

MEDICAL SCHOOL APPLICATION TIMELINE

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

BEFORE APP OPENS

3 - 12 MONTHS PRIOR

Identify who will write your **3 - 6 letters of recommendation.**

Recommended: 2 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 AMCAS by each university/college attended

Update your **resume/CV**

JUNE 1 - DECEMBER

AMCAS application opens

AMCAS Cost (2017): \$160 for first school, \$39 for each additional school. **Fee waivers available.**

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.

Recommended: Minimum 300 hours of test preparation

NOTE: Medical schools have **rolling admissions policies.**

JULY - FEBRUARY

Submit school-specific **secondary/supplemental applications**

Cost (2017): \$0 - \$150 per secondary/supplemental application. **Fee waivers available.**

SEPTEMBER - APRIL

Acceptances released

AUGUST - FEBRUARY

Medical school **interviews**

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

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

PHARM SCHOOL

APPLICATION TIMELINE

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**

BEFORE JULY 15

Study for and take the **PCAT**. Only offered in January, July, and September. Official scores take up to 1 month to be processed.

PCAT Cost (2017): \$210
Fee waivers available.

Recommended: Minimum 300 hours of test preparation

Submit school-specific **secondary/supplemental applications**.

Cost (2017): \$0 - \$90 per secondary/supplemental application. **Fee waivers available.**

AUGUST - MARCH

Pharmacy school **interviews**

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

JUL 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

DENTAL SCHOOL

APPLICATION TIMELINE

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 AADSAS by each university/college attended

Update your **resume/CV**

JUNE 1 - FEBRUARY 1

AADSAS application opens

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

DECEMBER - MARCH

Acceptances released

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 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.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- It is highly encouraged to mention manual dexterity skills (e.g., activities requiring hand-eye coordination) in AADSAS 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 AADSAS 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

AADSAS: Associated American Dental Schools Application Service

ADEA: American Dental Education Association

ASDA: American Student Dental Association

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SCHOOL

APPLICATION TIMELINE

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.**

Recommended: 1 from OT, 1 from professor, 1 from professor, work supervisor, community leader, or research mentor

Prepare, edit, and finalize your **personal statement.**

Request **official transcripts** be forwarded directly to OTCAS by each university/college attended.

Update your **resume/CV**

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

● 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.

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

P.A. SCHOOL

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT APPLICATION TIMELINE

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.**

APRIL 27 - MARCH

PA school **interviews**

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

● MAY - JANUARY

Submit **supplemental/secondary applications.**

Cost: \$30 - \$110

Fee waivers available.

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

● SEPTEMBER - APRIL

Acceptances released.

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

P.T. SCHOOL

PHYSICAL THERAPY APPLICATION TIMELINE

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

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 PTCAS by each university/college attended

Update your **resume/CV**

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

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

BEFORE APP OPENS 3 - 12 MONTHS PRIOR

Identify who will write your **3 letters of recommendation.**

Recommended: 1

from veterinarian, 1 from professor, 1 from supervisor, community leader, or research mentor

Prepare, edit, and finalize your **personal statement.**

● 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.

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

Update your **resume/CV**

GRE Cost (2017): \$205

Biology GRE Cost (2017): \$150

Fee waivers available.

Recommended: Minimum 100 hours of test preparation

MAY 11 - OCTOBER 2

VMCAS application opens

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

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.

DECEMBER - MARCH

Veterinary school **interviews**

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

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

OPTOMETRY SCHOOL

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

APPLICATION TIMELINE

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.

START EARLY

Shadow optometrists and **acquire** optometry experience.

Recommended: 1 from optometrist, 1 from science professor, 1 from supervisor, research mentor, or community leader

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

PUBLIC HEALTH

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH APPLICATION TIMELINE

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

BEFORE APPS OPEN 3 - 12 MONTHS PRIOR

Identify who will write your **3 - 5 letters of recommendation.**

● 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

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

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

Request **official transcripts** be forwarded directly to SOPHAS by each university/college attended.

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

Update your **resume/CV**

Recommended: Minimum 100 hours of test preparation

MID-AUGUST

SOPHAS application opens. Application cycle lasts until the following August.

Submit school-specific **secondary/supplemental applications.**

SOPHAS Cost (2017): \$135 for first school, \$50 for each additional school. **Fee waivers available.**

Fee waivers available.

APRIL - MAY

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

● JANUARY - APRIL

Acceptances released

All applicants must accept/decline admission **by April 15th**

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 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

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
forward 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.

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

● **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.

Recommended: Minimum 100 hours of test preparation

NursingCAS Cost (2017): \$70 for first school, \$40 for each additional school.

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.

● **MARCH - JULY**

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

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

STUDENT AFFAIRS

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

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

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.**

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.

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.

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

LAW SCHOOL

JURIS DOCTOR (J.D.) APPLICATION TIMELINE

The process of applying to law school typically begins **1.5 years before** an applicant starts attending law school.

● START EARLY

Research law schools with programs geared towards your area(s) of interest.

Recommended: 2 from academic professors

● BY SEPTEMBER

Prepare to request **official transcripts** be forwarded directly to LSAC's CAS.

Update your **resume/CV**

Register for LSAC's CAS service.
CAS Cost (2017): \$185
Fee waivers available.

Study for and take the **LSAT**.
Offered 6 times per year. Can only take exam 5 times.

LSAT Cost (2017): \$180
Fee waivers available.

Recommended: Minimum 200 hours of test preparation

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

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

● MARCH - MAY Acceptances released

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

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.

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

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