



MCAT Position Statement

Approved by the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents on behalf of the Board of Regents on August 4, 2020

The American College of Physicians (ACP), representing 163,000 internal medicine physicians (internists), subspecialists, internal medicine trainees and fellows, and medical students, strongly encourages medical schools to engage in holistic reviews of applicants in their admissions process.

In the midst of the public health emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, traditional medical school application processes for pre-medical students have been disrupted. Applicants have experienced disruptions in taking the MCAT examination, whether due to personal health and safety concerns, vendor-initiated scheduling changes, or difficulties in accessing testing centers. Furthermore, applicants of color and those from lower socioeconomic groups are disproportionately impacted by factors such as venue changes to distant testing centers. The ACP is concerned that mandatory MCAT testing in the midst of the current public health emergency will increase disparities in career opportunity among people of color and those of lower socioeconomic status.

We join AAMC in emphasizing the importance of medical schools' optimization of holistic reviews of their applicants and understanding of unique challenges facing current applicants. In light of these challenges, we encourage medical schools to waive MCAT requirements for applicants seeking admission in 2021.