th Percentile = O  
 25th Percentile = M

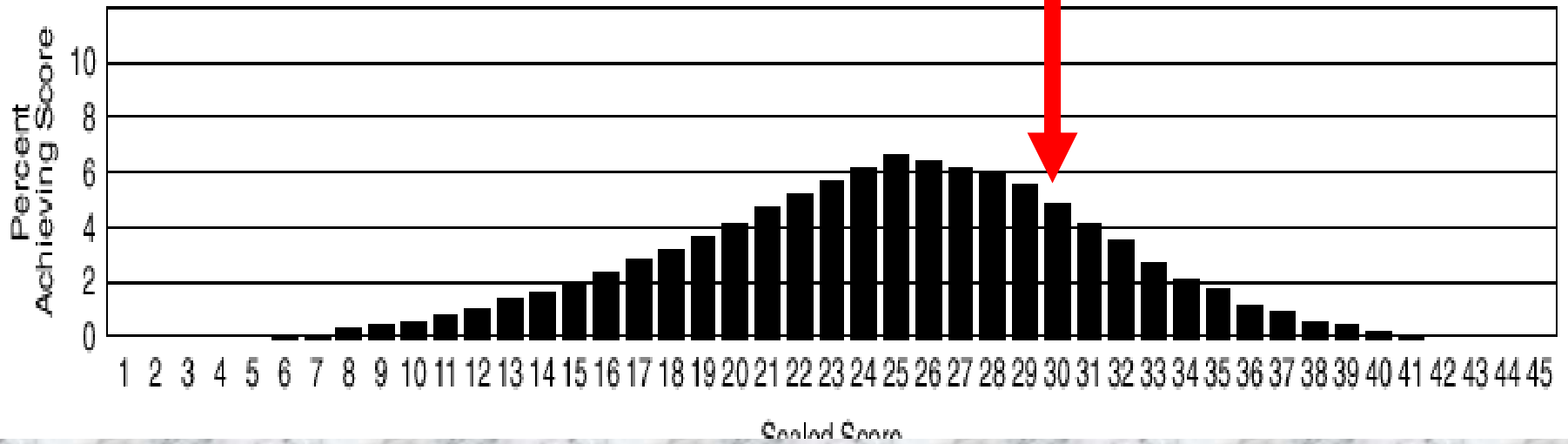
## Biological Sciences



Scaled Score	Percent Achieving Score	Percentile Rank Range
15	0.1	99.9–99.9
14	1.5	98.4–99.8
13	3.8	94.6–98.3
12	6.6	88.0–94.5
11	9.7	78.3–87.9
10	16.8	61.5–78.2
9	18.4	43.1–61.4
8	14.4	28.7–43.0
7	8.8	19.9–28.6
6	7.3	12.6–19.8
5	5.5	07.1–12.5
4	3.8	03.3–07.0
3	2.2	01.1–03.2
2	1.0	00.1–01.0
1	0.0	00.0–00.0

**Scaled Score**  
 Mean = 8.6  
 Std Deviation = 2.5

Total Score



source: [www.aamc.org/students/mcat](http://www.aamc.org/students/mcat)

# Example: Physical Sciences

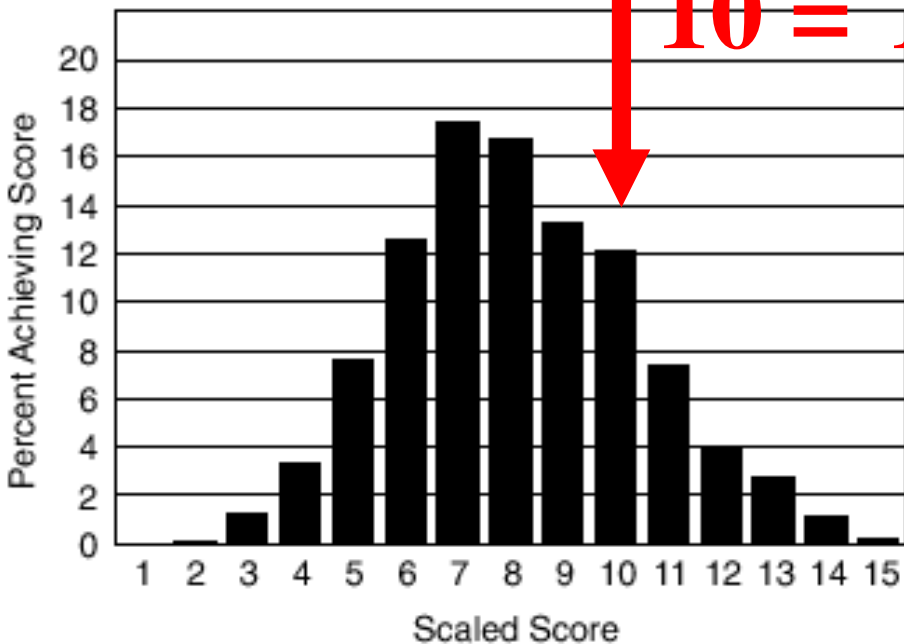
- 52 Total Questions in 70 minutes
- 42 related to passages
  - ~250 words in each of 7 - 9 passages
- 10 questions unrelated to each other or to the passages
- ~39,000 test takers earning scores of 1 - 15



