The med school application process typically begins **1.5 years before** an applicant attends medical school.

### BEFORE JUNE 1
- **Study for and take the MCAT.** MCAT scores take up to 1 month to be processed.  
  
  MCAT Cost (2017): $310  
  **Fee waivers available.**

### JUNE 1 - DECEMBER
- **AMCAS application opens**
  
  AMCAS Cost (2017): $160 for first school, $39 for each additional school. **Fee waivers available.**

### JULY - FEBRUARY
- **Submit school-specific secondary/supplemental applications**
  
  Cost (2017): $0 - $150 per secondary/supplemental application. **Fee waivers available.**

### AUGUST - FEBRUARY
- **Medical school interviews**
- **Out-of-state travel expenses** (e.g., flight, lodging) can total to at least $500 out of pocket.

### SEPTEMBER - APRIL
- **Acceptances released**

### APRIL - JUNE
- **Individuals on the waitlist notified whether they have been accepted.**

### ADDITIONAL NOTES
- Highly recommended to submit your application **as soon as** it opens.
- Each medical school has their own set of coursework requirements. Check each school’s website for additional details.
- Faith-based medical schools may require additional letter of recommendation from clergyman or spiritual leader.

### RESOURCES
- UCLA CAC: Pre-Health Career Services in Medicine
- AMCAS: American Medical College Application Service
- AAMC: Association of American Medical Colleges

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Special Thanks to Kevin Truong, UCLA '16, UCLA DGSSM 20 | Information Cultivated by Becky La, UCLA '16
The pharmacy school application process typically begins 1.5 years before an applicant attends pharmacy school.

### BEFORE APP OPENS
3 - 12 MONTHS PRIOR

- Identify who will write your 3 letters of recommendation.
  - Recommended: 1 from pharmacist, 1 from science professors, 1 from non-science professor, research mentor, community leaders, or work supervisor
- Prepare, edit, and finalize your personal statement.
- Request official transcripts be forwarded directly to PharmCAS by each university/college attended
- Update your resume/CV

### JULY 15 - NOVEMBER 1

- PharmCAS application opens
  - PharmCAS Cost (2017): $175 for first school, $55 for each additional school. Fee waivers available.
- Acceptances released.
- NOTE: Applicants have 2 weeks from interview to accept or deny their admission. To hold your spot, must submit $200 - $2000 deposit.
- Individuals on the waitlist notified whether they are accepted.

### ADDITIONAL NOTES
- **Do NOT** enter information into PharmCAS before July 15th or else all inputted information will be erased, but submit as soon as it opens.
- Each pharmacy school has their own set of coursework requirements. Check each school’s website for additional details.
- Faith-based pharmacy schools may require additional letter of recommendation from clergyman or spiritual leader.
- Deposits to hold your spot may be refunded depending on the pharmacy school’s policy.

### RESOURCES
- UCLA CAC: Pre-Health Career Services in Medicine
- PharmCAS: Pharmacy College Application Service
- pharmacyforme.org | American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

Special Thanks to Vanessa Lee, UCI ’16, USC Pharmacy ’19 | Information Cultivated by Becky La, UCLA ’16
The dental school application process typically begins **1.5 years before** an applicant attends dentistry school.

### START EARLY

**Shadow** dentists and acquire dental experience

Competitive applicants complete minimum **100 hours** of shadowing/dental experience

### BEFORE APP OPENS

**3 - 12 MONTHS PRIOR**

Identify who will write your 3 - 4 letters of recommendation.

**Recommended:** 1 from dentist, 2 from science professors

Prepare, edit, and finalize your personal statement.

Request official transcripts be forwarded directly to AADAS by each university/college attended

Update your resume/CV

### JUNE 1 - FEBRUARY 1

**AADAS application opens**

AADAS Cost (2017): $245 for first school, $98 for each additional school. **Fee waivers available.**

### BEFORE JUNE 1

Study for and take the **DAT**. Can only take exam 3 times. Official scores take up to 1 month to be processed.

DAT Cost (2017): $415 **Fee waivers available.**

**Recommended:** Minimum 300 hours of test preparation

**NOTE:** Most dental schools have rolling admissions policies. Highly recommended to submit application as soon as it opens.

### JULY - MARCH

**Dental school interviews**

Out-of-state travel expenses (e.g., flight, lodging) can total to at least $500 out of pocket.

Individuals on the waitlist notified whether they have been accepted.

