

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: PLEASE READ!

1. When do I need to submit my request for accommodations? Apply as far in advance of your preferred test date as possible, because it may take up to 60 days to process your request for accommodations. A “complete application” for accommodations is one that complies with the Documentation Requirements set forth on the MCAT website. Incomplete or insufficient applications may result in a denial of accommodations for the requested MCAT test-date if the deadline for submission of materials has passed.

2. How long will it take to review my application for accommodations? Application materials for accommodations need to be carefully examined. Most *complete* applications for accommodations will be reviewed within three-four weeks, although some may take up to 60 days. After a request for accommodations has been processed, a letter will be sent to the examinee notifying him/her of the status of their application for accommodations.

3. Who will be reviewing my documentation? Accommodation applications are reviewed by experts in the field in which you claim to have a disability. For example, for students with cognitive disabilities, most requests will be reviewed by a doctoral-level Learning Disabilities Specialist. Likewise, students with visual disabilities will have their documentation reviewed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist. The Office of Disability Services may not have an expert on-staff in the field in which you claim to have a disability. The Office of Disability Services reserves the right to appoint an external reviewer to assess the documentation you provide in order to help make a determination about accommodations. As described in the Documentation Requirements, all application materials will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

4. What happens if my application for accommodations is denied? There are many reasons why an application for accommodations is denied. In some cases, the documentation that is submitted is out-of-date or incomplete. In other situations the documentation does not support the accommodation you requested. Remember that even if you have been properly diagnosed with an impairment, you do not automatically qualify for accommodations (read the Documentation Requirements carefully). If your application for accommodations is denied, you will be notified of the denial along with an explanation as to why your application was denied. You have the right to request that your application be reconsidered; you are encouraged to appeal the denial if you can gather additional evidence to support your application request. Keep in mind that it may take an additional three-four weeks to review any additional evidence you submit. In the meantime, the regular MCAT registration deadlines are still in effect.

5. What happens if my application for accommodations is approved? If you are approved for an accommodation on the MCAT, you will be notified in writing. You will be given instructions for completing the accommodations application process, which may include contacting the test-delivery company, Prometric, to confirm your special arrangements and finalize your accommodations.

6. If I am approved for accommodations, for how long will these be valid? Once granted accommodations, approval will remain valid for six-twelve months from the approval date; your approval letter will specify for how long your approval will be valid. If you cannot take the MCAT

within six months of the date of approval of accommodations, you may request a continuation of approval will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

7. I was previously approved for accommodations on the MCAT. I want to take the MCAT again. How can I ask for a continuation of my approval? To verify that a previous accommodations-approval is still valid, you should always request, in writing, for a continuation of your previously-approved accommodations request, and specify the MCAT date that you prefer. Keep in mind that the “Currency” requirements and all other requirements of your documentation (detailed in the Documentation Requirements) still need to be met.

8. How can I contact the MCAT Office of Disabilities Services? All correspondence with the MCAT Office of Disabilities Services must be in writing, either by mail or e-mail ([accommodations@aamc.org](mailto:accommodations@aamc.org)). In order to processing requests for accommodations as efficiently as possible, and to ensure that communications with examinees and others can be appropriately documented, we do not accept phone calls.

9. Should I take my medication when I have my psychoeducational evaluation?

Yes! If you have ADHD or another condition such that you usually take medication to help manage the symptoms, you should take it at the time you have the psychoeducational evaluation. The law indicates that analysis of your condition must take into account the effects of any other treatments that you ordinarily use to manage your condition.