# Scaled Scores

Combined April/August 2005 Administration

## Physical Sciences



Scaled Score	Percent Achieving Score	Percentile Rank Range
15	0.2	99.6–99.9
14	1.1	98.8–99.5
13	2.8	96.0–98.7
12	4.0	92.0–95.9
11	7.4	84.6–91.9
10	12.1	72.5–84.5
9	13.3	59.2–72.4
8	16.7	42.5–59.1
7	17.4	25.1–42.4
6	12.6	12.4–25.0
5	7.6	04.8–12.3
4	3.3	01.5–04.7
3	1.3	00.2–01.4
2	0.1	00.1–00.1
1	0.0	00.0–00.0

source: [www.aamc.org/students/mcat](http://www.aamc.org/students/mcat)

*Question:*

How many questions  
(out of 52 total) separate  
a score of 10 from a 9 or  
an 11 ?

# The Messages



# Writing sample

1. Developing a central idea
2. Synthesizing concepts and ideas
3. Presenting ideas cohesively and logically
4. Writing clearly using good grammar, syntax and punctuation consistent with a timed, first draft



# Writing sample

You are given a statement expressing an opinion.

**First**, explain what you think this means.

**Second**, explore the meaning by considering a circumstance in which the statement might not apply or be true.

**Third**, discuss ways in which the conflict might be resolved.



# Writing Sample

- Two scores for each of two sections
  - Each evaluator awards a score of 1 to 6
- Sum of scores on two questions is converted to J to T scale (11 units on scores from 4 - 24)
- For example:
  - 3 & 3 on Part 1 and 5 & 6 on Part 2
  - Raw score of 17 converted to alphabetic to give distribution

# So how do I begin to study?

1. Download Content!
2. Set up study schedule
3. Analyze Practice Tests
4. Textbooks !!!
5. Sample problems !!!

The most beneficial, helpful, and  
useful thing you can do to  
prepare.....

Take practice tests under **game** conditions!

# Medical School Admission Requirements (MSAR) 2008-2009

April 2007, 406 Pages

This must-have book -- often called the "bible of medical school guides" -- is the #1 source for medical school applicants. The 2008-2009 edition features more information than ever before and is designed to improve functionality and access to the information you need when applying to medical school.

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ID	Price	
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## Related Publications

- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 10 \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 3 - Special CB Practice Online Offer \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 4 \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 5 \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 6 \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 7 \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 8 \(Web\)](#)
- [MCAT Computer Based Web Practice Test 9 \(Web\)](#)
- [Minority Student Opportunities in United States Medical \(2007\) \(Book\)](#)



# Practice MCATs at

- [www.e-mcat.com](http://www.e-mcat.com)
  - Online
- [www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org)
  - Online and paper for sale
- Sample questions in PDF manual



# Higgins's Recipe for MCAT Study

- Allow 3 to 4 months before MCAT
- Have a weekly schedule that makes sense
- Spend 10 - 12 hours per week
- Allocate 40% of your study time for taking practice tests
- Allocate 40% of this test taking time for Verbal Reasoning

**Do I need a review course ?**

**What is the value of review  
course material?**

# Study groups or solo?

When do you finally learn and understand something ?

When are you sure ?

**Avoid bad habits...**







# AMBITION

THE JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND MILES SOMETIMES ENDS VERY, VERY BADLY.

**Be determined in achieving your goals...**



# Homework for next session.....

- Download & read MCAT info from Web
  - at least *MCAT Essentials* !
- Examine data & determine desired state of residence
- Identify potential letter writers
- Begin to identify times and places in your schedule
- What do you need to study?

Homework for next week....

Email your questions to me at:

*[higginsconsult@gmail.com](mailto:higginsconsult@gmail.com)*

## At our next session,

- Answer questions about process & the MCAT
- Review of specific types of questions
- Strategies for attacking different types of questions
- Using those practice tests
- Leave time for individual consultation