### DECEMBER - MARCH

**Acceptances released**

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**

- It is highly encouraged to mention manual dexterity skills (e.g., activities requiring hand-eye coordination) in AADAS application
- Each dental school has their own set of coursework requirements. Check each school’s website for additional details.
- Each dental school may require secondary materials. Check school’s application requirements in AADAS application for additional details.
- Faith-based dental schools may require additional letter of recommendation from clergyman or spiritual leader.

**RESOURCES**

UCLA CAC: Pre-Health Career Services in Medicine
AADAS: Associated American Dental Schools Application Service
ADEA: American Dental Education Association
ASDA: American Student Dental Association

Special Thanks to Marvin Chen, UCLA ’16 & Michael Ly, UCLA ’17, Dental School Applicants & Christine Nguyen, UCLA ’15, ATSU Dentistry ’21 | Information Cultivated by Becky Le, UCLA ’16
The occupational therapy application process typically begins 1.5 years before an applicant attends occupational therapy school.

**START EARLY**
- **Shadow** occupational therapists in 2 different settings and **acquire** OT experience
- Competitive applicants complete minimum **80 hours** of shadowing/OT experience.

**BEFORE APP OPENS**
3 - 12 MONTHS PRIOR
- **Identify who will write your 3 - 5 letters of recommendation.**
- **Prepare, edit, and finalize your personal statement.**
- **Request official transcripts** be forwarded directly to OTCAS by each university/college attended.

**BEFORE JULY 18**
- **Study for and take the GRE.** Official scores take up to 14 days to be processed.
- **GRE Cost (2017): $205**
- **Fee waivers available.**
- **Recommended: Minimum 100 hours of test preparation**
- **Occupational therapy school interviews**
- **Out-of-state travel expenses** (e.g., flight, lodging) can total to at least $500 out of pocket.
- **Acceptances released**
- Individuals on the **waitlist** notified whether they have been accepted.

**JULY 18 - FEBRUARY 1**
- **OTCAS application opens**
- **OTCAS Cost (2017): $140 for first school, $60 for each additional school. Fee waivers available.**
- **Submit supplemental/secondary applications**
- **Supplemental Cost (2017): $0 - $85**

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**
- Options to apply directly to school’s program are available.
- Highly recommended to submit your application **as soon as** it opens.
- Not all occupational therapy schools require the GRE. Check each school's website for their standardized test requirements.
- Each occupational therapy school has their own set of coursework requirements. Check each school’s website for additional details.

**RESOURCES**
- UCLA CAC: Pre-Health Career Services in Medicine
- OTCAS: Occupational Therapy Centralized Application Service
- AOTA: American Occupational Therapy Association

Special Thanks to Teresa Cas, UCLA ‘16, OT School Applicant | Information Cultivated by Becky La, UCLA ‘16
The physician assistant application process typically begins **1.5 years before** an applicant attends physician assistant school.

- **START EARLY**
  - **Shadow** physician assistants and **acquire** PA experience.
  - Competitive applicants complete minimum **2000 hours** of shadowing/PA experience.
  - **Research** PA programs.
  - **Recommended:** 2 from physician assistants, 1 from work/volunteer supervisor, research mentor, or community leader

- **BEFORE APRIL 27**
  - Study for and take the **GRE**.
  - Official scores take up to 14 days to be processed.
  - **Gre Cost (2017): $205**
  - **Fee waivers available.**
  - **Recommended:** Minimum 100 hours of test preparation

- **APRIL 27 - MARCH**
  - CASPA application opens
  - CASPA Cost (2017): $175 for first school, $50 for each additional school. **Fee waivers available.**

- **MAY - JANUARY**
  - Submit **supplemental/secondary applications.**
  - Cost: $30 - $110
  - **Fee waivers available.**

- **SEPTEMBER - APRIL**
  - **Out-of-state** travel expenses (e.g., flight, lodging) can total to at least $500 out of pocket.
  - **Acceptances released.**

- **APRIL 27 - MARCH**
  - PA school **interviews**
  - Individuals on **waitlist** notified whether they have been accepted.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**
- Highly recommended to submit your application **as soon as** it opens.
- Each physician assistant school has their own set of coursework, GRE, letters of recommendation, and shadowing requirements. Research programs **6 - 12 months before** CASPA opens and check each school's website for additional details.

**RESOURCES**
- UCLA CAC: Pre-Health Career Services in Medicine
- CASPA: Central Application Service for Physician Assistants
- PAEA: Physician Assistant Education Association | PA Focus
The physical therapy application process typically begins **1.5 years before** an applicant attends physical therapy school.

