AN OPEN LETTER FROM THE AAMC TO MCAT® EXAMINEES: HONORING YOUR EXAMINEE AGREEMENT

Congratulations on your decision to pursue a career in medicine! We wish you the greatest success and hope that you fulfill your aspirations. I am writing to remind each examinee of the importance of reading, understanding, and honoring the MCAT Examinee Agreement. The Examinee Agreement states the terms and conditions of taking the MCAT exam and the policies and procedures you must follow as an examinee. Among these terms are the ethical standards we expect you to follow as you prepare for and take the MCAT exam.

The AAMC’s Commitment to Ethical Conduct:

As the administrator of the MCAT exam, the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) has a responsibility to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the MCAT exam and for providing a standardized score upon which schools can rely when making admissions decisions. The AAMC is responsible for confirming the identity of examinees, making sure they test without assistance, and keeping the MCAT questions secure.

The AAMC is committed to enforcing the terms of the Examinee Agreement and to providing a fair and secure process for students to test for and apply to medical school. We reserve the right to investigate any alleged violations, and we send reports documenting our findings directly to medical schools. For some test-day violations, we terminate the exams of the examinees involved. The AAMC has in recent years pursued legal action against examinees who have shared information from the exam with others or have been caught cheating on the test. This behavior has at times resulted in criminal charges and prison sentences.

Why the MCAT Examinee Agreement is Important to You:

The privilege of caring for others requires the highest standards of moral and ethical conduct. As a future member of the medical profession, you have an ethical obligation and a commitment to professionalism that begins with adhering to the MCAT Examinee Agreement. When you register for the exam, you must acknowledge your acceptance of the Examinee Agreement. The Examinee Agreement is not legalistic fine print; it is a binding contract and will be enforced as such. Rushing through or ignoring this important information could lead to serious adverse consequences.

We encourage you to join us in our commitment to a fair and secure process by acting ethically before, during, and after test day. If you receive confidential MCAT exam content, even unintentionally, the Examinee Agreement requires that you report it. The AAMC is responsible for creating a level playing field for medical school applicants. You can help us achieve that goal and help ensure that your own application to medical school is fairly evaluated. If you observe any irregular behavior, rules violations, or exam security violations, you can report them by calling the MCAT Security Tip Line at (202) 903-0840 or by sending an email to MCATSecurity@aamc.org.

If you have any questions about the Examinee Agreement, please contact AAMC Services at 202-828-0600.

Sincerely,

Karen Mitchell, Ph.D.
Senior Director, Admissions Testing Service
Association of American Medical Colleges