



As an advisor, there's certain information - dates, deadlines, program directories - that you want to have "at your fingertips". We've collated some of this information into this "fingertip guide" that you can use to advise your students, create your own handouts and publications, and otherwise stay up to date with information for a range of professions.

Version - December 6, 2023

	Multiple Degree Paths			Master's Degree-Level Programs			
Profession	<a href="#">Nursing</a>	<a href="#">Occupational Therapy</a>	<a href="#">Public Health</a>	<a href="#">Athletic Training</a>	<a href="#">Speech-Language Pathology</a>	<a href="#">Physician Assistant/Physician Associate</a>	<a href="#">Anesthesiologist Assistant</a>
Professional Association	<a href="#">AACN</a> American Association of Colleges of Nursing	<a href="#">AOTA</a> American Occupational Therapy Association	<a href="#">ASPPH</a> Association of Schools & Programs of Public Health	<a href="#">NATA</a> National Athletic Trainers' Association	<a href="#">ASHA</a> American Speech-Language Hearing Association	<a href="#">PAEA</a> PA Education Association	<a href="#">AAAA</a> American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants
School & Program Directory	<a href="#">AACN Member Program Directory</a>	<a href="#">AOTA School Directory</a>	<a href="#">ASPPH Academic Program Finder</a>	<a href="#">CAATE Program Directory</a>	<a href="#">ASHA EdFind Program Directory</a>	<a href="#">PAEA Program Directory</a>	<a href="#">AAAEP Members</a>
Standardized Exam Information							
These are the most common exams: check with individual programs for their specific requirements							
Standardized Exam	<a href="#">Graduate Record Exam (GRE)</a>	<a href="#">Graduate Record Exam (GRE)</a>	<a href="#">Graduate Record Exam (GRE)</a> Many no longer requiring	<a href="#">Graduate Record Exam (GRE)</a>	<a href="#">Graduate Record Exam (GRE)</a>	<a href="#">Graduate Record Exam (GRE)</a>	GRE MCAT
When is the exam offered?	Several times per month, year round	Several times per month, year round	Several times per month, year round	Several times per month, year round	Several times per month, year round	Several times per month, year round	MCAT = Eight months a year, 2-5 dates per month: January, March-September GRE = Several time per month, year round
Exam Fee Information	<a href="#">GRE Fees</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fees</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fees</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fees</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fees</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fees</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fees</a>
Exam Fee Assistance URL	<a href="#">GRE Fee Reduction Program</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fee Reduction Program</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fee Reduction Program</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fee Reduction Program</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fee Reduction Program</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fee Reduction Program</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fee Reduction Program</a>
Application Service Information							
Centralized Application Service (CAS)	<a href="#">NursingCAS Nursing's Centralized Application Service</a>	<a href="#">OTCAS Occupational Therapy Centralized Application Service</a>	<a href="#">SOPHAS The centralized application service for schools &amp; programs of public health</a>	<a href="#">ATCAS Athletic Training Centralized Application Service</a>	<a href="#">CSDCAS Communication Sciences &amp; Disorders Centralized Application Service</a>	<a href="#">CASPA Central Application Service for Physician Assistants</a>	<a href="#">CASAA Central Application Service for Anesthesiologist Assistants</a>
Do all accredited schools/programs participate?	No - apply to non-participating programs directly	<a href="#">No - apply to non-participating programs directly</a>	<a href="#">No - apply to non-participating programs directly</a>	<a href="#">No - apply to non-participating programs directly</a>	<a href="#">No - apply to non-participating programs directly</a>	<a href="#">No - apply to non-participating programs directly</a>	Yes
CAS Opens	<a href="#">Late August</a>	<a href="#">Mid-July</a>	<a href="#">Mid August</a>	<a href="#">Late June</a>	<a href="#">Mid-July</a>	<a href="#">Last Thursday in April</a>	Early March
CAS First Date To Submit	CAS is available continuously	As soon as CAS opens	August 16, 2023	Institutions select own deadlines			typically 3/10

