

Everything You Need to Know Before Applying to Med School



Making Pre-Med Count: Everything I wish I'd known before applying (successfully!) to med school

by Elisabeth Fassas

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Applying to medical school is a highly competitive process, but it's definitely possible to succeed if you know what you're doing. In this guide, we'll cover everything you need to know about the application process, from choosing the right schools to writing a strong personal statement and getting letters of recommendation.

Choosing the Right Schools

The first step in the application process is to choose the right schools. There are a few factors to consider when making your decision, including:

- **Location:** Where do you want to go to school? Do you want to be close to home or in a new city or state?

- **Size:** Do you want to attend a large or small school? Large schools tend to have more resources and opportunities, but small schools can offer a more personalized experience.
- **Reputation:** What is the school's reputation? Is it known for its research or its clinical training? It is important to research your options and find a school that has a good reputation in the field you are interested in.
- **Cost:** How much will it cost to attend school? Tuition and fees vary widely from school to school, so it's important to factor in the cost when making your decision.

Once you've considered these factors, you can start to narrow down your choices. It's a good idea to visit schools and talk to students and faculty before making your final decision.

Preparing Your Application

The next step in the application process is to prepare your application. This includes writing a personal statement, getting letters of recommendation, and completing the AMCAS application.

Personal Statement

The personal statement is your chance to introduce yourself to the admissions committee and explain why you want to be a doctor. It's important to be honest and authentic in your statement, and to highlight your experiences and qualifications that make you a good candidate for medical school.

Letters of Recommendation

Letters of recommendation are an important part of your application. They give the admissions committee a chance to hear from people who know you well and can vouch for your character and abilities. It's important to choose people who can write strong and positive letters on your behalf.

AMCAS Application

The AMCAS application is the official application for medical school. It's a lengthy application, but it's important to complete it carefully and accurately. The AMCAS application includes information about your academic history, extracurricular activities, and work experience.

Submitting Your Application

Once you've completed your application, you'll need to submit it to the schools you're applying to. The AMCAS application can be submitted online or by mail. It's important to submit your application by the deadline, and to make sure that all of the required materials are included.

Interviewing

If you're selected for an interview, it's important to prepare in advance. The interview is your chance to meet the admissions committee and learn more about the school. It's also a chance for the committee to assess your communication skills and your knowledge of medicine.

Making Your Decision

Once you've received your acceptance letters, it's time to make a decision about where you want to go to school. There are a few factors to consider when making your decision, including:

- **Cost:** How much will it cost to attend school? Tuition and fees vary widely from school to school, so it's important to factor in the cost when making your decision.
- **Location:** Where do you want to go to school? Do you want to be close to home or in a new city or state?
- **Reputation:** What is the school's reputation? Is it known for its research or its clinical training? It is important to research your options and find a school that has a good reputation in the field you are interested in.
- **Fit:** How do you feel about the school? Do you feel like you would be a good fit for the school's culture and community?

Making the decision about where to go to medical school is a big one. It's important to take your time and consider all of your options before making a final decision.

Applying to medical school is a highly competitive process, but it's definitely possible to succeed if you know what you're doing. By following the steps outlined in this guide, you can increase your chances of getting into the medical school of your choice.



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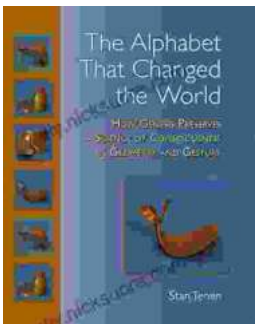
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