

# Medical School vs. College Major

According to the AAMC, biological science applicants don't seem to have any advantage in GPA or MCAT scores but not all majors are represented equally in US Medical Schools Matriculants.

**Table A-17: MCAT and GPAs for Applicants and Matriculants to U.S. Medical Schools by Primary Undergraduate Major, 2016-2017**



The table below displays MCAT scores and GPAs for applicants and matriculants to U.S. medical schools from 2016-2017 by primary undergraduate major. MCAT scores and GPAs are displayed by mean or median and standard deviation (SD). Please email us at [datarequest@aamc.org](mailto:datarequest@aamc.org) if you need further assistance or have additional inquiries.

Applicants	MCAT CPBS		MCAT CARS		MCAT BBLs		MCAT PSBB		Total MCAT		GPA Science		GPA Non-Science		GPA Total		Total Applicants
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Biological Sciences	125.4	2.7	125.0	2.7	125.7	2.8	125.4	2.8	501.6	9.4	3.46	0.42	3.71	0.28	3.55	0.34	28,582
Humanities	125.7	2.7	126.4	2.7	125.8	2.7	126.4	2.7	504.4	9.3	3.41	0.44	3.67	0.29	3.55	0.32	1,915
Math and Statistics	126.5	2.7	125.6	2.7	125.7	2.7	125.8	2.8	503.6	9.2	3.55	0.39	3.69	0.32	3.60	0.34	383
Other	125.2	2.8	125.0	2.8	125.4	2.8	125.6	2.8	501.2	9.6	3.45	0.43	3.68	0.29	3.55	0.34	9,911
Physical Sciences	126.5	2.7	125.4	2.8	125.8	2.8	125.7	2.8	503.3	9.5	3.51	0.41	3.65	0.31	3.57	0.34	5,069
Social Sciences	125.2	2.8	125.7	2.8	125.3	2.8	126.4	2.8	502.6	9.6	3.37	0.46	3.62	0.33	3.50	0.35	5,575
Specialized Health Sciences	124.5	2.8	124.5	2.8	124.7	2.8	124.9	2.8	498.6	9.7	3.36	0.46	3.65	0.30	3.50	0.34	1,607
<b>All Applicants</b>	<b>125.5</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>125.1</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>125.6</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>125.6</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>501.8</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>3.45</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>3.69</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>3.55</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>53,042</b>

Matriculants	MCAT CPBS		MCAT CARS		MCAT BBLs		MCAT PSBB		Total MCAT		GPA Science		GPA Non-Science		GPA Total		Total Matriculants
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Biological Sciences	127.1	2.2	126.5	2.4	127.5	2.1	127.3	2.2	508.3	6.9	3.65	0.30	3.80	0.21	3.71	0.25	11,112
Humanities	127.2	2.1	127.7	2.2	127.5	2.0	128.1	2.2	510.5	6.6	3.60	0.30	3.77	0.22	3.69	0.22	884
Math and Statistics	127.8	2.2	127.2	2.2	127.0	2.5	127.4	2.0	509.4	6.7	3.72	0.26	3.79	0.22	3.74	0.23	161
Other	127.0	2.2	126.8	2.4	127.2	2.1	127.5	2.3	508.4	7.1	3.63	0.31	3.78	0.23	3.71	0.24	3,815
Physical Sciences	127.9	2.1	126.8	2.4	127.4	2.3	127.3	2.2	509.4	7.1	3.68	0.29	3.75	0.25	3.71	0.25	2,239
Social Sciences	127.1	2.2	127.2	2.3	127.2	2.2	128.2	2.1	509.8	6.5	3.59	0.32	3.74	0.25	3.67	0.25	2,292
Specialized Health Sciences	126.6	2.2	126.3	2.7	126.8	2.1	127.0	2.3	506.7	7.2	3.59	0.34	3.77	0.22	3.68	0.25	527
<b>All Matriculants</b>	<b>127.1</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>126.7</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>127.4</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>127.4</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>508.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>3.64</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>3.78</b>	<b>0.23</b>	<b>3.70</b>	<b>0.24</b>	<b>21,030</b>

Note: In April 2015, the AAMC launched a new version of the MCAT exam. Scores are reported in four sections: 1) Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems (CPBS), 2) Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills (CARS), 3) Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems (BBLs), and 4) Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior (PSBB). Because of this change, the 2016 MCAT scores are not comparable to previous years. In 2016, 45.9% of the applicants applied with scores from the 1991 version (the old version) of the MCAT\* exam only. Additionally, 52.4% of the applicants applied with scores from the new MCAT\* exam (20.0% applied with scores from the old exam and the new exam, and 32.4% applied with scores from the new exam only).

The MCAT columns include data from 27,840 applicants and 8,521 matriculants. The GPA columns include data from 52,765 applicants and 20,836 matriculants.

<https://www.aamc.org/download/321496/data/factstablea17.pdf>

## Percentage of Matriculants from Applicants

Degree	Applicants	Matriculants	Percentages
Biological Science	28,582	11,112	38.87%
Humanities	1,915	884	46.16%
Math and Statistics	383	161	42.04%
Other	9,911	3,815	38.49%
Physical Sciences	5,069	2,239	44.17%
Social Sciences	5,575	2,292	41.11%
Specialized Health Sciences	1,607	527	32.79%
	<b>53,042</b>	<b>21,030</b>	<b>39.65%</b>

Ordered greatest to least: Humanities, Physical Science, Math and Statistics, Social Science, Biological Science, Other and Specialized Health Science.