

The MCAT Exam: The Basics for Students

Prepared by AAMC
Presented by: <insert your name here>

Here's what we'll talk about:

MCAT is the Medical College Admission Test.
Virtually all medical schools ask applicants for
MCAT scores.

We'll also talk about:

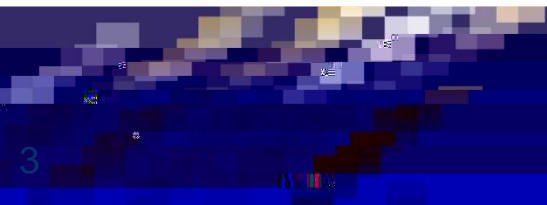
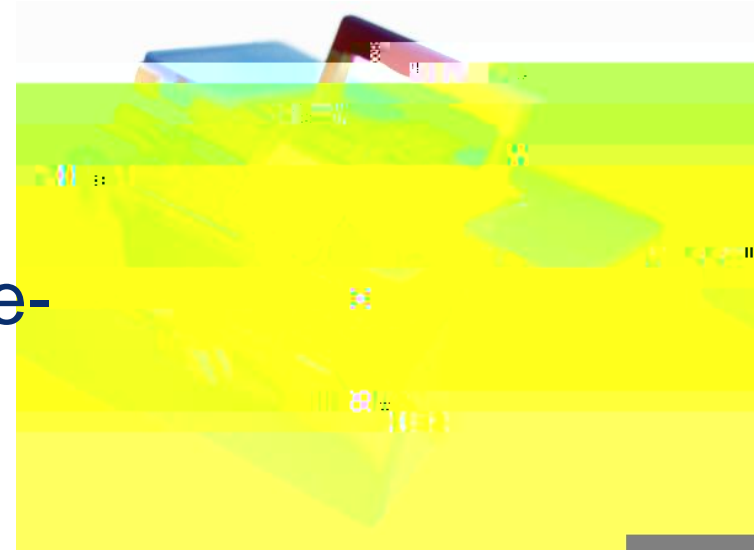
testing in 2013 or 2014

testing in 2015 or 2016

fits-

Ways to plan ahead for
preparation, MCAT registration,
and medical school application

-size-



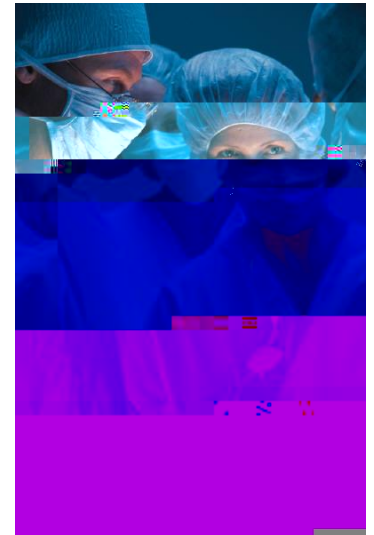
Virtually all medical schools ask for MCAT scores

Virtually all U.S. medical schools ask applicants for MCAT scores.

11 of the Canadian medical school do.

Medical schools select students using MCAT scores and other information

-
academic experiences.



There are lots of ways to learn about the MCAT exam

The MCAT program has a great website
www.aamc.org/mcat.

questions *The Official Guide to the MCAT® Exam.*

www.e-mcat.com.

The MCAT program sells additional practice tests too.
And a diagnostic test to identify strengths and weaknesses *The Official MCAT® Self Assessment Package*

There are lots of ways to learn about the MCAT exam

Your pre-health advisor knows a lot about the MCAT exam.

Faculty at your school may too.

Some universities offer MCAT preparation courses.

Some medical schools do too.

Some private companies also have MCAT preparation courses.

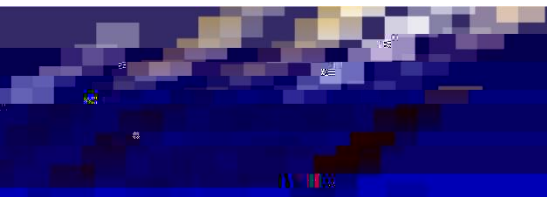
It's easy to get information about the MCAT exam

The MCAT website describes:

What the exam tests

What the questions look like

How your test will be scored



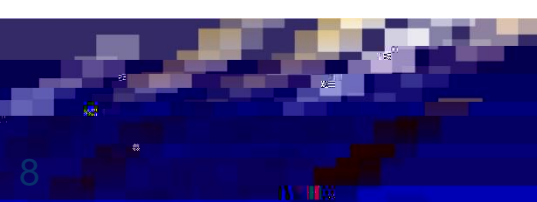
It's easy to get information about the MCAT exam

You can ask MCAT staff members questions by emailing mcataamc.org.