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<b>CAS First Date Transmitted to Schools</b>	When application is submitted	When application is submitted	When application is submitted	When application is submitted			
<b>Application Deadlines</b>	Varies by program	June	Varies by program	Institutions select own deadlines	November through April for Fall start	<a href="#">June through April</a>	typically 2/28
<b>CAS Application Fee Information URL</b>	<a href="#">NursingCAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">OTCAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">SOPHAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">ATCAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">CSDCAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">CASPA Fees</a>	<a href="#">CASAA Fee Schedule &amp; Waiver Program</a>
<b>CAS Income-Based Application Fee Assistance</b>	<a href="#">Covers single application; limited quantity</a>	<a href="#">Covers single application; limited quantity</a>	<a href="#">Covers single application; limited quantity. Financial- and service-based waivers offered.</a>	Offers discount/fee waivers for those eligible	<a href="#">Covers single application; limited quantity</a>	<a href="#">Covers first two programs; limited quantity</a>	Covers initial (single) application; limited quantity
<b>CAS Contact Info</b>	<a href="#">NursingCAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">OTCAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">SOPHAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">ATCAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">CSDCAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">CASPA Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">CASAA Applicant Help Center</a>
General Information & Resources							
<b>Top Link for Students</b>	<a href="#">Resources for Students</a>	<a href="#">Become an Occupational Therapist</a>	<a href="#">This is Public Health</a>	<a href="#">Career and Education</a>	<a href="#">Information for Students</a>	<a href="#">Advisor &amp; Pre-PA Resources</a>	<a href="#">Anesthesiologist Assistant - FAQs</a>
<b>Professional Degree(s)</b>	Most common are Bachelors (BSN), Masters (MSN), Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), Doctorate (PhD) See NursingCAS Compare Degrees PDF	Master's and Doctoral degrees	Many including Masters (MPH, MS, MHA), Doctorate (DrPH, PhD)	Master's degrees	Master's degree	Master's degree (specific credentials vary by program)	Master's degree (MSA, MMSc, MHSc)
<b>Years to Degree</b>	One or more depending on program	Two or more depending on degree	Generally 1-3 (masters), 4-7 (doctoral)	Generally 2	Two	24-27 months on average	24-28 months
Advisor Information & Resources							
<b>Resources for Advisors</b>		<a href="#">Become an occupational therapy practitioner</a>	<a href="#">ASPPH - Study</a>	<a href="#">Athletic Training</a>	<a href="#">Information for Students for Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Careers</a>	<a href="#">Advisor &amp; Pre-PA Resources</a>	<a href="#">CASAA Help Center</a>
<b>CAS Advisor Portal Info</b>	<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>	<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>	<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>	<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>		<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>	<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>
<b>Most Recent Update</b>	February 2024	January 2023	January 2023	March 2023	March 2023	March 2023	January 2023

	Doctoral-Level Programs											
Profession	<a href="#">Dental Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Optometry</a>	<a href="#">Pharmacy</a>	<a href="#">Veterinary Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Allopathic Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary – Texas Schools</a>	<a href="#">Osteopathic Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Podiatric Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Audiology</a>	<a href="#">Physical Therapy</a>	<a href="#">Naturopathic Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Public Health</a>
Professional Association	<a href="#">ADEA</a> American Dental Education Association	<a href="#">ASCO</a> Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry	<a href="#">AAPP</a> American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy	<a href="#">AAVMC</a> American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges	<a href="#">AAMC</a> Association of American Medical Colleges		<a href="#">AACOM</a> American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine	<a href="#">AACPM</a> American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine	<a href="#">ASHA</a> American Speech-Language Hearing Association	<a href="#">APTA</a> American Physical Therapy Association	<a href="#">AANMC</a> Assoc. of Naturopathic Medicine Colleges	<a href="#">ASPPH</a> Association of Schools & Programs of Public Health
School & Program Directory	<a href="#">Deciding where to apply</a> <a href="#">ADEA Dental Explorer</a>	<a href="#">ASCO Map</a>	<a href="#">PharmCAS School Directory</a>	<a href="#">Veterinary Medical School Admission Requirements (VMSAR)</a>	<a href="#">AAMC Member Directory</a> <a href="#">Medical School Admissions Requirements</a>		<a href="#">AACOM Member List</a>	<a href="#">AACPM Member List</a>	<a href="#">ASHA EdFind Program Directory</a>	<a href="#">PTCAS Program Directory</a>	<a href="#">AANMC Member List</a>	<a href="#">ASPPH Academic Program Finder</a>
Standardized Exam Information												
Standardized Exam	<a href="#">Dental Admission Test (DAT)</a>	<a href="#">Optometry Admission Test (OAT)</a>	There is currently no standardized entrance exam.	<a href="#">Graduate Record Exam (GRE)</a> Only 2 schools require the GRE	<a href="#">Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT)</a>	Varies based on profession	<a href="#">Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT)</a>	<a href="#">Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT)</a>	<a href="#">Graduate Record Exam (GRE)</a>	<a href="#">Graduate Record Exam (GRE)</a>	<a href="#">Graduate Record Exam (GRE)</a>	<a href="#">Graduate Record Exam (GRE)</a> Many no longer requiring
When is the exam offered?	Year-round	Year-round	N/A	Several times per month, year round	<a href="#">Eight months a year, 2-5 dates per month: January, March-September</a>	Varies based on profession	Eight months a year, 2-5 dates per month: January, March-September	Eight months a year, 2-5 dates per month: January, March-September	Several times per month, year round	Several times per month, year round	Several times per month, year round	Several times per month, year round
Exam Fee Information	<a href="#">See DAT Guide</a>	<a href="#">See OAT Guide</a>	N/A	<a href="#">GRE Fees</a>	<a href="#">MCAT Scheduling Fees</a>	Varies based on profession	<a href="#">MCAT Scheduling Fees</a>	<a href="#">MCAT Scheduling Fees</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fees</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fees</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fees</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fees</a>
Exam Fee Assistance URL	<a href="#">DAT Fee Waiver</a>	<a href="#">OAT Fee Waiver</a>	N/A	<a href="#">GRE Fee Reduction Program</a>	<a href="#">AAMC Fee Assistance</a>	Varies based on profession	<a href="#">AAMC Fee Assistance</a>	<a href="#">MCAT Scheduling Fees</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fee Reduction Program</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fee Reduction Program</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fee Reduction Program</a>	<a href="#">GRE Fee Reduction Program</a>
Application Service Information												

