Medical and Dental School Application Preparation

Part I
Tests, Applications and Budgets
Preprofessional Advising Team

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Schedule appointments using the online system: https://msu.campus.eab.com/
Admission Tests
Comparing the Two

**MCAT**
- $315 computerized exam
- Tested Content:
  - Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems
  - Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills
  - Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems
  - Psychological, Social and Biological Foundations of Behavior
- Each scored from 118-132
  - Total score range is 472-528, midpoint = 500
- Test results received in 30-35 days

**DAT**
- $445 computerized exam that covers the cost of sending scores to all of the dental schools you have selected at the time of application
  - 2017 fees, may change for 2018
  - Additional fee for dental schools or other recipients NOT selected at the time of application.
- Offered year round
- Tested Content:
  - Survey of Natural Sciences
  - Perceptual Ability Test
  - Reading Comprehension
  - Quantitative Reasoning
- All scored out of 30 points
- Average Scores of accepted students to MI schools = 19-20
- Test results received immediately
MCAT

Recommended MSU Courses for MCAT

1 year General Chemistry 1 semester Biochemistry
1 year General Biology 1 semester Microbiology
1 year Organic Chemistry 1 semester Anatomy
1 year Physics 1 semester Psychology
1 semester Physiology 1 semester Sociology
1 semester Statistics

MCAT COURSE GUIDE ON THE MSU PREPROFESSIONAL WEBSITE!
DAT

- **Perceptual Ability:**
  - Comprised of 6 subtests:
    - Apertures
    - Angle Discrimination
    - Cube Counting
    - 3D Form Development
    - Paper Folding
    - View Recognition

- **Reading Comprehension:**
  - Assess ability to read, organize, analyze, comprehend and remember new information
Quantitative Reasoning:
- Algebra, fractions, decimals, percentages, probability and stats, geometry, trigonometry and applied mathematics (word) problems.

Survey of Natural Sciences:
- Biology, chemistry, and organic chemistry
Questions
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Centralized Application Services
Centralized Applications

- **AMCAS** – American Medical Colleges Application Service (MD)
- **AACOMAS** – American Association of Colleges Osteopathic Medicine Application Service (DO)
- **AADSAS** – Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (DDS & DMD)
Primary Application: 5 Key Components

1. Identifying Information
2. Coursework & Transcripts
3. Work/Volunteer Experience & Activities
4. Personal Statement
5. Letters of Evaluation
Key Items to Consider

- **Apply Early!!!!**
  - As close as possible to June 1st!!!
- Course Repeats
- Science GPA
- Primary vs. Secondary applications
- Letters: where & when to submit
Questions
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Budgets
Building a Budget

- The average number of schools that a preprofessional student applies to is currently between 12 and 15.

- So how much would that cost really?
So let us say you are going to apply to 12 schools. Eight Allopathic schools and four Osteopathic schools:

- To apply to Allopathic schools, the primary application fees through AMCAS are $160 for the first school and $39 for each additional school.

- To apply to Osteopathic schools, the primary application fees through AACOMAS are $195 for the first school and $45 for each additional school.
Med School continued

- Eight Allopathic Schools:
- Four Osteopathic Schools:
  - $195+45+45+45=330$

- **Total:** $763
  - Plus $310 for the MCAT
  - **Actual Primary Application total:** $1073
So let us say you are going to apply to 12 schools.

To apply to Dental schools, the primary application fees through AADSAS are $245 for the first school and $98 for each additional school.

12 Dental Schools:

- $245 + 98 + 98 + 98 + 98 + 98 + 98 + 98 + 98 + 98 + 98 + 98 = $1323

Total: $1323

- Plus $445 for the DAT.

Actual Primary Application total: $1768
Most schools will require secondary applications and those secondary applications will require a supplemental fee.

The Secondary fees can range from $25 to $150 at each school.

A randomly chosen set of 12 secondary fees (chosen from typical schools MSU students apply to, the range being from $50 to $85) will be used for estimation.
Primaries Plus Secondaries

- **Medical**
  - Primary total: $1073+
  - Secondary Sample Estimate: $800
  - Total: $1873

- **Dental**
  - Primary total: $1768+
  - Secondary Sample Estimate: $800
  - Total: $2568
Additional Costs

- Are you using Interfolio? $20-$60
- Did you or are you considering taking a DAT or MCAT prep course? $700-$2500
- Did you purchase DAT or MCAT review books? $60-$200
- Will you need a new suit for interviewing? $50-$300
- Will you need travel, food and lodging for interviews? $500-$1500

**Total:** $1330-$4060 and higher
Applying to Medical or Dental schools can easily run from $3000 to $6500 on the average. And all of this before you ever relocate and start classes!

So what can you do?

- Start saving now
- Be strategic in your application plans and thoroughly consider each school
- Eliminate frivolous spending and pay off debts
- Research your financial options
Questions
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Time Line
Time Line

- Fall Semester 2017
- Spring Semester 2018
- Summer Semester 2018
- Fall 2018-Spring 2019
Next Seminar

Wednesday, October 25
4pm in 105 Natural Science Building

or

Thursday, October 26
6pm in 116 Natural Science Building

- Covers:
  - Letters of Evaluation
  - Personal Statements
  - Choosing your schools
Questions