

Academic Measurables

Who **could** be a physician? A person who has earned a medical degree and passed all US Medical Licensing Exams.

- **MCAT**

- The MCAT exam predicts performance on USMLE Step 1
- **511** College of Medicine average score for the 2026 matriculating class
- **500-524** The range of MCAT scores from the College of Medicine 2026 matriculating class
- It is recommended that applicants score in the 50th percentile or higher in each section to be considered most competitive

- **GPA**

- Predicts preparedness for medical school curriculum
 - **3.86** Average total GPA for the College of Medicine 2026 matriculating class
 - **3.81** Average BCPM (Science) GPA for the College of Medicine 2026 matriculating class
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Non-Academic Experiences and Characteristics

Who **would** be the best physician? A person who has committed themselves to serving others through the practice of medicine.

- **Personal Attributes**

Demonstrates characteristics such as honesty, integrity, compassion, adaptability, social and cultural humility, self-awareness, empathy, dependability.

- **Shadowing**

Observing/shadowing provides the opportunity to understand the relationship between a patient and physician. We recommend completing multiple shadowing experiences to be considered a competitive applicant.

- **Community Service/Volunteering**

Positively impacting communities in need by completing longitudinal hands-on service.

- **Interview Performance and Communication**

The ability to communicate effectively and convey ideas and motivations for pursuing a career in medicine. Demonstrate the ability to actively listen and respond to scenarios accordingly.

- **Research**

Develop a foundation of basic understanding in scientific inquiry.

- **Leadership**

Demonstrate responsibility and development in a specific role including but not limited to a campus organization, employment, or within your community.

- **Work Experience**

Employment experience in a clinical setting with direct patient care demonstrates an understanding of the commitment and work ethic needed to maintain a career in the medical field. We often see applicants with experience in the following roles: scribe, medical assistant, patient care technician/assistant, emergency medical technician, certified nursing assistant. Non-medical work experience can also be valuable.

Reflections

To understand your experiences and how to best communicate them, reflect on these questions:

- What did I take away from this specific experience?
 - How does this experience align with my goal to pursue medicine?
 - How did I grow in this experience and what lesson did I learn?
 - What moment or experience in my life has inspired me to become a physician?
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In-State vs. Out-of-State

As a state supported institution, the UT Health Sciences College of Medicine prioritizes Tennessee residents in the admission process. Approximately 15% of each entering class is comprised of out-of-state students. Our entering class generally includes around 185 students.

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Holistic Admission

Utilizing a holistic approach to admissions, we value many areas of an application such as academic measurables, personal and professional experiences, interview performance, and an applicant's journey to medicine.

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Reapplicants

The College of Medicine welcomes many successful reapplicants each year. Reapplying provides an opportunity to strengthen your application in meaningful ways, whether by enhancing academic metrics, gaining additional clinical, service, research, or leadership experiences, or submitting your application earlier in the admissions cycle. Because every applicant's journey is unique, the College of Medicine Office of Admissions offers individualized advising appointments each year for reapplicants. These sessions provide personalized feedback on a previous application and guidance on developing a stronger, more competitive application for the next admissions cycle.



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