(202) 828-0690.

The MCAT website also answers FAQs

https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/preparing/85556/preparing_prepfaq.html



The MCAT exam is changing in 2015

The MCAT exam is changing in 2015 to keep pace with recent changes in what medical faculty teach

Changes in our increasingly diverse and aging population are altering what medical schools teach

Changes in health care delivery and new scientific knowledge are too

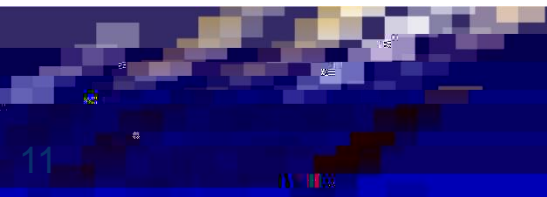
These changes are shaping what admissions committees look for in future physicians

Whether you'll take the current or new test depends on when you'll be ready to test and apply

Applicants who want to start medical school in 2014 and 2015 will take the current MCAT exam.

Most applicants who want to start school in 2016 and 2017 will take the new MCAT exam.

Note: medical schools will also accept current MCAT scores for 2016 and 2017 admission.



The *Official Guide* describes the 2013 and 2014 exams



If you're testing in 2013 or 2014

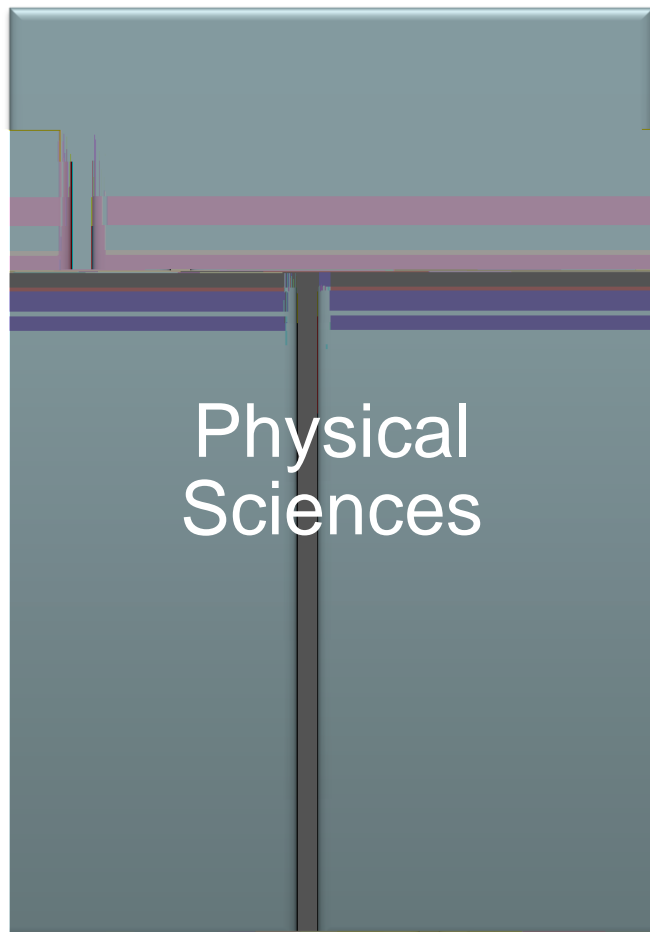
Physical Sciences

Verbal Reasoning

Biological Sciences

New Trial Section

If you're testing in 2013 or 2014



Tests general chemistry and physics topics including:

Electronic structure

Phases and phase equilibria

Thermochemistry

Acids and bases

Work and energy

Fluids and solids

And more

If you're testing in 2013 or 2014



If you're testing in 2013 or 2014

Tests biology and organic chemistry topics including:

Enzymes and metabolism

Body systems

Molecular structure

Oxygen-containing compounds

Biological molecules

And more



Biological
Sciences

If you're testing in 2013 or 2014

New Trial Section

**Unlike past examinees, you
Writing Sample section.**

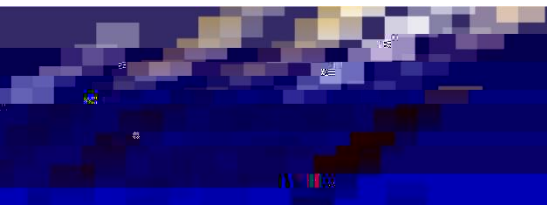
**volunteer to test out
questions for the MCAT²⁰¹⁵
exam.**

**Building the new exam will
take lots of questions, and
there without your help.**

If you're testing in 2013 or 2014

New Trial Section

If you're testing in 2013 or 2014



If you're testing in 2013 or 2014

New Trial Section

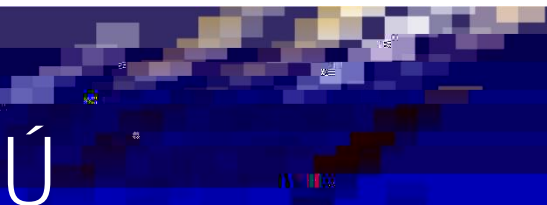
preview content medical schools find important.

