MCAT2015® Q-UPP:

A Quarterly Update of Progress and Projections for the MCAT2015 Exam Issue 2, Volume 2

Welcome to the second issue of Q-UPP in 2014! Q-UPP is our eNewsletter dedicated to keeping you up to date on the progress toward projected goals and tasks for the MCAT2015 exam.

Q-UPP is designed to provide a brief update on the projects we have completed in the most recent quarter. In the right column, you’ll find a list of items that are “In the Works” and the projected quarter in which we expect to report our progress for these tasks. Resources are always available online at: www.aamc.org/mcat2015/admins.

It has been very exciting quarter! In this issue, you’ll find a recap of our most recent outreach activities, the release of new test preparation products and resources, an announcement about the new score scales, a discussion of new administration policies, an update on the Khan Academy MCAT Collection, and an update on the Pre-health Collection within MedEdPORTAL’s iCollaborative.

Our next webinar, during which we will provide a bit more detail about each of these updates and answer your questions, will take place Tuesday, July 8 from 2:30pm – 4:00pm ET. Registration is now open!

As always, please feel free to share your comments or ideas with us at mcat2015@aamc.org.

Sincerely,
The MCAT2015 Team

In the Works:

July - September 2014

• Publish 2015 test administration calendar
• Add new Fee Assistance Program (FAP) benefits added
• Hold MCAT2015 Webinar Q&A
• Send Fall mailing to advisors

October - December 2014

• Publish first MCAT2015 sample test
• Post MCAT2015 Essentials PDF online
• Announce 2014 Trial Section volunteer rates
• Hold MCAT2015 Webinar Q&A

January - March 2015

• Hold January administrations of the current exam, with extra test dates
• Open registration for the MCAT2015 test dates
• Release Study Sets for MCAT2015
• Hold MCAT2015 Webinar Q&A

April – June 2015

• Begin MCAT2015 exam administration
• Report the first MCAT2015 scores and percentiles
• Report validity research on the Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of behavior (PSBB) section
• Begin long-term MCAT validity study
• Hold professional development conference for admissions officers
• Hold MCAT2015 Webinar Q&A

July – September 2015

• Continue MCAT2015 administrations
• Hold MCAT2015 Webinar Q&A

October – December 2015

• Summarize 2015 scores by year and population group

Outreach Activities

From April-June 2014, we presented, exhibited, or sent materials to 13 in-person events, including:

- Biomedical Science Careers Conference in Boston, MD.
- Mid-Atlantic Regional Health Recruitment Fairs (Baltimore, MD; Washington, DC; College Park, MD)
- Navigating a Successful Pathway to Medical School Advisor Workshop (Birmingham, AL)
- Student National Medical Association Annual Conference and Pre-Med Recruitment Fair (Washington, DC)
- GDI/GSA/OSR National Meeting and Minority Recruitment Fair (San Diego, CA)
- Regional Advisor Workshop (Madison, WI)
- Mt. San Antonio College 8th Annual Health Professions Conference
- APACS Conference (Albany, NY)
- 2014 NAAHP National Meeting (San Francisco, CA)

If you have an upcoming regional event for which you would like MCAT information, or you would like to discuss the possibility of a virtual presentation, please contact us at mcat2015@aamc.org

New! Test Preparation and Other Resources Announced

- What’s on the MCAT2015 Exam? is a free, interactive tool to help students learn about the new exam. Presented both in text and video format, it offers an overview of the exam sections, the foundational concepts, content categories, and skills tested. Visit www.aamc.org/mcat2015exam.

Do you still have your Preview Guide to the MCAT2015 exam? Throw it out! What’s on the MCAT2015 Exam? is your source for the final content of the exam. Want a hard copy version? Download the PDF version of the tool.

- The Official Guide to the MCAT® Exam (MCAT2015), Fourth Edition + Online Questions is the first and only comprehensive

Additional Resources

- Publish second MCAT2015 sample test
- Hold MCAT2015 Webinar Q&A

Current MCAT scores will be reported through the 2019 AMCAS application cycle.

On the Road…

Upcoming events where MCAT staff will be speaking and/or exhibiting

- Association of American Indian Physicians 2014 Annual Conference, July 22, Denver, CO.
- STEP UP Conference, August 1, Washington, DC.
- American Psychological Association, August 7-10, Washington, DC.
- American Sociological Association, August 16-19, San Francisco, CA.
- National Association of Medical Minority (NAMME) Educators 2014 Annual Meeting, September 16-21, Indianapolis, IN.
- Regional Advisor and Student Workshop (MCAT2015), September 28, University of South Carolina, SC.

Archives of Q-UPP eNewsletter

- March 2013 Issue
- June 2013 Issue
- September 2013 Issue
- December 2013 Issue
- April 2014 Issue
review of the new exam. It includes what students can expect on test day, information on the new score scale, and 120 practice questions which can be taken in an online format as well. www.aamc.org/officialmcatguide2015

- **Testing Academic Competencies with the 2015 MCAT Exam** – This guide discusses the competencies tested on the new exam, what the new score scale says about applicants, and addresses fairness issues. It also includes sample test questions.