	Doctoral-Level Programs											
Profession	<a href="#">Dental Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Optometry</a>	<a href="#">Pharmacy</a>	<a href="#">Veterinary Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Allopathic Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary – Texas Schools</a>	<a href="#">Osteopathic Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Podiatric Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Audiology</a>	<a href="#">Physical Therapy</a>	<a href="#">Naturopathic Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Public Health</a>
Centralized Application Service (CAS)	<a href="#">ADEA AADSAS Associated American Dental Schools Application Service</a>	<a href="#">OptomCAS Optometry Centralized Application Service</a>	<a href="#">PharmCAS Pharmacy College Application Service</a>	<a href="#">VMCAS Veterinary Medical College Application Service</a>	<a href="#">AMCAS American Medical College Application Service</a>	<a href="#">TMDSAS Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service</a>	<a href="#">AACOMAS American Assoc. of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service</a>	<a href="#">AACPMAS American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine Application Service</a>	<a href="#">CSDCAS Communication Sciences &amp; Disorders Centralized Application Service</a>	<a href="#">PTCAS Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service</a>	<a href="#">NDCAS Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine Centralized Application Service</a>	<a href="#">SOPHAS The centralized application service for schools &amp; programs of public health</a>
Do all schools/programs participate?	Yes - either ADEA AADSAS or TMDSAS	Yes	Most, but not all, pharmacy schools participate in PharmCAS	Yes - either VMCAS or TMDSAS	Yes - either AMCAS or TMDSAS	Yes	Yes - either AACOMAS or TMDSAS	10 of 11 member schools participate	No - apply to non-participating programs directly	<a href="#">No - apply to non-participating programs directly</a>	<a href="#">No - apply to non-participating programs directly</a>	<a href="#">No - apply to non-participating programs directly</a>
CAS Opens	<a href="#">Early May</a>	<a href="#">Late June</a>	<a href="#">Mid-July</a>	Late January	<a href="#">Early May</a>	<a href="#">Early May</a>	<a href="#">Early May</a>	Early August	<a href="#">Mid-July</a>	<a href="#">Mid-June</a>	<a href="#">Early September</a>	<a href="#">Mid August</a>
CAS First Date To Submit	Early June	As soon as CAS opens	As soon as CAS opens		Late May	<a href="#">Mid May</a>	Early May	Early August				August 16, 2023
CAS First Date Transmitted to Schools	After application is verified	After application is verified	Schools can view upon submission and GPAs after verification		Late June	<a href="#">Mid May</a>	Early May	Early May				When application is submitted
Application Deadlines	<a href="#">Latest are February</a>	<a href="#">December through May</a>	<a href="#">Priority Deadlines: as early as October; Regular Deadlines: November through June</a>	September	<a href="#">August through December</a>	<a href="#">Varies by program</a>	<a href="#">December through April</a>	April through June	April for Fall start	October through May	Varies	Varies by program
CAS Application Fee Information URL	<a href="#">2022–23 ADEA AADSAS Application Cycle Updates</a>	<a href="#">OptomCAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">PharmCAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">VMCAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">AMCAS Certification and Fees</a>	<a href="#">TMDSAS Certification and Fees</a>	<a href="#">AACOMAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">AACPMAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">CSDCAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">PTCAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">NDCAS Fees</a>	<a href="#">SOPHAS Fees</a>

