Medical School Application and Admission Timeline

This is a general guide that might not be appropriate for all students. Consult a pre-health advisor to devise an individualized schedule that works best for you. This timeline has been adapted for UCSB students and is based, in part, on the AAMC “Timeline for Application/Admission to Medical School”.

College Year 1

- Explore the Letters and Science Health Professions-Medical website and programs: [www.duels.ucsb.edu/academics/health/med](http://www.duels.ucsb.edu/academics/health/med)
- Successfully complete first-year premedical courses: see sample schedule on Health Professions-Medical website
- Explore the AAMC Aspiring Docs Web site: [https://www.aamc.org/students/aspiring/](https://www.aamc.org/students/aspiring/)
- Investigate and join campus pre-health student organizations
- Find community service and leadership opportunities
- Investigate paid/volunteer medically related experience and/or research
- Identify summer paid/volunteer medically related opportunities

Summer

- Complete summer paid/volunteer medically related experience
- Attend summer school, if desired or necessary

College Year 2

- Successfully complete second-year required premedical coursework and other degree requirements
- Meet with pre-health advisors and participate in pre-health activities
- Engage in community service and leadership opportunities
- Investigate and participate in volunteer/paid medically related clinical and/or research activities
- Identify summer paid/volunteer medically related opportunities

Summer

- Complete summer paid/volunteer medically related experience
- Participate in a summer health careers program, if available
- Attend summer school, if desired or necessary

College Year 3

- Successfully complete third-year required premedical coursework and other degree requirements
- Meet with pre-health advisor and participate in pre-health activities
- Engage in community service and leadership opportunities
- Continue participation in paid/volunteer medically related activities and/or research
- Investigate:
  - Medical Schools: [https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/requirements/msar/](https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/requirements/msar/)
  - Medical College Admission Test (MCAT): [https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/](https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/)
  - AAMC Fee Assistance Program: [https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/fap/](https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/fap/)
  - Minorities in Medicine: [https://www.aamc.org/students/minorities/](https://www.aamc.org/students/minorities/)
  - American Association of the Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine: [http://www.aacom.org/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.aacom.org/Pages/default.aspx)
  - Texas Medical & Dental Schools Application Service: [https://www.tmdsas.com/](https://www.tmdsas.com/)
  - Ontario Medical Schools Application Service (OMSAS): [http://www.ouac.on.ca/omsas/](http://www.ouac.on.ca/omsas/)
College Year 3 (continued)

- Continue to and participate in volunteer/paid medically related clinical and/or research activities
- Register for desired MCAT administration; visit MCAT Web site (www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/) for available test dates
- Consider post-baccalaureate programs
- Contact faculty, etc., about recommendation letters: provide
  - Résumé
  - Topics
  - Deadlines
- Prepare for MCAT (no gap year)
- Take spring MCAT (no later than May) (no gap year)
- Complete AMCAS, etc., application (submit in early June) (no gap year)

Summer

- Complete summer paid/volunteer medically related experience and/or research
- Participate in a summer health careers program, if available
- Prepare for MCAT if taking (gap year)
- Take desired MCAT administration (gap year) (September?)
- Attend summer school, if desired or necessary
- Work on secondary applications (no gap year)

College 4

- Consult regularly with pre-health advisor regarding:
  - Status of application/admission process for schools to which you’ve applied
  - Continue review of medical education options
- Continue participation in paid/volunteer medically related activities
- Engage in community service and leadership opportunities
- Complete supplementary application materials for schools to which you’ve applied in (no gap year)
- Interview at medical schools (no gap year)
- Make interim and final decisions about medical school choice (no gap year)
- Immediately notify medical schools that you will not be attending (no gap year)
- Ensure that all IRS forms are submitted as early as possible (no gap year)
- Successfully complete elective science and non-science coursework and other degree requirements
- Complete any school specific requirements
- Contact faculty, etc., about recommendation letters: provide
  - Résumé
  - Topics
  - Deadlines
- Complete AMCAS, etc., application (gap year) (submit in early June)
- Graduate

Summer and/or Gap Year

- Consult regularly with pre-health advisor regarding status of application/admission process for schools to which you’ve applied
- Continue participation in paid/volunteer medically related activities
- Complete supplementary application materials for schools to which you’ve applied
- Interview at medical schools
- Continue review of medical education options
- Make interim and final decisions about medical school choice
- Immediately notify medical schools that you will not be attending
- Ensure that all IRS forms are submitted as early as possible
- Relax and prepare for medical school

1 Red vs. Green: if you are not planning on taking a gap year, follow the red text. Use the green if you will take at least one gap year.