616.331.8585 | www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising | C-1-140 MAK

### **Podiatry School Application Process**

Podiatry School Admission Requirements https://explorepodmed.org/

Admissions Test: MCAT (Medical College Admission Test) (mcat@aamc.org, 202-828-0600)

**MCAT Essentials:** www.aamc.org/mcat → read the MCAT Essentials document thoroughly.

**Registration Timeline:** The MCAT is administered between January and September each year. Registration begins in October of the previous year. It is recommended to register at least 60 days prior to your desired test date.

**Before Registration:** You will need an AAMC ID and an associated username and password to register for the MCAT.

**Fee Assistance Program (FAP):** See <a href="www.aamc.org/fap">www.aamc.org/fap</a> for details and eligibility requirements. FAP application processing takes up to 10 business days. **Benefits are NOT retroactive**. FAP benefits are good for 2 calendar years.

Fee: The cost of the exam is \$335 (\$140 with FAP) See the MCAT Essentials for canceling/rescheduling fees

**Testing with Accommodations:** If you receive accommodations in classes at GVSU through Disability Support Resources, you may qualify to take the MCAT with accommodations. Medical schools are not notified if a student tests with accommodations. For more information, visit the MCAT Accommodations website.

**Release Scores:** When signing up for the test, you have the option of releasing your scores to your pre-health advisor. If you miss this step, please send an official score report to a preprofessional advisor at GVSU. **Applicants must send their scores to AACPMAS via the MCAT Score Reporting System.** Scores are viewable online 30-35 days after your test date

**Testing Limit:** Up to 3 tests per calendar year, 4 times across 2 years, 7 lifetime max. A voided exam or noshow DOES count as an attempt but is not reported to medical schools.

Test Section	# of Questions	Time
Examinee Agreement & Optional Tutorial		4 min, 10 min (total 14)
Chemical & Physical Foundations of Biological Sciences**	59	95 minutes
Critical Analysis & Reasoning Skills	53	90 minutes
Mid-exam Break (optional—cannot leave the testing center)		30 minutes
Biological & Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems**	59	95 minutes
Psychological, Social, & Biological Foundations of Behavior	59	95 minutes
Void Question (not optional) & Satisfaction Survey (optional)		3 min, 5 min (total 8)
Total content time: 6 hours 15 minutes Total "Seat" Time: 7 hours, 30 minutes		
**an optional 10-minute break is available after these sections (we recommend you take these breaks)		

**Scoring:** Each of the four sections is scored from a low of 118 to a high of 132, with a midpoint of 125. Scores for the four sections are combined to create a total score. **The total score ranges from 472 to 528. The midpoint (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) is 500**. Percentile ranks will be reported for the total & section scores. There is no penalty for guessing.

**How to Prepare:** There is an MCAT Sample Test and three full length scored Practice Exams available that simulate the exam. There are many other prep resources, which can be found at <a href="www.aamc.org/mcatprep">www.aamc.org/mcatprep</a>. You can also order many of the MCAT prep resources at a discounted rate through <a href="www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/payment">www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/payment</a>.

Application Service: AACPMAS – Follow them on Facebook and Twitter (@PodMedColleges). For questions, contact AACPMAS Customer Service at 617-612-2900 or <a href="mailto:acceptage-accepta

### **AACPMAS Quick Start Guide**

Use your FULL legal name, know your MCAT ID

Print a copy of your completed application for your reference; turn one in to CLAS Advising for your file

**Fee:** \$200 for one school; \$65 for each additional school (no fee waiver available).

**Transcripts:** Transcript Request Form (MUST accompany official transcripts by application deadline) \*You need a separate form for EACH school you have attended; each form is unique so PAY ATTENTION!

**Re-applicants:** Your information will not be carried over from year to year; you must submit a new application

**Repeat Grades:** Enter ALL attempts at courses, regardless of repeats or grades of W, both the original and repeated grade will be included in GPA calculation.

**Personal Statement:** Write a brief statement expressing your motivation or desire to become a podiatrist

4500 characters, including spaces. One statement for all schools; cannot be edited after submission.

**Related Work & Activities:** Enter podiatric experience, other health care experience, employment, extracurricular activities, and honors and awards; each experience has room for a brief description (600 characters).

