
What You'll Find on AspiringDocs.org

Are you an aspiring doc? Then you'll want to check out AspiringDocs.org!

The AAMC launched this new Web resource in October 2006 for students just like you to help you learn whether medicine is the right career for you and give you information you need be competitive medical school applicant.

Join the growing AspiringDocs.org community! All you have to do is register—it's fast and it's **FREE**.

There's a lot to check out on AspiringDocs.org:

Ask the Experts—What's the best way to prepare for the MCAT? How should you work with your pre-health advisor? Are there summer programs that can give you a leg up in medical school? AspiringDocs.org's medical school experts will answer your questions and provide valuable advice on key topics each month. **Register today to ask your questions.**

Hot Topics—Want to know how other students found their mentors or prepared their medical school applications? Talk with aspiring docs around the country through Hot Topics on AspiringDocs.org. Each month, the AAMC starts a new Hot Topic discussion with students who are registered for the site. **Send us your thoughts and opinions, and we'll post them on AspiringDocs.org.**

News and Deadlines—Wondering when the next deadline is for MCAT registration or financial aid? When will the next health care career fair in your area be held? **AspiringDocs.org will help you stay organized and up to date** on the events and deadlines that you need to know about.

Inspiring Stories—Is medicine right for you? How did other students overcome the challenges they faced in their journey to become an M.D.? Read about what motivates students from around the country to pursue—and achieve—their dreams of becoming a doctor on AspiringDocs.org.

Register today!!

Are you an aspiring doc?

The path to becoming a physician takes dedication, time, organization, good study skills and a commitment to serve others. Here are some general guidelines to make sure you're taking the right steps on your journey.

Freshman Year

- Register with AspiringDocs.org.
- Meet with your pre-health advisor to make sure he or she knows about your interest in medicine. Talk with him or her about the courses you should take and any subjects you find especially challenging.
- Join the pre-health or pre-med club at your college or university.
- Plan a summer experience that will give you more exposure to a health care setting and/or sharpen your academic skills in the basic sciences.
- Find a mentor—your family physician, a faculty member, or a physician in your community are all places to start.
- Stay focused academically and get connected to the resources on your campus that will support your aspirations.

Sophomore Year

- Meet with your pre-health advisor to review your course work and make sure you're on track.
- Check out the AAMC's Considering a Career in Medicine Web site (www.aamc.org/cim).
- Enroll in a summer enrichment program, such as the Summer Medical and Dental Education Program, which will help you fine tune your study skills and prepare you for the MCAT.
- Attend career fairs to learn more about medical school and opportunities in the medical profession.
- Ask the Experts on AspiringDocs.org for important advice and information about financial aid, medical school admissions, and more.
- If family finances are severely limited, find out if you qualify for a waiver of MCAT registration and AMCAS application fees at www.aamc.org/fap.

Junior Year

- Register and take the MCAT, if you are adequately prepared. Remember, the road to medical school is at your pace, and not a race.
- Get the latest copy of the AAMC's Medical School Admissions Requirements and begin to consider which medical schools would be a good fit for you.
- Talk with your pre-health advisor about preparing for the MCAT and the admission requirements of the medical schools you are considering.
- Check out Hot Topics on AspiringDocs.org to share your thoughts and experiences, as well as gain insights and information from other aspiring docs.
- After May 1, get your AMCAS application from the AAMC Web site (www.aamc.org) and begin to complete it. Remember to request your transcripts from each college or university you have attended.
- Make sure your summer includes a health care or research experience.

Senior Year

- Submit your AMCAS application and complete any secondary applications required by the medical schools you have selected.
 - Talk with your mentor and your pre-health advisor about how to prepare for your medical school interviews.
 - Explore AAMC's online student resources at www.aamc.org/students.
 - Complete all your coursework for graduation.
 - Choose the medical school you want to attend and notify the institution.
 - Inspire other students with the story of your journey by submitting it to AspiringDocs.org.
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