

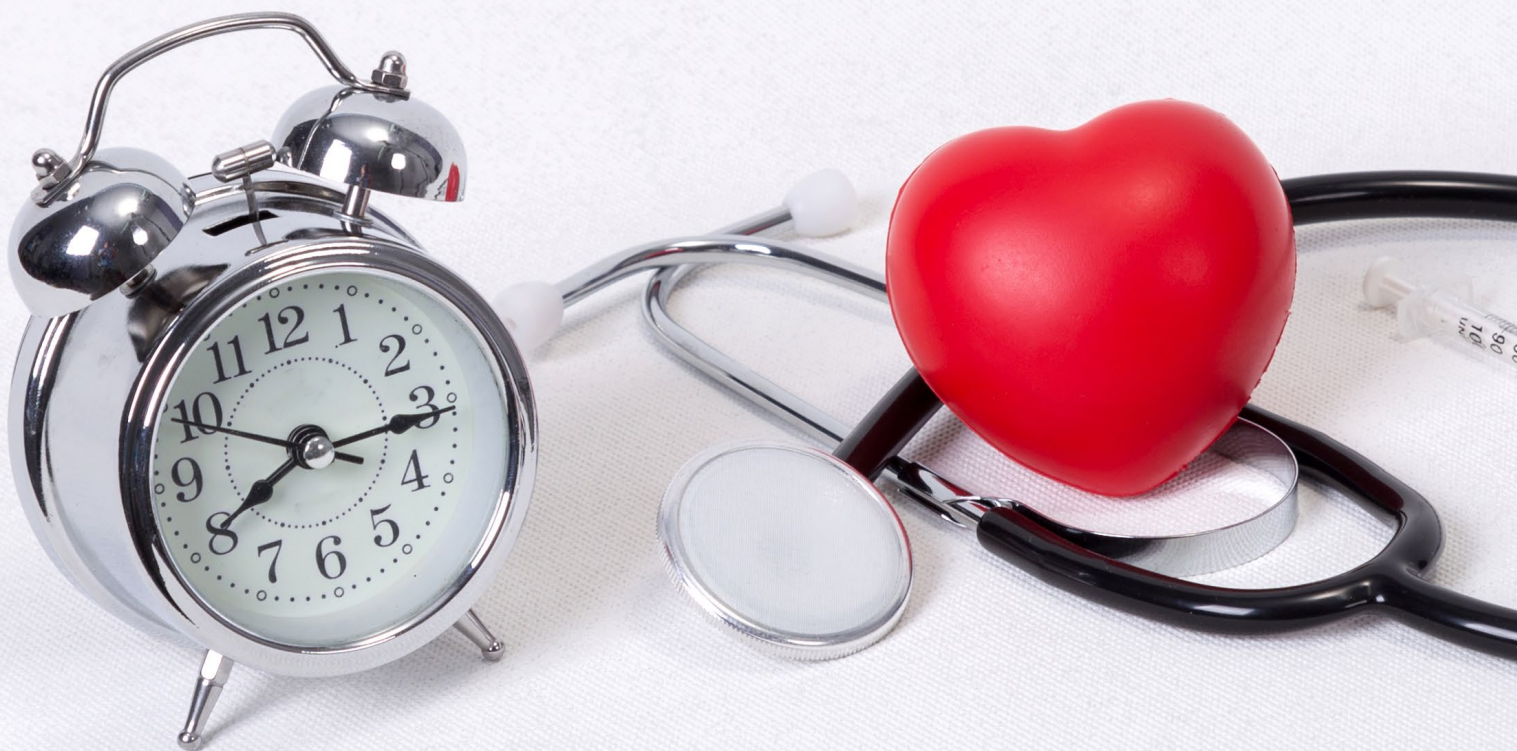


MEDICAL SCHOOL APPLICATION CYCLE TIMELINE

Medical School Application Cycle Timeline

The medical school application process is not only stressful and competitive, but very long. With pre-reqs, tests, and extracurriculars that you need to complete to get one step closer to that dream career, the preparation alone takes years! When it comes time to apply, the entire application cycle lasts almost a full year.

If you're applying to medical school soon, take a deep breath. You've got a long year ahead of you. To help you get a clearer picture of what the timeline looks like, here's a guide to the medical school application cycle



Before You Begin Applying

- Get good extracurricular experience - volunteer at hospitals, shadow doctors, submit to have your research published, and more!
- Take the prerequisite courses for medical school.
- Study for the MCAT and take the test if you are ready.



Once You Have Decided To Apply **February – March**

- Start working on your application at least three months before the AMCAS opens at the end of May.

- Narrow down your medical school list. You should pick at least 25-30 programs.

- Check the requirements for different medical schools.

- Choose and consult your recommenders (up to ten), and ask them to check the guidelines for letters of evaluation. This should give them plenty of time to write strong letters.

- Continue studying for the MCAT.

- Choose a date for the MCAT - ideally no later than May or June of the cycle you are applying for, and register. The last day to register without a charge is usually two weeks before the given test date.

- Look at the deadlines and requirements for specific medical schools on the AMCAS, the deadlines and requirements for Texas schools.

- Don't just look at MD schools - consider DO and Caribbean schools as well, and look through their requirements and deadlines.

- Continue working on your extracurriculars - get as much clinical experience and patient exposure as possible, participate in research, and volunteer in your community.

- Start brainstorming your personal statement - what makes you unique from the tens of thousands of qualified applicants?

April

- Take the plunge and draft your personal statement. Be wary of topics to avoid.
- Write down your activities section and carefully select your “three most meaningful activities.”
- Order official transcripts from each of the schools and colleges that you have attended.

