**MCAT® Q-UPP:**

**A Quarterly Update of Progress and Projections for the MCAT® Exam**

**Issue 1, Vol. 1**

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the **MCAT® Q-UPP**!

We are pleased to bring you this publication four times a year – future issues will publish in March, June, September and December. This is our effort to keep you up-to-date on the progress toward projected goals and tasks as we get closer to the new exam administration.

In each issue, we'll provide a brief update on the projects we have completed in the most recent quarter. We will also include a list of items that are “In the Works”, and the projected quarter in which we expect to report our progress for selected tasks along the way. Resources are always available online at: [www.aamc.org/mcat2015/admins](http://www.aamc.org/mcat2015/admins).

We will conduct an **MCAT® Q-UPP** webinar on Tuesday, May 21 from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm eastern – registration information will be available in early May. This will be your opportunity to ask questions of the MCAT team and hear about any late-breaking updates. If there is anything you would like to see addressed specifically, please feel free to e-mail us at [mcat2015@aamc.org](mailto:mcat2015@aamc.org).

Sincerely,
The **MCAT®** Team

**MCAT® Progress Report: January – March 2013**

- **Addition of Voluntary Trial Section**
  Beginning with the January 24 test administration, the new voluntary Trial Section was launched. Participation rates and student responses were favorable, and we need your continued support to encourage students who are planning to take the exam throughout 2013 to volunteer. No special advance

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**In the Works:**

**April - June 2013**

- Khan Academy/AAMC/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation collaboration on pre-health tutorials
- Announce winners for the Pre-health Collection within MedEdPORTAL’s iCollaborative
- Solicit new resources for the Pre-health Collection within MedEdPORTAL’s iCollaborative
- **Academic Medicine** issue on MCAT
- **MCAT®** Webinar Q&A

**July - September 2013**

- Announce winners for the iCollaborative Call for Submissions
- **MCAT®** Webinar Q&A

**October - December 2013**

- Announce 2013 Trial Section volunteer rates
- Announce additional 2014 test administration dates
- **MCAT®** Webinar Q&A

**January - March 2014**

- Publish *The Official Guide to the MCAT® Exam*
- Continue Voluntary Trial Section administration
- **MCAT®** Webinar Q&A

**April - June 2014**

- Report Trial Section group differences
- Work continues on score scale and reporting conventions
- Solicit new materials for the Pre-health Collection within MedEdPORTAL’s iCollaborative
- **MCAT®** Webinar Q&A
registration is necessary to participate in the Trial Section. Complete details about the Trial Section and participation incentives can be found at [www.aamc.org/mcat/volunteer](http://www.aamc.org/mcat/volunteer).

- **Elimination of Writing Sample Section**
  Data from medical school admissions officers reveal that few rely heavily on Writing Sample results for large numbers of applicants. Effective with the January 24 test administration, the Writing Sample has been eliminated to make room for the new voluntary Trial Section. Please note that admissions officers will continue to receive Writing Sample section scores from exams taken in 2012 and prior.

- **Preview Guide for the MCAT2015 Exam in Accessible Format**
  In our efforts to make preparation materials available to those who require accommodations, the *Preview Guide for the MCAT2015 Exam* is now available in a special format accessible to computer screen readers online at [www.aamc.org/mcat2015](http://www.aamc.org/mcat2015).

- **MCAT2015 Article in March Issue of The Advisor**
  MCAT staff contributed an article to the March 2013 issue of *The Advisor* entitled "Helping Students Prepare for the MCAT2015 Exam: Competencies and Courses". This is one of three articles in the issue focusing on the MCAT2015 exam. The additional articles are "Preparing for the New MCAT: From the Perspective of Advisors" and "And Now for Something Entirely Different: The Psychological, Social and Biological Foundations of the Behavior Section of the MCAT2015e".

- **AAC&U’s Peer Review Focuses on the MCAT Exam**
  *Peer Review* – published by the Association of American Colleges and Universities - provides a quarterly briefing on emerging trends and key debates in undergraduate liberal education. The *Fall 2012* issue details changes to the MCAT exam and their focus on broad integrative learning outcomes and competencies.

*Current MCAT scores will be reported by AMCAS*
through the 2018 application cycle.

**Additional resources/links:**

- [Aspiring Docs](#)
- [MSAR®](#)
- [Pre-health Collection within MedEdPORTAL's iCollaborative](#)
- [AMCAS®](#)

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