**Letters of Evaluation (LOEs):** letters are submitted electronically by evaluators using Letters by Liaison; letter packets are also accepted (see next page)

Supplemental Applications: There are NO supplemental applications or fees!

**Verification:** Takes up to 5 weeks once ALL required materials are received

**Acceptances:** Make sure you are meeting any school deadlines; admissions offers can be made according to the following schedule:

- Through March 31, 30 days are allowed for candidates to respond to offers of admission
- April 1-June 30, 14 days are allowed for candidates to respond to offers of admission
- After July 1, candidates may be asked for an immediate deposit
- By June 1 you must commit to ONE school

Schools also conduct a criminal background check and undergraduate disciplinary checks prior to final matriculation.

## **Letters of Evaluation (LOEs) and the GVSU Letter Packet:**

GVSU will not be offering the committee letter in the 2025 application cycle; instead, a letter packet is being offered. The letter packet will include a cover sheet with the applicant's name and some helpful information about GVSU (i.e. institutional information, SWS, honors, etc.). Individual letters are then ranked in order of strength, attached to the cover sheet in one PDF, then submitted to AACPMAS for schools to download (Julie Mattox submits). Students must request a letter packet through the below application.

In AACPMAS, check "Yes" for Committee Letter and list Julie Mattox as the Letter Writer.,

# Complete the Letter Packet Application between February 15<sup>th</sup> - July 31<sup>st</sup> at:

www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/apply

A complete Letter Packet Application involves:

- 1. Waiving your rights to view your letters of evaluation
- 2. Completing the Self-Assessment and meeting with a premed advisor to determine your readiness to apply
- 3. Requesting a minimum of three letters of evaluation (all letters must be received prior to submission of the letter packet)
- 4. Complete a short questionnaire
- 5. Upload a photo/headshot of yourself (optional)
- 6. Submit a copy of your AMCAS Letter Request Form (if applying through AMCAS)

#### **Benefits of getting a GVSU Letter Packet**

- 1. Ability to request individual letters before faculty leave for the summer.
  - a. The letter packet allows you to request (and faculty to submit) letters starting February 15<sup>th</sup>; the earliest this can take place in AMCAS and AACOMAS is May 1<sup>st</sup>
- 2. Expedite the completion of your medical school application
  - a. When applications open in May, you can have all of your letters in and the letter packet can be ready to submit, rather than waiting until after May 1<sup>st</sup> for your individual letters to be submitted.
- 3. Letter Packets will include helpful information about GVSU
  - a. GVSU-specific policies and classes like SWS and Honors are explained along with a synopsis of GVSU as an institution, which is helpful for out-of-state schools
- 4. Strongest letters will be highlighted by being placed at the top of the letter packet
  - a. Your letters will be ranked in order of strength and placed in that order in the letter packet, putting your best foot forward
- 5. Connects you to advisors for a high level of support through the process

## **Application Process Timeline**

This process begins 2 years before you plan to start podiatry school!

# Fall

- Begin MCAT study plan visit the Test Prep Resources site to get started
- Register for MCAT (registration opens in late October)
- Take a practice MCAT exam and write the 1st draft of your personal statement over winter

# January -

- Complete Self-Assessment, and meet with a preprofessional advisor to review
- Continue drafting Personal Statement and experiences
- Start the Letter Packet Application (LPA) at www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/apply (opens February 15)

# March

- Begin asking for letters of evaluation (submitted through the LPA)
- Attend CLAS Advising application workshop and/or view recording
- Have your personal statement/experiences reviewed by the GVSU Writing Center

### May

March -

#### Take MCAT

May-

• Send all official transcripts to AMCAS/AACOMAS with Transcript Request Forms (or order online through Banner)

Submit AACOMAS (May) and/or AMCAS (June) & load AMCAS Letter Request Form to LPA

# July

- AACPMAS cycle opens August 1st
- Submit Letter Packet Application (if not already done)
- Work on any Secondary Applications, submit within 2 weeks of receiving them

# August

- •JULY 31: GVSU Letter Packet Deadline
- Work with GVSU Career Center on Interview Preparation
- Attend Interviews
- July 1st of the next year is when AACPMAS closes for fall admission of that same year

July & Later