- **START EARLY**
  - Shadow physical therapist and acquire PT experience in 2-3 different settings.
  - Competitive applicants complete minimum **100 hours** of shadowing/PT experience

- **Recommended:**
  - 1 from PT, 1 from science professor, 1 from professor, work/volunteer supervisor, community leader, or research mentor

- **BEFORE JULY 1**
  - Study for and take the GRE.
  - Official scores take up to 14 days to be processed.
  - GRE Cost (2017): $205
  - Fee waivers available.

- **Recommended:**
  - Minimum **100 hours** of test preparation

- **JULY 1 - MAY**
  - PTCAS application opens
  - PTCAS Cost (2017): $145 for first school, $45 for each additional school. **Fee waivers available.**

- **NOTE:** Each PT program's supplemental deadline **varies.**

- **DECEMBER - MARCH**
  - PT school **interviews**
  - Individuals on **waitlist** notified whether they have been accepted.

- **JULY - MARCH**
  - Submit supplemental/secondary applications.
  - Cost: $50 - $110
  - Fee waivers available.

- **Out-of-state** travel expenses (e.g., flight, lodging) can total to at least $500 out of pocket.

- **DECEMBER - JUNE**
  - Acceptances released.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**

- Highly recommended to submit your application **as soon as** it opens.
- Not all physical therapy schools require the GRE. Check each school's website for their standardized test requirements.
- Each physical therapy school has their own set of coursework requirements. Check each school's website for additional details.

**RESOURCES**

- UCLA CAC: Pre-Health Career Services in Medicine
- PTCAS: Physical Therapy Central Application Service
- APTA: American Physical Therapy Association
# VET SCHOOL

## APPLICATION TIMELINE

**BEFORE APP OPENS 3 - 12 MONTHS PRIOR**

- Identify who will write your 3 letters of recommendation.
- Prepare, edit, and finalize your personal statement.
- Request official transcripts be forwarded directly to VMCAS by each university/college attended
- Update your resume/CV

**MAY 11 - OCTOBER 2**

VMCAS application opens

VMCAS Cost (2017): $205 for first school, $105 for each additional school. Fee waivers available.

**DECEMBER - MARCH**

- Veterinary school interviews
- Individuals on waitlist notified whether they have been accepted.

**JANUARY - APRIL**

- Acceptances released.

## ADDITIONAL NOTES

- There are only 54 veterinary schools in the world (30 in the US).
- Highly recommended to submit your application as soon as it opens.
- Some veterinary schools do not require GRE scores or also accept MCAT scores. Check each school's website for additional details.
- Each veterinary school has their own set of coursework requirements. Check each school's website for additional details.

## RESOURCES

- UCLA CAC: Pre-Health Career Services in Medicine
- VMCAS: Veterinary Medical College Application Service
- AVMA: American Veterinary Medical Association

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Special Thanks to Ori Nagasaka, UCLA '16, UC Davis Veterinary '20 | Information Cultivated by Becky La, UCLA '16

The veterinary school application process typically begins 1.5 years before an applicant attends veterinary school.

- **START EARLY**
  - Shadow veterinarians and acquire substantial experience working with animals first-hand
  - Recommended: 1 from veterinarian, 1 from professor, 1 from supervisor, community leader, or research mentor

- **BEFORE MAY 11**
  - Study for and take the GRE.
  - Official scores take up to 14 days to be processed. Biology GRE subject test may also be required.
  - GRE Cost (2017): $205
  - Biology GRE Cost (2017): $150
  - Fee waivers available.
  - Recommended: Minimum 100 hours of test preparation

- **NOTE:** Must send all application materials (including LoRs and transcripts) by September 15th at midnight (EST).

- **MAY - OCTOBER**
  - Submit supplemental/secondary applications.
  - Cost: $0 - $120
  - Fee waivers available.
  - Out-of-state and country travel expenses (e.g., flight, lodging) can total to at least $500 out of pocket.
The optometry school application process typically begins **1.5 years before** an applicant attends optometry school.

**Before App Opens (3 - 12 Months Prior)**
- Identify who will write your 3 - 4 letters of recommendation.
- Prepare, edit, and finalize your personal statement.
- Request official transcripts be forwarded directly to OptomCAS by each university/college attended.
- Update your resume/CV

**June 28 - May**
- OptomCAS application opens.
- **Note:** Optometry schools have rolling admissions policies.

**September - May**
- Optometry school interviews.
- Individuals on the waitlist notified whether they have been accepted.