Volunteer and help medical schools select students who will be great colleagues for you and




The *Preview Guide* describes the 2015 and 2016 tests



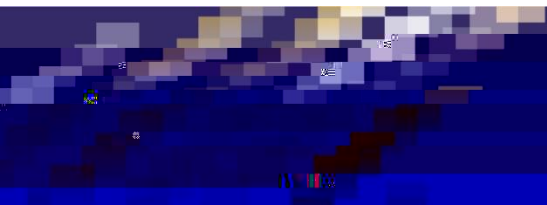


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Chemical & Physical

Concept 4

Complex living organisms transport materials, sense their environment, process signals, and respond to changes using processes that can be understood in terms of physical principles.

Concept 5

The principles that govern chemical interactions and reactions form the basis for a broader understanding of the molecular dynamics of living systems.

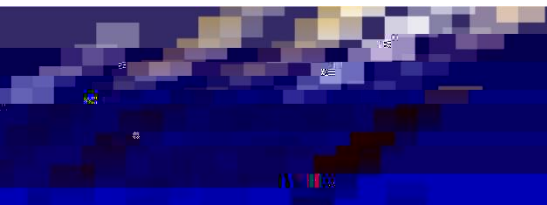
Critical Analysis & Reasoning Skills

Asks you to critically analyze, evaluate, and apply information presented in a passages from humanities and social sciences disciplines, including ethics, philosophy, cultural studies and population health

All needed information will appear in the passages

Biological Control

Biological Control of Invasive Species



Biological Systems

Foundations of Biology

Concept 1

Biomolecules have unique properties that determine how they contribute to the structure and function of cells, and how they participate in the processes necessary to maintain life.

Concept 2

Highly-organized assemblies of molecules, cells, and organs interact to carry out the functions of living organisms.

Concept 3

Complex systems of tissues and organs sense the internal and external environments of multicellular organisms, and through integrated functioning, maintain a stable internal environment within an ever-changing external environment.

Psychological, Social, & Biological Foundations of Behavior

Tests knowledge and use of the concepts in psychology, sociology, biology, research methods, and statistics that provide a solid

Psychological, Social, & Biological Foundations of Behavior

Concept 6

Biological, psychological, and socio-cultural factors influence the ways that individuals perceive, think about, and react to the world.

Concept 7

Biological, psychological, and socio-cultural factors influence behavior and behavior change.

Concept 8

Psychological, socio-cultural, and biological factors influence the way we think about ourselves and others.

Concept 9

Cultural and social differences influence well-being.

Concept 10

Social stratification and access to resources influence well-being.

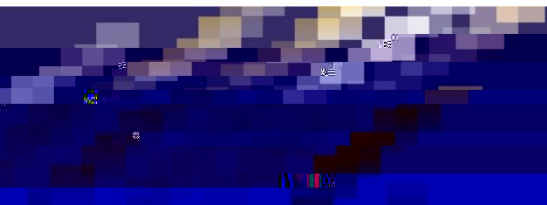
Learn more by watching this video



www.aamc.org/mcat2015

There's no "one-size-fits-all" preparation approach

Know yourself and prepare for whichever MCAT
exam you take in the way that suits you best:



Plan ahead for preparation, registration, and application

Give yourself plenty of time for test
preparation

Register early for the exam so you

Get the testing date and location
you want (registration opens in
October)

like your first scores

Can submit your medical school
applications on time



Apply for fee assistance if you need it

For families at or below 300% of poverty level

Application released in January each year

Online application

www.aamc.org/fap

2013 Benefits:

Fee reduction for exam
\$100

14 free AMCAS applications

Free copy of *The Official Guide to the MCAT[®] Exam and Medical School Admissions Requirements[®] (MSAR[®]) tool*



Plan ahead for preparation, registration, and application

Be organized on test day

Know where the testing center is and how long it will take you to get there

Have the right ID with you

Bring something to eat and drink during breaks

Planning ahead will (or may!) make the test day less stressful

