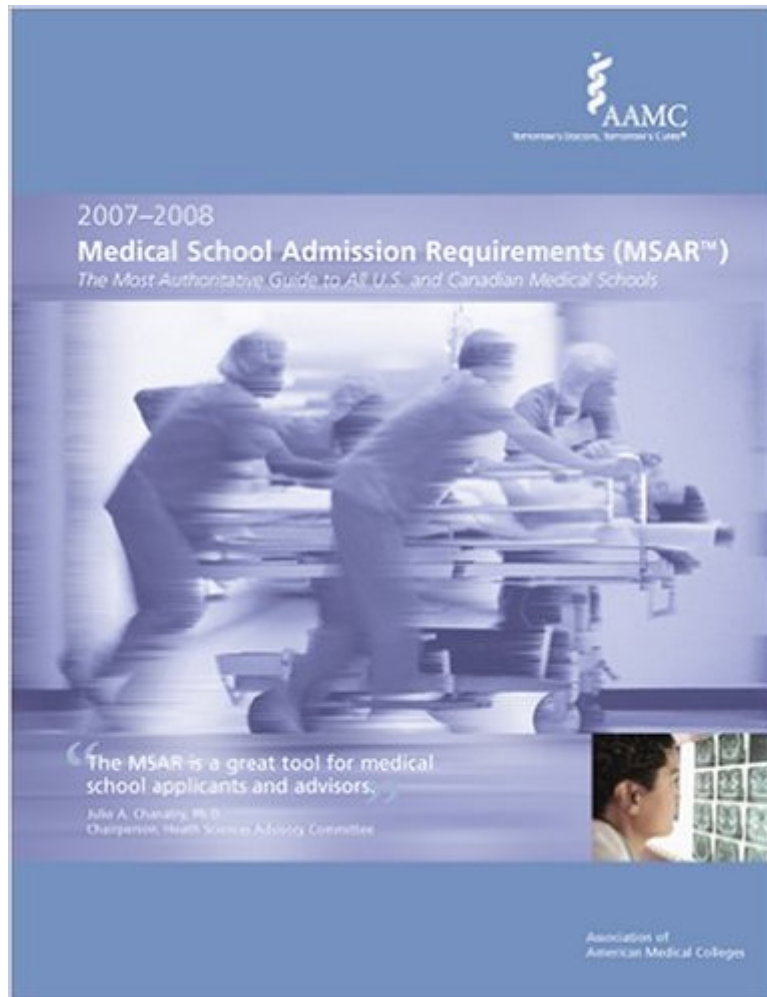


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Medical School Admission Requirements



Synopsis

This must-have book -- often called the "bible of medical school guides" -- is the #1 source for medical school applicants. The 2007-2008 edition features more information than ever before and has a completely new design to improve functionality and access to the information you need when applying to medical school. The MSAR is the #1 source for: Application procedures and deadlines Selection factors such as MCAT & GPA data Medical school class profiles Costs and financial aid packages MD/PhD and other combined degrees Graduates' specialty choices MSAR is the only resource fully authorized by medical schools.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is an almost comprehensive (A few US universities and a lot of Canadian schools didn't have their school data published) and highly useful book for pre-med students. It can usually be found in pre-med advising offices, but if it can't, it's definitely a good resource to own. The MSAR will help you get a good idea of what sort of GPA and MCAT scores are needed to get into a university. If you are interested in a multiple degree program like myself (MBA/MD), the MSAR will tell you which colleges/universities offer these combined degrees. (Note that this book doesn't tell you what sort of GRE/GMAT scores are necessary to get into these combined degree programs. Usually with programs that offer combined degrees, GRE/MCAT/GMAT scores are usually higher than if you were to apply to each school individually). Though this is a very good book it has some major flaws

that I hope the AAMC/MSAR address, some of the problems are highlighted below. Many of the numbers in this book are flawed for a few reasons. 1) A student who is applying from out of state to a public university has to get much better MCAT/GPA scores and shouldn't rely greatly on median acceptance scores listed in the MSAR as a basis of judgment for whether they can get into that university. (ie. If you're a student from Kansas applying to any of the University of California schools, you're going to have to get much higher scores than the California applicants to get in interviews.) 2) For many universities that have both undergrad and MD programs, the median GPA's will be off. For example, students that go to Indiana University or University of Florida will be the ones who usually apply to the respective medical schools.

Like the title says, you really must have this book if you are applying for the current cycle. The first few chapters explain the statistics for accepted students, and was quite the informative read. The bulk of the book gives you a two page description of each AMCAS affiliated medical school. On the first, the school's mission statement, curriculum, and geographical details. On the second, are numbers (MCAT, GPA, etc.) and deadlines specific to the school. Owning an MSAR before (I also applied in the entering class of 2005 cycle -- that makes me a blip on the graphs in this book!), it was quite interesting to see that medians instead of averages were used for MCAT and GPA considerations. While different by definition, I sort of treated this new fangled thing the same way. When the numbers are on the way high end of the slider, stay away, and if lower, consider. Do realize that the MSAR will only help you give a rough estimate on where you should apply based on numbers or school concentration. What I really found it useful for was the school organization by state, making it easier for me to organize my notes before submitting my application. This helps if you are especially interested in the regional considerations of going to a specific school. Though the MSAR does contain a summary of information for each specific school, I don't particularly recommend it as a sole source for the completion of secondary applications (once they come of course). Many of the med schools "look" the same on the surface, so use information given (a website or contact for example) as a springboard to more detailed and specific information on any given school. The same advice could go for interviews.

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