**Before June 28**
- Study for and take the OAT. Can only take exam 3 times. Official scores take up to 1 month to be processed.
- OAT Cost (2017): $450
- **Partial fee waivers available.**
- **Recommended:** Minimum 300 hours of test preparation
- **OptomCAS Cost (2017):** $170 for first school, $70 for each additional school.
- **No fee waivers available.**

**July - March**
- Submit school-specific secondary-supplemental applications.
- Cost: $25 - $125
- **Fee waivers available.**
- Out-of-state travel expenses (e.g., flight, lodging) can total to at least $500 out of pocket.

**October - June**
- Acceptances released.

**Additional Notes**
- Currently, there are only 23 optometry schools in the US/Puerto Rico.
- Highly recommended to submit your application as soon as it opens.
- Each optometry school has their own set of coursework requirements. Check each school’s website for additional details.

**Resources**
- UCLA CAC: Pre-Health Career Services in Medicine
- OptomCAS: Optometry Centralized Application Service
- ASCO: Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry

Special Thanks to Lorraine Cheng, UCLA ’16, UC Berkeley Optometry ’20 | Information Cultivated by Becky La, UCLA ’16
# Public Health

## Master of Public Health Application Timeline

### Before Apps Open 3 - 12 Months Prior
- Identify who will write your 3 - 5 letters of recommendation.
- Prepare, edit, and finalize your personal statement/statement of purpose.
- Request official transcripts be forwarded directly to SOPHAS by each university/college attended.
- Update your resume/CV

### Mid-August
- SOPHAS application opens. Application cycle lasts until the following August.
- SOPHAS Cost (2017): $135 for first school, $50 for each additional school. Fee waivers available.

### January - April
- Acceptances released
- All applicants must accept/decline admission by April 15th

### April - May
- Individuals on the waitlist notified whether they have been accepted

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### Additional Notes
- Not every MPH program uses SOPHAS to submit their program application. Check each school's website for additional details.
- It is highly encouraged to receive a letter of recommendation from a public health professor, if possible.
- Most MPH programs have a December 1st deadline, but this varies.
- Each MPH program has their own set of coursework requirements. Check each school's website for additional details.

### Resources
- SOPHAS: Schools of Public Health Application Service
- ASPPH: Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
- CEPH: Council on Education for Public Health

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The process of applying to MPH programs typically begins **1.5 years before** an applicant starts an MPH program.

- **START EARLY**
  - Research schools with MPH programs geared towards your area(s) of interest
  
  **Recommended:** 2 from academic professors, 1 from work/volunteer supervisor, research mentor, or community leader

- **BEFORE AUGUST**
  - Study for and take the **GRE**. Official scores take up to 14 days to be processed.
  
  **GRE Cost (2017): $205**
  - **Fee waivers available.**
  
  **Recommended:** Minimum 100 hours of test preparation

- **Submit school-specific secondary/supplemental applications.**
  - Fee waivers available.

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# Nursing School

**ENTRY LEVEL MASTER IN NURSING**

## Application Timeline

### BEFORE APPS OPEN

3 - 12 MONTHS PRIOR

- Identify who will write your 3 - 4 letters of recommendation.
- Prepare, edit, and finalize your statement of purpose/personal statement.
- Request official transcripts be forwarded directly to nursing school/NursingCAS by each university/college attended.
- Update your resume/CV

### AUGUST - FEBRUARY

- NursingCAS/nursing school applications open.

### FEBRUARY - MARCH

- Acceptances released.

### MARCH - JULY

- Individuals on the waitlist notified whether they have been accepted.

## Start Early

- **Shadow and acquire** experience in clinical settings

  Competitive applicants complete minimum 100 hours of shadowing/nursing experience.

  **Recommended:** 1 from academic professor, 2 from work supervisor, research mentor, or volunteer coordinator

### BEFORE AUGUST

- Study for and take the GRE and/or TEAS Test.
  - Official GRE scores take up to 14 days to be processed.
  - TEAS Cost (2017): $100
  - GRE Cost (2017): $205
  - Fee waivers available.

### JANUARY - FEBRUARY

- Nursing school interviews
  - Out of state travel expenses (e.g., flight, lodging) can total to at least $500 out of pocket.

## Additional Notes

- Strongly recommended to complete ALL coursework before applying.
- Some schools have 1-3 cycles per year, and some schools only open their application for 1-3 months. Not all nursing schools use NursingCAS. Check each school's website for additional details.
- Some nursing schools do not require GRE/TEAS test scores.
- Some nursing schools conduct interviews (online or in-person), while some do not. Check each school's website for additional details.