- **Course-Mapping Tool v2.0 and Bridge Document** – The tool is updated to reflect the final topics and subtopics of the new exam. Tutorials and FAQs to help you use this tool are available.

  If you have already completed the Course-Mapping Tool v1.0, don’t worry! We created a tutorial and bridge document to help you update your tool without starting over. They can be found in the FAQ “What’s New With This Tool” on the Course-Mapping Tool page.

**MCAT2015 Score Scale Announced**

At the GDI/GSA/OSR National Meeting in San Diego, CA in April, the AAMC unveiled the MCAT2015 score scale to medical school admissions officers.

Test Takers will receive a score for each section, as well as a total score, along with improved score reports that provide more information to help test takers understand their scores and helps admissions officers when using them.

Total scores will be centered at 500, with scores ranging from 472 to 528. Each section will be scored on a range of 118 to 132, with a midpoint of 125. Visit the AAMC website for more information about the score scales.

**MCAT2015 Test Administration**

- **The MCAT2015 exam has been calendar announced**! There will be fourteen exam administration dates for the 2015 testing year (April-September 2015), with enough seats to meet anticipated demand. Extensive analyses were conducted to determine examinee preference about test dates and locations. Most administration dates for
the MCAT2015 exam are on Fridays and Saturdays and the number of university-based seats are expanding. To view the calendar, click [here](#).

- **Interested in bringing MCAT2015 testing closer to your campus?** AAMC and Prometric (our test delivery vendor) are working with colleges and universities to turn their existing computer labs into testing centers on MCAT administration days in 2015. If you are interested in making testing more convenient for your students, please contact [mcat2015@aamc.org](mailto:mcat2015@aamc.org) to learn about becoming an MCAT testing site.

- **2015 Exam Score Releases** will take longer than 30-35 days for April and May administration scores to be reported due to additional score processing time needed. However, scores for these administrations will be released before the first AMCAS® 2016 release to medical schools.

  In order to help examinees to make decisions about retesting or applying provisional percentile rank ranges will be provided to April and May examinees shortly after their exam date (within 2-3 weeks).

  Score release will return to a 30-35 day release schedule for the June administrations and thereafter.

  For more information, visit the FAQ on “Score reporting and use of the MCAT2015 scores in medical schools admissions” (See FAQ: How long will it take for scores to be reported).

- **Hotel discounts made available for students who need to travel to take the MCAT exam.**

  AAMC negotiated a special discount with Hampton Inn. More information about this program will be provided at a later date. We will announce on Twitter and on our [website](http://www.aamc.org) in the “Updates” section of the MCAT homepage.
UPDATE: Khan Academy MCAT Collection Video Tutorials and Review Questions Competition

In April, the AAMC, Khan Academy, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation held a second competition to select winners to help complete the Khan Academy MCAT Collection. Winners will be selected and announced early July.

Today, the collection has over 400 videos and hundreds of review questions. Traffic to these videos continues to grow. Daily, the videos receive about 30,000 views with tens of thousands questions answered!

You can access the videos via the Pre-health Collection within MedEdPORTAL’s iCollaborative.

UPDATE: Pre-health Collection within MedEdPORTAL’s iCollaborative Selects New Reviewers

In May, a new panel was selected to help with reviews of submitted resources and aid in outreach efforts to support the Pre-health Collection within MedEdPORTAL’s iCollaborative, an online repository of instructional materials recommended for teaching pre-health competencies. Reviewers were selected in the six disciplines tested on the MCAT2015 exam.

Meet our 13 new panel:

Biochemistry:
- Henry Jakubowski, Ph.D.—College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University
- Laura Schick Zapanta, Ph.D.—University of Pittsburgh

Biology:
- Carol Briston, Ph.D.—University of Mississippi
- Janet Hart, Ph.D.—Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
- Brian Shmaefsky, Ed.D.—Lone Star College, Kingwood

Chemistry:
- Bruce Branan, Ph.D.—Asbury University
- Khalilah Reddie, Ph.D.—University of Massachusetts Lowell
Physics:
- Ralf Widenhorn, Ph.D.—Portland State University
- Juan Burciaga, Ph.D.—Mount Holyoke College

Psychology:
- Pamela Brouillard, Psy.D.—Texas A&M University, Corpus Christy
- Selena Kohl, Ph.D.—Cottey College

Sociology:
- Martin Abbott, Ph.D.—Seattle Pacific University
- Martie Gillen, Ph.D., MBA—University of Florida

There are already nearly 200 resources in the collection, including self-study materials. The collection is searchable by MCAT\textsuperscript{2015} Foundational Concepts. The Khan Academy video tutorials and review questions can also be found in the collection.