May

- Finalize your school list (if you haven’t already).
- Make sure all of your letters of recommendation have been sent.
- Proofread everything. Make sure all of the information has been entered correctly and that you’re sticking to the deadlines.
- The AMCAS opens on May 30, 2019 - you should be submitting the primary as soon as the AMCAS opens or the entire process is slowed down!



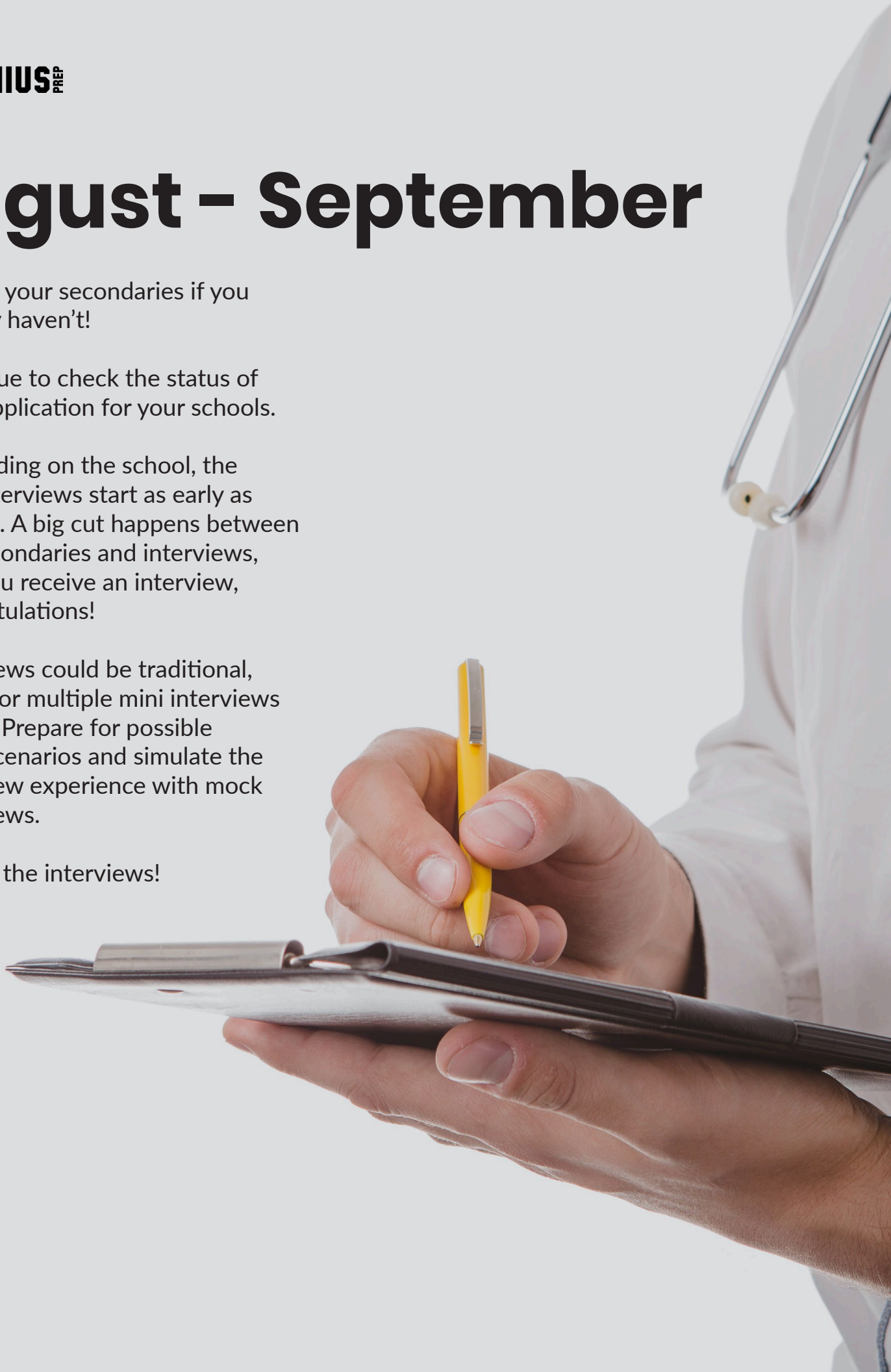
June – July

- As you wait for your application to be verified, continue to work on your extracurriculars.
- Start drafting your secondaries before they come out. There are often prompts that are repeated, so it's best to prepare beforehand.
- Once your application has been verified, you will receive the secondaries for your schools. The first secondaries are released around late June and early July.
- You should ideally take about two weeks to turn in the secondaries, as the time you take reflects your interest in the school.



August – September

- Submit your secondaries if you already haven't!
- Continue to check the status of your application for your schools.
- Depending on the school, the first interviews start as early as August. A big cut happens between the secondaries and interviews, so if you receive an interview, congratulations!
- Interviews could be traditional, group, or multiple mini interviews (MMI). Prepare for possible MMI scenarios and simulate the interview experience with mock interviews.
- Attend the interviews!



October – February

- Continue to attend interviews as you hear back from schools.
- Medical school admissions committees meet and discuss applicants during this period.
- Students are notified whether they have been accepted, rejected, or waitlisted.
- If you've had an interview but have not heard back for 6 weeks, write a letter of continued interest (if you're still excited about that program).

March – May

- Continue to attend interviews as you hear back from schools.
- Medical school admissions committees meet and discuss applicants during this period.
- Students are notified whether they have been accepted, rejected, or waitlisted.
- If you've had an interview but have not heard back for 6 weeks, write a letter of continued interest (if you're still excited about that program).



May – September

- Applicants on waitlists are offered spots if applicable.
- Typically, schools finalize their class by June.
- New student orientations begin in August/September.
- AMCAS reopens at the end of May if you need to reapply.
- If you've been admitted, congratulations! You did it! Time to become a doctor.

