

DARTMOUTH

Health Professions Program

Med/Vet/Dental Application Newsletter

The Composite Process

2025-2026

November 2024

Whether you plan to apply to MD, DO, Dental, or Veterinary school, it is time to prepare for the 2025-2026 application cycle. Over the next several months we will keep you updated about your tasks ahead. In this newsletter, we will emphasize understanding the overall application process, including the time-sensitive Composite Letter of Evaluation process. We will also include information about the MCAT and financial assistance. Please make sure to thoroughly read this and all following newsletters posted to the MedApp2025-2026 listserv.

The language of these newsletters will tilt towards MD schools, but please note that nearly all of it applies directly to DO and Dental, and much to Veterinary school as well (except letters), and it is relevant for some other clinical graduate programs.

It can feel both exciting and a little nerve-wracking as you proceed, but we will help you know what actions to take, and individually assist you with assessing and reflecting on your overall application.

Your HPP team is here and happy to help you throughout the entire process!

Sarah, Nicole, and Rae

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Sign-Up for the MedApp2025-2026 Listserv!

If you have not already, **please make sure to [sign-up for the MedApp2025-2026 listserv](#)** if you plan, or are seriously considering, applying to the 2025-2026 Med/Vet/Dental application cycle. As we get further into the cycle, we will use this listserv exclusively to

convey crucial information about the application, so it is to your benefit to sign-up for the listserv so you can receive these communications.

Note: If you are a current senior, when filling out the sign-up form it will be beneficial to you to also enter a non-Dartmouth email so you can continue to receive communications after you graduate, and your Dartmouth email becomes deactivated.

MedApp2025-2026 Listserv Sign-Up Form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc4A5hdR4uckZOukolAiKHRO_wK8bada8DRbmqH84jz-GUhmQ/viewform?usp=pp_url

Application Components & Timeline

It is essential to be aware of and understand the components of a complete application and the tasks and timelines of each.

- If you were unable to attend our recent “Overview of the Med/Vet/Dental Application” info session, we highly encourage you to [watch the recording](#) or review the attached presentation slides for all the necessary information.

Understanding the Composite Letter of Evaluation Process

The thing you should be thinking about most now is the Composite Letter of Evaluation – which is Dartmouth’s version of a “committee” letter. It is very unique process and important to gain a clear understanding of what it is and the tasks it entails.

- **Review the attached Composite Process Letter Handbook** for detailed information and instructions about the composite process, how to choose and set deadlines with writers, and the timeline. It is your responsibility – and to your benefit – to know the process!

Choosing Your Letter Writers

Once you understand the composite process, reflect on who you would like to ask to write your composite letter and letters of recommendation. Feel free to consult with a pre-health dean!

- **You are responsible for choosing your writers and clearly communicating deadlines and timely information to them.** You are also responsible for creating your PrivateFolio account (our letter dossier service) and submitting the appropriate forms to HPP.
- It is not too soon to start asking writers if they are able/willing to write for you. Use the attached **Composite Letter Process Handbook** to help you choose your writer and set deadlines as you receive confirmations from your writers.
- **We do have resources to help both support writers and composite writers with the writing process.** If any of your writers would like to review those resources, let them know they can reach out to Rae Stokes at Health.Professions.Program@dartmouth.edu.

- If you have any questions about letter logistics or PrivateFolio, feel free to reach out to Rae at the above email.

Assessing Your Application

If you haven't already, we highly encourage you to consider meeting with a pre-health dean to review and assess the strength of your application. We are here to assist you in achieving a successful outcome! You can schedule a meeting using [Sarah Berger's](#) or [Nicole Roeper's](#) Calendly links, or by reaching out to Rae at Health.Professions.Program@dartmouth.edu.

