2021 AAMC Fee Assistance Program

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“The AAMC Fee Assistance Program provides financial assistance to individuals who, without this aid, would find it very difficult — if not impossible — to take the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), apply to medical schools that use the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS), and fulfill other application obligations.”
Fee Assistance Program

- Benefits
- Eligibility
- Applying
Fee Assistance Program Benefits

- Reduced registration fee for MCAT® exams
- Free MCAT Official Prep Online-Only Bundle, including the practice exams and flashcards
- Free subscription to the MSAR® online database for up to two years
- Waived AMCAS® application fee for one submission with up to 20 medical school designations
- Learn more about the Fee Assistance Program at aamc.org/fap.

Benefits are NOT Retroactive
$2,000+
Potential savings if approved for Fee Assistance and utilize all the benefits

16,028
Fee Assistance Program applicants approved in 2020
New to the Program

What changes were made in 2020?

Adjusted income eligibility criteria
- 400 or less than the national poverty level for that family size (previously 300 percent or less)

Reconsideration process
- Applicants experiencing financial loss of income due to coronavirus can submit a reconsideration request
Benefits begin on the date of approval and expire the next calendar year on Dec. 31st.

Program Benefit Calendar

How long can an applicant use these benefits?

Benefits are NOT retroactive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Approved</th>
<th>Benefits Expire</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Program Eligibility

- U.S. citizen
- U.S. national
- Lawful permanent resident of the U.S. (also known as a green card holder)
- Granted refugee or asylee status by the U.S. government,
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipient
- Awaiting refugee or asylee status approval by the U.S. government and have a U.S. Employment Authorization Document (EAD card)
Program Eligibility cont’d

• Tied to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' poverty level guidelines

• **Requires** parental financial information and supporting tax documentation
## Income Eligibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Size</th>
<th>Contiguous States, District of Columbia &amp; U.S. Territories</th>
<th>Alaska</th>
<th>Hawaii</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$51,040</td>
<td>$63,800</td>
<td>$58,720</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$68,960</td>
<td>$86,200</td>
<td>$79,320</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$86,880</td>
<td>$108,600</td>
<td>$99,920</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$104,800</td>
<td>$131,000</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>$122,720</td>
<td>$153,400</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>$140,640</td>
<td>$175,800</td>
<td>$161,720</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>$158,560</td>
<td>$198,200</td>
<td>$182,320</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$176,480</td>
<td>$220,600</td>
<td>$202,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8+</td>
<td>$4,480 for each additional person</td>
<td>$5,600 for each additional person</td>
<td>$5,150 for each additional person</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Parental Information Requirements

• The AAMC defines “parents” as biological parents, adoptive parents, and stepparents.
  • If you were adopted, you do not have to report biological parental information.
  • You are only required to submit information about a stepparent married to one of your biological or adoptive parents.
  • Grandparents, foster parents, legal guardians, aunts, uncles, and other relatives are not considered parents for the purposes of this application.
Parental Information Requirements

If one of the following circumstances applies that prohibits you from obtaining a parent’s financial information, contact program staff **before** submitting your application:

- You were legally emancipated
- Do not know if a parent is living, or do not have a relationship and do not communicate with a parent
- Have a parent who is incarcerated or institutionalized or who is permanently incapacitated or hospitalized
- Were in foster care or in the care of a legal guardian at the time you reached the age of majority
- Another circumstance prohibits you from obtaining a parent’s financial information
The Application Process

1. Opens in January/February and closes in December
2. Complete and submit application
3. Automatic and manual reviews
4. Upload any required documents to the application
5. AAMC will grant a final decision within 10 business days
Application Sections

- Applicant Information
- Applicant Financial Information
- Parental Information
- Parents’ Financial Information
- Application Summary
- Submission and Certification Statement
Tips for Completing the Application

- Some personal information will transfer from an applicant’s AAMC profile.
  - Applicants can edit any incorrect information before submitting.
- Fields marked with an asterisk are required fields.
- Enter income and other dollar amounts in whole dollars.
  - Round to the nearest dollar if necessary.
- If documentation that includes sensitive personal information is required (e.g., Social Security Number, Social Insurance Number, or other government ID numbers), redact or mask that information before uploading.
- Review the Application Summary carefully.
  - Select “Edit” to revise answers before submitting.
Supporting Documentation

Previous tax year

• Copy of Federal Income Tax Forms (1040, 1040A, 1040EZ, etc.)
• Copy of W-2 or 1099
• Social Security Documentation
• Welfare Documentation
• Alimony/Child Support

Financial Aid Award Letters

• Fall and Spring Academic Years
Common Errors

Unacceptable to determine eligibility

• FAFSA Form
• 1098-T Tax Form
• Loan Statement
• Semester Bill

Do NOT withdraw application to make corrections

• Error Explanation Letter

Signature(s) Required

• Handwritten or a digital signature (DocuSign or Adobe Signature)
Required Documentation

All required supporting documentation must be accompanied by a signed Consent and Certification Form.
We’re here to help

• We will be in contact if documentation provided is insufficient to process an application.

• If an applicant has extenuating circumstances and able to provide official documentation of emancipation. We will accept it in lieu of parent(s) information.
Application Status

Eligible
• Status is submitted and on hold
• Instructions for supporting documents

Automatic Denial
• Applicant income/parental income does not meet the poverty guideline
• Received fee assistance five times
• Previous Fee Assistance Program application under investigation
Application Verification

• 10 business days
• Email indicating approval
• Benefits in application
• MCAT preparation benefits
  • Elect to receive
  • Email on how to access
How the AAMC Fee Assistance Program Helped

- Secondary fees
- Scholarships
- Interview expenses

aamc.org/howfaphelped
Where to Apply for the Fee Assistance Program?

aamc.org/fap
For Assistance

The AAMC Services Contact Center can assist and answer questions about Fee Assistance program applications.
Thanks for joining us!