## Resources

- UCLA CAC: Pre-Health Career Services in Medicine
- NursingCAS: Nursing Centralized Application Service
  - discovernursing.org

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The nursing application process typically begins **1.5 years before** an applicant attends nursing school.
STUDENT AFFAIRS

M.A. | M.S. | M.ED
IN HIGHER EDUCATION (ADMINISTRATION) AND
STUDENT AFFAIRS (HESA)
APPLICATION TIMELINE

BEFORE APPS OPEN
3 - 12 MONTHS PRIOR
Identify who will write your
2 - 5 letters of recommendation.
NOTE: Some schools will not let
recommenders submit letters
until application is submitted.

Prepare, edit, and finalize your
personal statement/statement
of purpose.

Prepare to request official
transcripts be forwarded directly
to the programs being applied to.

Update your resume/CV

SEPTEMBER - FEBRUARY

Applications open.
Application Cost (2017): $0 - $90
Fee waivers available.

NOTE: Not all programs will require
an assistantship, but it is strongly
recommended to seek out one to
gain experience and to help
fund your education.

MARCH - APRIL

Acceptances released.
All applicants must accept/decline by April 15th.

JANUARY - FEBRUARY

On-campus preview days
and interviews (for assistantships)
Out-of-state travel expenses (e.g.,
flight, lodging) can total to at least
$500 out of pocket.

Individuals on the waitlist
notified whether they have
been accepted.

The process of applying to higher
education/student affairs programs
typically begins 1.5 years before an
applicant starts their HESA program.

START EARLY

Research schools that have
graduate assistantships geared
towards your area(s) of interest.

Recommended: 1 from
academic professor, 2 from
work/volunteer supervisor,
research mentor, or community
leader.

BY OCTOBER

Study for and take the GRE.
Official scores take up to 14 days
to be processed.

GRE Cost (2017): $205
Fee waivers available.

Recommended: Minimum 100
hours of test preparation.

NOTE: Most programs
have priority deadlines in
early/mid-December, while
some have rolling deadlines.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

• There are 150+ universities that offer 1-year or 2-year higher
education/student affairs programs. Check NASPA's and ACPA's
graduate school directories for additional information.

• Not all programs require the GRE. Some will only require it if GPA
requirements are not met. Check each school's website for more info.

• Some programs require 2 academic letters of recommendation and
ask transcripts to be sent after acceptances are released. Check each
school's website for additional details.

• There is no centralized application service. Apply via school's website.

RESOURCES

NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education
ACPA: American College Personnel Association

Special Thanks to Eric Kong, UCLA ’15, MSU Student Affairs Administration ’19 | Information Cultivated by Becky La, UCLA ’16
# LAW SCHOOL

## JURIS DOCTOR (J.D.) APPLICATION TIMELINE

### BEFORE APP OPENS

**3 - 12 MONTHS PRIOR**

Identify who will write your 2 - 3 letters of recommendation.

Prepare, edit, and finalize your personal statement.

Some law schools allow the GRE in lieu of the LSAT. Official GRE scores can take up to 14 days to process.

**GRE Cost (2017):** $205  
**Fee waivers available.**

**Recommended:** Minimum 100 hours of test preparation

### SEPTEMBER - MARCH

**LSAC’s CAS** application opens.

Application Cost (2017): $60 - $150  
**Fee waivers available.**

**NOTE:** Law schools allow you to negotiate scholarship/aid amounts. Negotiate aid amounts as soon as you receive more acceptances.

### MARCH - MAY

**Acceptances** released

Individuals on **waitlist** notified whether they have been accepted.

**NOTE:** Most law schools have rolling admissions policies.

Visit law schools and/or law school **interviews**

### ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Highly recommended to submit application **as soon as it opens.**
- LSAT is offered in February, June, September, and December. Strongly recommended to take the LSAT no later than September test date.
- Law schools may issue decisions at any time, taking as long as 4-5 months but as short as 3 weeks after application is submitted.
- If law schools request to interview, strongly recommended to go in order to provide law schools another opportunity to see you beyond your application.

### RESOURCES

AALS: Association of American Law Schools  
ABA: American Bar Association  
LSAC: Law School Admissions Council

Special Thanks to Josh Tran, UCLA 17, UCLA Law 20 | Information Cultivated by Becky La, UCLA ‘16