

Medical School Application Process

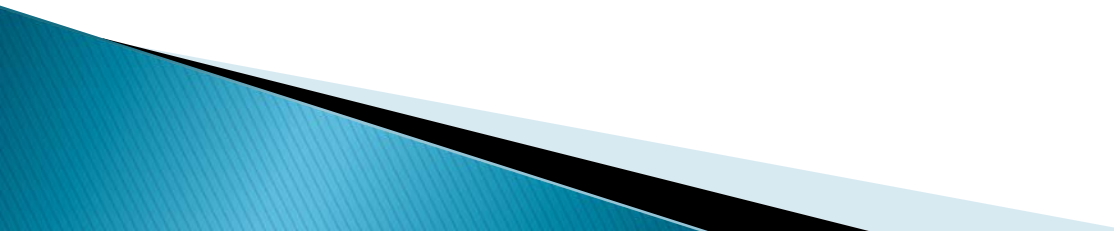
presented by:
Jim Swartz, Clark Lindgren

Prepared with help from:
Doug Peterson

Grinnell College Support

- ▶ We support applications to a variety of health professional graduate programs including:
 - MD
 - DO
 - Dentistry
 - Veterinary School
 - OT, PT, etc.
- ▶ The application process can be quite similar among these, and we will focus upon MD and DO as those tend to be the majority of students.

Outline

- About AMCAS and AACOMAS
 - Understanding the Medical School Admissions Process
 - The 2011 AMCAS and AACOMAS Applications
 - Requirements of Grinnell's HPAC for Committee Letter Writing
 - Questions / Comments from SHOT
- 

ABOUT AMCAS and AACOMAS

- ▶ Services of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM)
- ▶ Non-profit, centralized application services
 - Collect applicant information
 - Collect one set of transcripts
 - Verifies academic records
 - Provides standardized grading information to participating schools
 - They collect and average your grades across institutions, grouping by science and non science
 - Do not screen applications or make admissions decisions

Understanding the Process

- ▶ Applying is a two-step process
 - 1. Primary Application: AMCAS and/or AACOMAS
 - 2. Secondary Applications: Medical Schools

Websites:

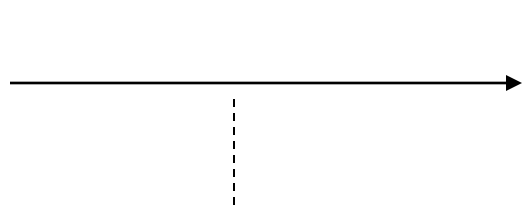
www.amcas.org

www.aacom.org

**AMCAS/
AACOMAS**

Primary Application

- Complete online application
- Send college transcripts
- Identify Committee Letter of Recommendation
- Pay application fee



AMCAS/AACOMAS processes the primary application.

Once this processing is complete, AMCAS/AACOMAS sends the primary application to the medical schools selected by the applicant.

At this point, the medical school takes over the application.

**Medical
School**

Secondary Application

- Upon invitation from the medical school:
- Submit letters of recommendation
 - Submit additional writing samples
 - Send updated transcripts if necessary
 - Pay additional application fee if required

Interview

- Schedule interview date upon invitation from the medical school

MCAT Exam

- ▶ April – July
 - 22 different testing dates throughout the year
 - Your MCAT scores are valid for a three year period.

Complete HPAC Form 1

- ▶ Request to Prepare a Committee Letter of Recommendation; Electronic form available on the HPAC website.
- ▶ Contact a few select faculty to let them know you're applying
- ▶ **Deadline 10 PM on Wed. April 6**
- ▶ [Form 1](#)

AMCAS / AACOMAS Primary Application

- ▶ Complete online at www.amcas.org or www.aacomas.org in May/June, the earlier the better
- ▶ Request transcripts from Registrar. (Include in special instructions: "Biology Genetics Letter.")
- ▶ Indicate that Committee Letter will be sent from Grinnell.
- ▶ Send Letter Request Form pdf file to [petersod].
- ▶ [AMCAS Instructions](#) [AACOMAS instructions](#)

Proep Eirjri
250000 M S
Washington, DC 20098
United States of America

AMCAS LETTER REQUEST

Application Year 2010

February 24, 2009

AAMC ID: 12899282
Last Name: Eirjri
First/Middle Name: Proep
AMCAS Letter ID: 1001165
Letter Type: Committee Letter



Letter ID: 1001165

TO:
Julie Bogard
University Of Maryland College Park
8 M
Venice, MI 31452
United States of America

With this form, I am requesting that you forward my letter of evaluation/recommendation to the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS), which receives all letters on behalf of medical schools participating in the AMCAS Letters Service. For more information about this service see below.

