



# Pre-Professional Advising Center

## Health Careers Advising



### Applying to Medical (D. O. and M.D.), Dental and Veterinary School An Overview

[www.brown.edu/go/healthcareers](http://www.brown.edu/go/healthcareers)

#### Applicant Seminars

All students and alumni near campus interested in applying for fall 2021 admission to medical or dental school are required to attend one of the 5 dates for APPLICANT SEMINAR #1 and the APPLICANT SEMINAR #5. We strongly encourage all potential applicants to attend the remaining three applicant seminars. Attendance at one of the APPLICANT SEMINAR #1 dates is also required before meeting with George Vassilev to discuss your application plans in detail. Students or alumni who have not attended will not be able to submit an HCAD or register for an interview with a member of the Health Careers Advisory Committee. We ask alumni far from campus to tune in to the seminars through Zoom and contact Health Careers Advising in late fall or mid-winter to discuss their backgrounds and plans. All dates are listed on the website. Veterinary school applicants are encouraged but not required to attend because veterinary schools do not expect a committee letter packet - one of the main subjects of the applicant seminars. The information presented at the seminars is helpful for students and alumni interested in any clinical professions. We invite all to attend.

| APPLICANT SEMINARS AT A GLANCE:   |
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| APPLICANT SEMINAR #1- The Big Picture (5 dates offered) – <i>MANDATORY</i>    |
| APPLICANT SEMINAR #2- Ace Your Personal Statement - <i>HIGHLY RECOMMENDED</i> |
| APPLICANT SEMINAR #3- School Selection, Pick & Pay- <i>HIGHLY RECOMMENDED</i> |
| APPLICANT SEMINAR #4- Rock Your Interview- <i>HIGHLY RECOMMENDED</i>          |
| APPLICANT SEMINAR #5- Roundup - <i>MANDATORY</i>                              |

#### Committee Letter of Recommendation

Health Careers Advising provides juniors, seniors and recent alumni a Committee Letter from Brown’s Health Careers Advisory Committee. This letter is a summary and evaluation of the applicants’ credentials and is preferred by most medical and dental schools. It is not required by veterinary or other health professions schools. The committee letter is accompanied by 3 to 4 supporting letters of recommendation solicited by the applicants. For more information about your responsibilities and for schools’ requirements and expectations, please see our website’s “Applicants” section. Details including all due dates and the time we have dedicated specifically to advising pre-applicants are listed on the site. Be sure to attend at least the mandatory applicant seminars.

#### MCAT, DAT, GRE, Other

The MCAT is the standardized test required by all medical schools. The DAT, OAT, GRE are the analogous exams for dental, optometry, veterinary and other health professional programs. Please consult <https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/> for more information about the current exam format and for test dates. Explore the pages dedicated to standardized tests on the [Health Careers Advising website](#). You should take the MCAT, or other test, only when you are fully prepared for it and when it is most beneficial for submitting your medical, dental, veterinary or other school application on time.

#### Application Services (Primary) and School Applications (Secondary or Supplemental)

Each health profession has a standardized application service. Medicine is served by two systems- one for Osteopathic medicine (D.O.) and one for Allopathic medicine (M.D.). For M.D. programs, complete the American Medical Colleges Application Service (AMCAS). Please consult <https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/> for more information. For D.O. programs, complete the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Service (AACOMAS) <https://www.aacom.org/become-a-doctor/applying/aacomas-application-instructions>. These services update their guides late in the spring. Veterinary and Dental professions programs utilize the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS), and Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS), respectively. Applicants must complete a “secondary” application for each school to which they apply shortly after receiving one. Most medical schools send a “secondary” automatically, and this is generally the case for dental and veterinary schools, as well.

#### Interviews and Decisions

Beginning early in the fall term, schools use the MCAT, DAT, GRE scores, primary and secondary applications, and letters of recommendation to identify their top candidates. They then invite these applicants for campus interviews. Schools typically hold interviews starting in September and continue throughout the fall and spring semesters. Admission decisions are first made in October and continue until May. If an applicant is not admitted or rejected, they may be placed on “hold,” meaning the school will review the application later. Many applicants are also placed on a waitlist following an interview. It is not unusual for wait-listed applicants to be admitted to medical school as late as July.

# Brown Health Professions Pre-Application Process for Applicants to Medical (D.O. or M.D) and Dental Schools

3, 4, more years

Fall Semester

Spring Semester

Summer

Five Applicant Seminars on All Aspects of the Application Process

Reflect on academic and career interests and develop competencies

Connect with our office- early and often

Engage in:

Course work

Clinical Experience

Service

Leadership

Research

Other activities

Assess overall preparation to apply in the summer

Connect with us and attend applicant seminars

Learn about schools

Consider who to ask for LOR

Complete all requirements and dedicate time to prepare for and take standardized test (if you haven't yet)

Begin to put your reflection and experience into HCAD

Plan for coming year or two (job search, fellowships, senior thesis, etc.)

Edit and submit HCAD in mid February

Sign up for Committee Interview and Personal Statement Consultation

Take standardized test (if you haven't yet)

Set up veCollect account in March

Interview with a Health Careers Advisory Committee member between March and May

Complete and submit forms

Ensure LOR are received by May deadline

BY EARLY JUNE: Your HCAD, forms, grades, standardized tests, LOR are in; Committee members submit interview feedback to us

Holistic and collective process based on input from all of the above integrated into Committee Letter. No single individual or application element determines our office's guidance and support.

SCOPE OF OUR WORK:

- 5 applicant seminars
- Arrange and coordinate Committee of 13-15 members
- 110- 140 applicants and their HCADs, transcripts, 5 forms
- Over 500 LOR

-Time frame for the composition and transmission of committee letter packets: June- September