Application Timeline for Bard Students and Alumni applying to Medical School (allopathic, osteopathic) and Dental Programs

Lisa Kooperman, Pre-professional Health Career Adviser (lkooperman@bard.edu)

September-January	☐ Login to Handshake to schedule an appointment with the Pre-professional Health Career Adviser to discuss your plans and open your file ☐ Open a file in the Career Development Office ☐ Start requesting letters of recommendations ☐ Formalize your plan for studying for the MCAT/DAT and register for the test ❖ Plan to take the MCAT/DAT by the end of June ☐ Review "Getting Organized" on the AAMC website ☐ Apply for the Fee Assistance Program before registering for the MCAT ☐ **October:** Registration for January- September 2027 MCAT exam dates are open
January 31	You must request at least three letters of recommendation from Bard faculty for your file (two from the sciences and one additional letter from any faculty member)
February 24	☐ The AAMC PREview® professional readiness exam registration opens
February-March	☐ Start thinking about your personal statement ☐ Start compiling your list of activities
April-June	☐ Begin researching schools using the MSAR and the Choose DO Explorer to create a list of potential schools ☐ Schedule a time to meet with the pre-professional health career adviser to discuss your school list, activities and/or for personal statement review ☐ Typical MCAT testing time frame for those entering the next cycle **Forward Test Scores:** ❖ Administered by the AAMC, scores are automatically sent to AMCAS ☐ Request that your scores be sent to AACOMAS and/or TMDSAS ☐ AADSAS request scores be sent at the time of testing
May	☐ Register for the centralized application service: ❖ **May 5, 2026:** AMCAS (MD) begin filling out the application ❖ **May 1, 2025:** AACOMAS (DO) submission opens ❖ **May 12, 2026:** ADDSAS (Dental) submission opens ❖ TMDSAS (Texas Medical and Dental Schools) application is available online ☐ Request transcripts to be sent to the application service ❖ Review the instructions: AMCAS, AACOMAS, AADSAS ❖ If you are currently enrolled, wait until spring grades are posted ❖ TMDSAS will send a request to you when they want your transcripts ❖ Use the National Student Clearing House to send transcripts (choose "electronic" under "delivery method") ☐ Be sure to have transcripts sent to the centralized application service from any college level work you have done (not just Bard) ☐ Request the **committee letter** through the centralized application service list Lisa Kooperman as the author and use lkooperman@bard.edu

May 28	AMCAS application opens for submission
June 1	Letters of recommendations due in the Career Development Office
June 26	AMCAS Data Transmission to Medical Schools
June 30	In order to receive a committee letter of recommendation, the following items have to be satisfied. Otherwise, the committee reserves the right to not provide a formal composite letter of evaluation. The individual letters of recommendation in your file will be forwarded to the schools with an accompanying generic cover letter. ❖ you must have requested at least three letters of recommendation from Bard faculty; ❖ your primary application must be submitted to the respective administrative service; ❖ and you must have completed the MCAT by the end of June of the year you are applying
July-December	☐ Submit secondary applications;don't wait for the deadlines to submit…early is better
August 1	Early Decision (ED) deadlines
August-February	☐ Respond to interview invitations ☐ Schedule a mock interview with the Pre-Professional Health Career Adviser ❖ Please wait for an interview invitation before scheduling so we know how to prepare for it. Schools have different interview formats. ☐ Send thank you emails to interviewers
September	❖ AACOMAS Academic Update (Coursework) Periods ➢ Sep 2, 2025 – Oct 10, 2025 ➢ Dec 15, 2025 – Feb 13, 2026 ➢ Mar 16, 2026 – Jun 12, 2026
October	Acceptance notifications begin and ED notifications are sent out
January	☐ Send fall transcripts to allopathic schools directly ☐ Refer to academic update periods for DO programs ☐ Send any significant updates to schools you are waiting to hear from
February 19	Medical schools can run an aggregate report to find out how many applicants in their pool have selected "Plan to Enroll" at their school versus another school.
April 15 **Beginning April 30** **April 30**	Applicant protocols ask applicants to narrow their acceptance offers to three. Applicants holding more than three offers should narrow their offers of acceptance to three, with no limit on alternate-list offers. Review the Choose your Medical School Tool Accepted applicants will have two options to select: "Plan to Enroll" and "Commit to Enroll." Selecting "Commit to Enroll" indicates that the applicant has made a final selection and withdrawn all other applications. Medical schools can run detailed reports to identify accepted and alternate-list applicants who have selected "Plan to Enroll" or "Commit to Enroll" at their school versus another school.