	Doctoral-Level Programs											
Profession	<a href="#">Dental Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Optometry</a>	<a href="#">Pharmacy</a>	<a href="#">Veterinary Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Allopathic Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary – Texas Schools</a>	<a href="#">Osteopathic Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Podiatric Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Audiology</a>	<a href="#">Physical Therapy</a>	<a href="#">Naturopathic Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Public Health</a>
CAS Income-Based Application Fee Assistance	<a href="#">Covers three schools; limited quantity</a>	<a href="#">Some programs provide coupon codes</a>	<a href="#">Covers single application; limited quantity</a>	<a href="#">Covers initial fee; limited quantity of secondary fee waiver</a>	<a href="#">AAMC Fee Assistance Program (FAP) covers AMCAS fees for 20 school designations.</a>	None	<a href="#">Covers single application; limited quantity</a>	<a href="#">Covers single application; limited quantity, first come, first serve</a>	<a href="#">Covers single application; limited quantity</a>	<a href="#">Covers single application; limited quantity</a>	None	<a href="#">Covers single application; limited quantity. Financial- and service-based waivers offered.</a>
CAS Contact Info	<a href="#">ADEA AADSAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">OptomCAS Contact Us</a>	<a href="#">PharmCAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">VMCAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">AMCAS Contact Us</a>	<a href="#">TMDSAS Contact Us</a>	<a href="#">AACOMAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">AACPMAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">CSDCAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">PTCAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">NDCAS Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">SOPHAS Customer Service</a>
General Information & Resources												
Top Link for Students	<a href="#">ADEA GoDental</a>	<a href="#">Resources for Applicants and Advisors</a>	<a href="#">Pharmacy is Right for Me</a>	<a href="#">Becoming a Veterinarian</a>	<a href="#">AAMC: Students &amp; Residents</a>	<a href="#">TMDSAS Homepage</a>	<a href="#">Choose DO</a>	<a href="#">Become a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine</a>	<a href="#">Information for Students</a>	<a href="#">Careers in Physical Therapy</a>	<a href="#">Resources for Prospective Students</a>	<a href="#">This is Public Health</a>
Professional Degree(s)	Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) or Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)	Doctor of Optometry (OD)	Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)	Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) or Veterinary Medical Doctor (VMD)	Doctor of Medicine (MD)	See Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary profession entries	Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)	Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM)	Doctor of Audiology (AuD)	Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)	Naturopathic Doctor (ND)	Many including Masters (MPH, MS, MHA), Doctorate (DrPH, PhD)
Years to Degree	Four	Four	3-4 years for PharmD after 2-4 years of college	Four	Traditionally four; some three-year programs	Varies based on profession	Four	Four	3-4 years, depending on program	Four	Four	Generally 1-3 (masters), 4-7 (doctoral)
Advisor Information & Resources												
Resources for Advisors	<a href="#">Advisor Page</a>	<a href="#">Resources for Applicants and Advisors</a>	<a href="#">Resources for Applicants and Advisors</a>	<a href="#">Advisor Page</a>	<a href="#">Advisor Page</a>	<a href="#">Advisor Page</a>	<a href="#">Advisor Page</a>	<a href="#">ExplorePodMed</a>	<a href="#">Information for Students in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology</a>		<a href="#">Advisor Page</a>	<a href="#">ASPPH - Study</a>
CAS Advisor Portal Info	<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>	<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>	<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>	<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>	<a href="#">AAMC AIS</a>		<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>	<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>		<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>	<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>	<a href="#">Universal Advisor Portal</a>
Most Recent Update	January 2023	January 2023	February 2024	March 2023	January 2023	January 2023	January 2023	December 2023	March 2023	January 2023	January 2023	January 2023