Prehealth Advisors: The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) below are designed to provide you with more information about using the AMCAS Choose Your Medical School (CYMS) tool.

1. **What data is available for advisors to view in the Advisor Information System (AIS)?**

   Prehealth advisors can view Choose Your Medical School (CYMS) selections in the Advisor Information System (AIS). Users can access CYMS data in the “Roster of Applicants” by clicking on the name of an applicant to view the full record. Users can also get to the full record by using the “Quick Lookup.” There is a new Choose Your Medical School section at the bottom of the applicant record. This section will show the applicant’s current selection as well as their CYMS selection history.

2. **When will advisors be able to view Choose Your Medical School (CYMS) selections in the Advisor Information System (AIS)?**

   There is a fourteen-day embargo on admissions actions shared with advisors in AIS. This embargo is in place to ensure that a medical school has time to communicate their decision directly to an applicant. As a result, since the CYMS tool is reliant on admissions actions, AIS users will not see the CYMS selection options in AIS until 14 days after the action has been submitted. However, if an applicant makes their CYMS selection related to an admission action that is older than 14 days, AIS users will see that selection in real time.

3. **What are the two options for applicants to select in the Choose Your Medical School tool?**

   Please note that the Choose Your Medical School selection is NOT part of the AMCAS process but is a tool that medical schools can request applicants to use to help manage their applicant pool. The Choose Your Medical School tool is located within the AMCAS application.

   **“Plan to Enroll”**

   Beginning February 19, applicants holding at least one acceptance can select “Plan to Enroll” in the AMCAS application to one school from which they have received an acceptance offer. “Plan to Enroll” indicates an applicant has selected their current top choice among schools where they have received acceptance offers. Applicants are indicating that they are still open to receiving offers from other schools where they have an application or where they may be on an alternate list.

   Making this selection allows schools to view in aggregate the number of applicants who selected “Plan to Enroll” for their schools. The schools are unable to see selection information about individual applicants at this point.

   Starting April 30, schools will be able to see if an individual applicant has selected “Plan to Enroll” at their school or at another school (without knowing the name of the other school).
“Commit to Enroll”

Beginning April 30, applicants holding at least one acceptance will be able to select “Commit to Enroll” in addition to “Plan to Enroll.” “Commit to Enroll” indicates that the applicant has made a final selection and has withdrawn all other applications, including alternate list offers.

Selecting “Commit to Enroll” does not automatically withdraw applications from other medical schools. Applicants must communicate directly with all schools about their final decision according to each school’s specific policy.

As a reminder, the primary method of communication should be between an applicant and a school. If a school is requesting an applicant to select “Commit to Enroll,” and if the applicant is still waiting to receive financial aid or an admissions decision from another school, the applicant should be encouraged to discuss their situation with the impacted medical schools.

4. How many selections can an applicant make at a time and how often can they make a change to their selection in the Choose Your Medical School tool?

Applicants can make one selection at a time. This includes either a “Plan to Enroll” or “Commit to Enroll” selection for one medical school. Applicants can change or delete their selection at any time and as often as they wish.

5. Are applicants required to make a selection in the Choose Your Medical School tool by April 30?

No, AMCAS policies and the admissions protocols do not require applicants to take action at any point in the application cycle. Applicants should follow school-specific policies and procedures as it relates to using the Choose Your Medical School tool.

Please note that the Choose Your Medical School selection is NOT part of the AMCAS process but is a tool that schools can request applicants to use to help manage their applicant pool.

6. At what point can medical schools see applicants’ “Plan to Enroll” or “Commit to Enroll” selections?

a. Prior to April 30, medical schools can only see aggregate data about “Plan to Enroll” selections. For example, if the applicant is accepted at school A, B, C, and D and selects “Plan to Enroll” to school A, the schools will see the following:
   i. School A will see a count of how many applicants have selected their school (they will not know which applicants at this point). This applicant selection will count as 1 in the “My School” count.
   ii. Schools B, C, and D will see a count of how many applicants have selected another school (again, they will not know which applicants or the other schools). This applicant selection will count as 1 in the “Another School” count.
b. **Beginning April 30**, medical schools can see identifiable data about applicant Choose Your Medical School selections. For example, if applicant “John Doe” is holding an acceptance at School A and is on the alternate list at Schools B, C, and D and the applicant selects “Plan to Enroll” to School A, the schools will see the following:

i. School A will see that John Doe has selected “Plan to Enroll” to their school (“My School”).

ii. Schools B, C, and D will see that John Doe has selected “Plan to Enroll” to some other medical school (“Another School”). Note: they will not be able to see the name of the school.

7. **What resources do applicants have to understand the Choose Your Medical School (CYMS) tool?**

To help applicants understand the Choose Your Medical School tool, schools are encouraged to communicate their specific Choose Your Medical School policies and procedures directly with applicants throughout the application process. Applicants may receive Choose Your Medical School information from their designated medical school(s) through various ways – e.g., via email, on the school’s website, or in person. Additionally, the [AMCAS Choose Your Medical School website](https://www.amcas.org) has centralized information for applicants to easily reference, including [this downloadable resource](https://www.amcas.org). The AAMC Services Contact Center ([amcas@aamc.org](mailto:amcas@aamc.org) or 202-828-0600) is also available to answer any questions applicants might have, however, applicants should contact their designated school(s) regarding any school-specific policy questions.

8. **Why do applicants decide to use the Choose Your Medical School (CYMS) tool?**

Based on previous survey results and direct feedback, applicants have decided to use the tool and indicate their “Plan to Enroll” or “Commit to Enroll” selection because they were accepted by their top-choice school or they were following school-specific policies that instructed them to use the tool.

9. **Why do some applicants not use the tool?**

Based on previous survey results and direct feedback, applicants have not used the tool because they had not received an acceptance to their top-choice school; they were waiting to receive admission decisions; they were awaiting financial aid packages; or they were not instructed by the medical school to which they applied to use the tool.

10. **What Choose Your Medical School tool resources are available to prehealth advisors?**

Please reference the following resources:

- [Advisor Choose Your Medical School page](https://www.amcas.org) (including previous webinar recordings and slide)
- [Printed Resource (PDF)](https://www.amcas.org)