You can forward my letter to AMCAS in one of the following ways:

- **AMCAS Letter Writer Application:** This application enables letter writers to upload documents securely to AMCAS rather than send letters via the mail. If you are interested in this option, and can upload a PDF version of your letter, make note of the requesting applicant's AAMC ID and AMCAS Letter ID included above and go to <https://services.aamc.org/LetterWriter>
- **Interfolio:** AMCAS can receive letters sent to Interfolio if the student requesting this letter is an Interfolio user or your institution/organization uses Interfolio to deliver letters of evaluation/recommendation.
- **Mail your letter:** If you select this option, please **attach this form** to your letter(s) and mail to:

AMCAS, attn: AMCAS Letters
AAMC Medical School Application Services
P.O. Box 18958
Washington, DC 20036


- **VirtualEvals (VE):** VE is available to members of the National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions (NAAHP). If you are a VE user, make note of the requesting student's AAMC ID and AMCAS Letter ID included above and upload your letter(s) to VE.

About AMCAS Letters

AMCAS Letters is a centralized service that enables medical schools to receive all letters of recommendation/evaluation electronically via the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS), and enables applicants to have their authors send all letters of recommendation/evaluation to be considered by schools participating in this service to AMCAS rather than to each school. For more information about this service, including a list of participating medical schools, please visit <http://www.aamc.org/students/amcas/faq/amcasletters.htm>

For more information about AMCAS, visit www.aamc.org/amcas

Secondary Application

- ▶ July/August
 - ▶ If a medical school is interested, a secondary application will be sent to you.
 - ▶ Submit additional writing samples
 - ▶ Pay additional fee, if required.
- 

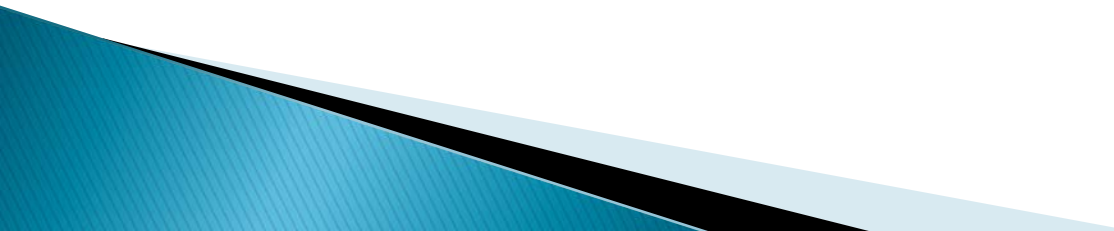
Complete HPAC Form 2

- ▶ Authorization to Send Committee Letter of Recommendation; Electronic form available on the HPAC website.
- ▶ Submit to us *only* after you've been sent secondary applications by medical schools or you need a letter sent to a school.
- ▶ [Form 2](#)

Writing of Letter by HPAC

- ▶ May/June
 - Faculty complete HPAC recommendation forms
 - Recommendations/Ratings are compiled by committee
 - Member of committee is primary writer of letter; letter goes through several revisions
 - Another member is secondary reader, more revisions
 - HPAC co-chair reads and edits final letter
 - Letter is sent within 4 weeks of receipt of Form 2.

Points of Difference

- ▶ Not all medical schools use the AMCAS application process
 - ▶ Most non-MD and non-DO programs require individual applications
 - ▶ In these cases we can still do committee letters, but the application process that you will use may be different.
- 

Questions

- ▶ AMCAS
 - ▶ HPAC website
 - ▶ Contacts – Doug Peterson in Science Division Office
 - ▶ Co-Chairs of HPAC: Clark Lindgren, Jim Swartz.
- 