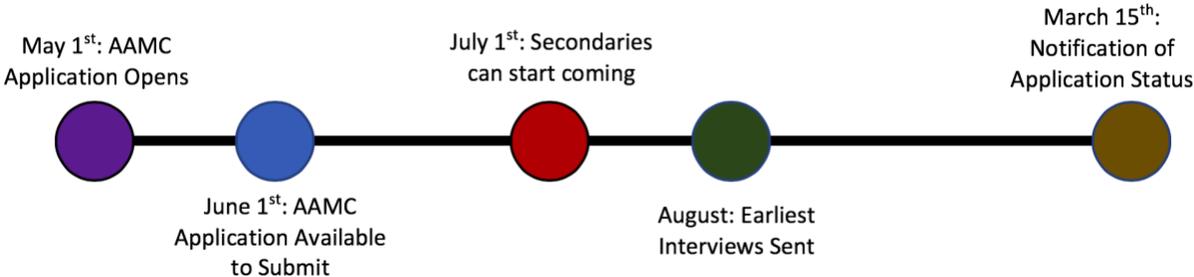


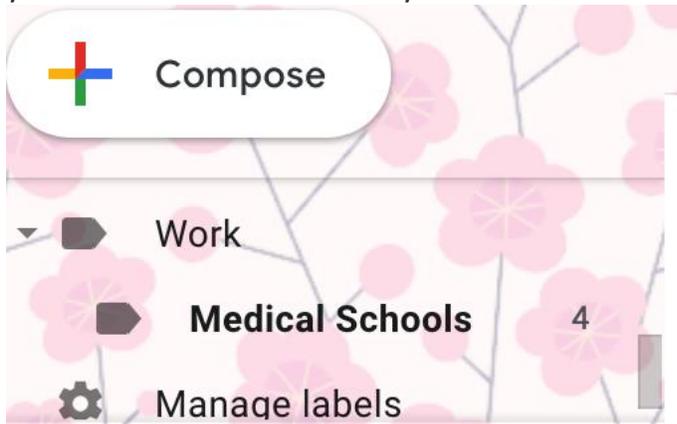
The Secondary Application

Created by @abisanatomy



About 1 month after you send in your primary application you will start getting emails from each of the individual schools. The email will contain a link to their school-specific application with some essay questions and some “Yes” and “No” questions. If you have been sent a secondary application, first, congratulations! This likely means you've passed basic screening requirements for their school.

1. Your first step should be to add the email into a separate folder in your email. Too many important emails get lost in your general inbox! Next, you should document that you've received a secondary from that school and the date you received it.



2. Next, you should document that you've received a secondary from that school and the date you received it.

1. University of
 - Secondary: Received – 7/19/18, Submitted 7/23/18 (4 day turn around)
 - File Complete: 7/23/18, II: 9/24/18
2.
 - Secondary: Received – 7/2/18, Submitted 7/9/18 (7 day turn around)
 - File Complete: 7/11/18, II:
3. Medical College
 - Secondary: Received – 7/11/18 Not going to submit
4. Medical College of
 - Secondary: Received – 7/11/18, Submitted 8/2/18 (22 day turn around)
 - File Complete: 8/2/18, II:
5. Allopathic School of Medicine
 - Secondary: Received – 7/3/18 Submitted 7/10/18 (7 day turn around)
6. Medical College
 - Secondary: Received – 7/5/18, Submitted 7/12/18 (7 day turn around)
 - File Complete: 7/12/18, II:
7. University of
 - Secondary: Received – 7/5/18, Submitted 7/12/18 (7 day turn around)
 - File Complete: 7/13/18, II;
8. & Science University
 - Secondary: Received – 7/2/18, Submitted 7/10/18 (8 day turn around)
 - File Complete: 7/31/18, II:

3. Open that email and take a look at what you're dealing with. Some secondaries I took 5 days to open and it turns out they were just a list of yes or no questions, no essays! What a waste of 5 days. More likely than not there will be essays. So, once you open the secondary just go ahead and answer the short yes or no questions and save

your answers. Then copy the essays into a word document. This quite literally saved my life. So many of those pages will delete what you've written. Plus you'll start writing the same things over and over so saving what you have will help you in the future.

Work on your essays in your spare time, but PLEASE do not take longer than 2 weeks to submit them. Imagine you are the medical school. You've sent a potential applicant an invitation to get to know more about them! Then they wait 6 weeks to reply. Wouldn't you be upset? Do yourself a huge favor and just submit them, preferably within 3-5 days but 2 weeks maximum.

Here's the big question that you have: Should I pre-write them? My answer? Sort of. I tried the whole going and prewriting all my essays but the problem was that most schools did change their prompts from year to year. I wrote way more essays than I needed to. Additionally, almost every school changes their character requirement for the essays so you end up spending hours cutting characters and making a choppy sounding essay. If I could do it over I would do this for pre-writing:

1. Write 3 diversity essay's, one with 150 words, one with 300 words, and one with 5,000 characters. This question will be asked in some form or another with the most common character requirements listed above. Essentially, "what diversity will you bring to our school and why is diversity important?"
2. Write 3 essays about a challenge you've overcome (NOT ACADEMIC). One with 150 words, one with 300 words, and one with 5,000 characters.
3. Write 3 essays about what you hope to specialize in/work in. One with 150 words, one with 300 words, and one with 5,000 characters.
4. Write 3 essays about "something else we don't know about you". One with 150 words, one with 300 words, and one with 5,000 characters.

IF YOU ARE A NON-TRAD or REAPPLICANT

5. Write three essays about what are you doing with your life while not taking classes (working, volunteering, family, etc.) One with 150 words, one with 300 words, and one with 5,000 characters.
6. Write three essays about how your application has changed from the last time you applied to medical school. One with 150 words, one with 300 words, and one with 5,000 characters.

Honestly, much pre-writing outside of those won't help you too much. But having those essays will save you lots of time on each secondary! Also, *important note* most schools want a nice headshot of you. Make sure you have a professional headshot ready to send with your secondary applications.



Once you submit your application, have a small pity party for the \$100 you spent and how many Starbucks drinks that you can buy with that money. Then record on your document that the application was submitted, the date you submitted it, the amount you paid, AND the website portal. Many schools will send you updates through their portal so I would check the portal every 1-2 weeks just to ensure they've gotten you letters of recommendation and MCAT scores verified.

Now... wait for an interview invitation! (This can take anywhere from 3 weeks to 6 months!)

Hopefully this gives you some good information about what to expect. Take a look at my other post about how to approach and answer different types of question!