Health Professions Program

Med/Vet/Dental Application Newsletter

Information about the MCAT & Fee Assistance Program

2026-2027

September 2025

For those of you who are planning, or strongly considering, taking the MCAT this year, please note that **MCAT registration for all 2026 MCAT test dates will be held on October 21st, 22nd, and 23rd at 12:00 PM EST.** Your registration opening date is based on your test center location (see more information below about testing sites).

IMPORTANT! Testing dates do fill quickly, so if you already know when you want to take the MCAT, make sure to sign up as soon as registration opens. Please see the AAMC's Tips for Registration Day.

Be sure to read this newsletter carefully for **essential information** about signing up for the MCAT, as well as information about preparation in general. Even if you plan to take the MCAT in a future year, this information may still be helpful for you.

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Reminder: Sign up for the MedApp2026-2027 Listserv!

If you have not already, **please make sure to sign up for the MedApp2026-2027 listserv** if you plan, or are seriously considering, applying to the 2026-2027 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.

MCAT Registration: Test Dates & Calendar

- **MCAT registration for all 2026 MCAT test dates will be held on October 21st, 22nd, and 23rd at 12:00 PM EST.**

- **IMPORTANT!** Testing dates do fill quickly, so if you already know when you want to take the MCAT, make sure to sign up as soon as registration opens. Research ahead of time to know the locations nearest to Dartmouth (see Nearest Testing Sites section below for more info) or your home.
- See the AAMC-MCAT website for information about the content of the MCAT, how to register, and resources for preparation; as well as financing the MCAT. You can also learn about MCAT prep resources.
- Sign up to receive email updates from the AAMC about MCAT updates and important logistical information.
- Learn more about registering for the MCAT ahead of time. Don't wait until the sign-up day opens. Understand the process, location of testing centers, etc.
- Create YOUR AAMC account NOW! You can do this already. Then you'll be all set if you are planning to register this October to take the MCAT in 2026. That account will be your AAMC account for everything including your future application, and beyond!
- Review the 2026 MCAT Testing Dates Schedule.
- Learn more about fees for registration, rescheduling, and cancellation.

Nearest Testing Sites

Planning will be required to travel to your testing sites and may require leaving the day before to be at the site on time on test day.

- The closest testing site to Dartmouth is in Concord, NH which is about an hour away.
- The next closest testing site is in Burlington, VT which is about an hour and a half away.
- There are several sites in Massachusetts including three in Boston, several in surrounding areas, and 1 in Springfield, MA.

Preparation Resources

It is essential to make a plan that is appropriate to YOU. When will you be best prepared to take the MCAT? When will you have time to commit to studying for the MCAT?

- There is information on the AAMC website about MCAT content, preparation materials, and more.
- The HPP website also has information and links to resources to prepare for the MCAT.
- Memm and Anki are two MCAT study tools students have used.
- For wonderful tips about studying for the MCAT make sure to watch this terrific video by Medical Education Learning Specialist Shavonia Wynn, PhD. Start your MCAT prep right with Proven Learning Strategies.

The Financial Assistance Program (FAP)

The AAMC does have a **Fee Assistance Program (FAP)** to help defray the cost of the MCAT and AMCAS application.

- **IMPORTANT NOTE!** To access the benefits, you must be approved before you register for the MCAT exam or apply to medical schools using the AMCAS application. Benefits are not retroactive. The application process can take up to 5-10 business days to be approved, so keep that in mind as you prepare to apply. There is a lot of information to gather in order to apply, so we recommend starting this process at least a few weeks in advance.
- If you qualify for the FAP you also receive it for the AMCAS application (within a certain timeframe).
- If you miss the FAP eligibility by a tiny fraction, it can't hurt to contact the FAP Office directly.
- If you do sign up for the MCAT before getting approved, you can still apply to get approved for the actual application process.

Dartmouth Class of ’85 Bridges to Health Professions Grant

Thanks to the generous donation of the Class of ’85, we have the Bridges to Health Professions Grant to help defray the costs of preparing for and taking the MCAT for a few students with high financial need. We will send out more information when the application is ready, so please stay tuned!