



JHU Supplement to the TMDSAS Application Entry Year 2026

General Tips

- Visit the [TMDSAS website](#) for information about applying to health professions schools in Texas (allopathic, osteopathic, dental, and podiatry)
- Use the [TMDSAS Application Guide](#)! It's helpful to open this resource as you fill out each portion of the application.
- You do not submit your transcript to TMDSAS until AFTER they are requested
- TMDSAS calculates your GPA differently from AMCAS and JHU. They do not weigh the pluses or minuses after the letter grade. Don't be alarmed if your cumulative GPA is not the same as on your JHU transcript.
 - A+, A, A- are all equally calculated as a 4.0; B+, B, B- are all equally calculated as a 3.0; etc.
- TMDSAS operates on a slightly earlier timeline than AMCAS. See [HERE](#) for application timelines.
- Contact TMDSAS liaisons for specific questions--they are very helpful to applicants.

Before Applying

- Review TMDSAS course requirements.
- TMDSAS has course requirements that most of the affiliated school's use. Dell, Baylor, and UTSW have slightly different requirements.
- Some schools (such as [UTMB](#)) have a strict six-credit English requirement and will not accept another writing-intensive class from a non-English department in its place.
- Verify that you qualify for Texas residency if you plan to apply as a Texas resident. Texas public medical schools must abide by state laws that require 90% of their incoming class to be in-state students.

Brief Overview: Process of Determining Residency

When you submit your TMDSAS application, the system determines initial residency. When in processing, a residency specialist will review the application in greater detail to either confirm or change the residency determination. Click [HERE](#) for information concerning residency rules and regulations.

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Types of Texas Residency

Type One: Residency through High School Graduation

This option for establishing Texas residency is available to U.S. Citizens or permanent residents of the United States as well as to international students who have [certain eligible visa types](#).

To establish residency in this way, you must have:

- 1) Graduated from a Texas high school OR received a GED in Texas; and
- 2) Lived in Texas for the 36 months immediately before high school graduation; and
- 3) Lived in Texas continuously for the 12 months immediately preceding the application deadline.

Type Two: Residency by Establishing Domicile

This option for establishing Texas residency is available to:

- 1) U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States; or
- 2) Non-Citizens and non-permanent residents may also use this option if they have an [application for permanent residency on file with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services](#); or
- 3) International students who hold an [eligible visa](#).

Source: [TMDSAS](#)

The following information is important to consider if you are taking a bridge year and spending it OUTSIDE of Texas and intend on applying as a Texas resident:

- You may only spend up to 12 months out of state if you are an independent taxpayer (which you will likely be after graduation if you are not enrolled in graduate school) on “temporary work.”
 - You can reach out to TMDSAS with questions about your residency. Most likely, you will be asked for paperwork to verify your residency if needed (ex: a letter from your employer stating that your current employment position is temporary).
 - It’s a good idea to reach out to TMDSAS regarding residency questions sooner rather than later in the process.

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TMDSAS Application

1. Select Schools

- a. Select the Medical, Dental, or Veterinary schools to which you are applying.
- b. Indicate next to the school if you intend to apply to any dual degree programs (ex. MD-MPH, MD-PhD).
- c. Indicate if you intend to apply to any schools via other application services (ex: AMCAS).

2. Personal

- a. This section is self-explanatory. This is where you enter information about you and your family.
- b. Make sure that you update your current mailing address if you move. Some medical schools will send interview day packets to the current address you have on file, so make sure it's updated.

3. Education History

- a. This section is self-explanatory. This is where you enter information regarding high schools, colleges, or universities.
 - i. You will need to report your SAT or ACT score (both overall and subsections). Official reports are not required.
 - ii. For those who have dual degrees, you must choose a primary Major and then list your secondary major or minor in the corresponding sections. Save the section to see it populate.
 - iii. Different degrees from the same school (e.g., 3+1 BME or MS/MA degree). You must add college again and select the advanced degree separately.

4. Coursework section

- a. For each course, you will need to enter the following information: Status, Type, Prefix, Number, Name, Area, Hours, Grade, "Last Taken."
- b. Ensure that your "Course Area" is consistent with the TMDSAS's [course listing website](#) – TMDSAS lists the Hopkins courses classified as BCPM [HERE](#)
 - i. Follow the [TMDSAS Guidebook](#) when doing this section. That's where you will find information about how to enter AP classes, classes that are graded S/U, etc.
 - ii. *You must ensure that you are not classifying courses that are not listed on this site as BCPM classes unless you have received confirmation from a TMDSAS liaison. Otherwise, your application processing will be delayed.*

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iii. However, you will not be penalized for incorrect course areas!

- c. Intersession courses are entered during the winter term.
- d. You can list the course area as “English” for courses designated as writing-intensive on your JHU transcript (ex: Intro to Bioethics).

5. Employment and Activities

- a. Review the [Personal Biography & Activities](#) closely to enter activities correctly.
- b. This section is much shorter than the AMCAS Work/Activities section. You can add as many activities as you wish, but each activity description can be no longer than **300 characters**. You can designate 3 “most meaningful” activities, for which you will get another **500 characters** of description.
- c. In some cases, you can list the same activity in multiple sections but under different sections. However, do not copy and paste the same description when writing about the same entries.
- d. *Wait until the end to populate this section of your application. You can only populate the chronology ONE TIME. Go to #12 to see what chronology activities is specifically*

6. Essays

- a. Required Personal Statement
 - i. Explain your motivation to seek a career in MEDICINE/DENTISTRY. Be sure to include the value of your experiences that prepare you to be a physician (5000 char)
- b. Required Personal Characteristics Essay
 - i. Learning from others is enhanced in educational settings that include individuals from diverse backgrounds and experiences. Please describe your personal characteristics (background, talents, skills, etc.) or experiences that would add to the educational experience of others. (2500 char)
- c. Optional Essay (*don't treat this as optional!)
 - i. Briefly discuss any unique circumstances or life experiences that are relevant to your application which have not previously been presented. (2500 char)

7. Upload Photo

- a. You will need to upload a photo of yourself (100KB). You are not able to change this after it has been uploaded and accepted. It does not have to be a professional photo, but make sure that you look presentable. Examples of do's and don'ts are provided in the TMDSAS handbook and website. Information [HERE](#) to answer FAQs

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8. Test Dates

- a. You will need to submit your official MCAT score to TMDSAS, following the instructions in the handbook or on [this website](#).

9. Letters of Evaluation

- a. If you are receiving a Johns Hopkins University Committee Letter, please choose “Health Professions Committee Letter/Package.” Please note that you only need to select Johns Hopkins University as the institution; **you do not need to enter anyone's contact information.**

10. Chronology of Activities

- a. **Wait until the end to populate this section of your application. You can only populate the chronology ONE TIME.**
 - i. The chronology just puts together an abbreviated activities and classes into a timeline at the end of your application. ***However, if you populate the chronology and then go back and make changes to any previous sections, you must manually update the chronology each time. Just wait until you are done editing everything else before you do this section.***
 - ii. If you have a greater than 3-month gap of time with no enrollment or activities, this will give you an error. Read [HERE](#) how to resolve this if you encounter this issue.

11. Residency

- a. Here, you answer questions that will determine if you are a Texas resident.
- b. The TMDSAS system will automatically classify you as a Resident or Non-Resident. Then, TMDSAS Liaisons will review each application to verify that that the system’s classification was correct.
- c. If you think you were incorrectly classified as a Non-Resident, you have the opportunity to appeal your residency status to TMDSAS.

12. Certification & Payment

- a. Only do this after reviewing your application, and it is ready for submission. Once you pay, your application will be considered completed.

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After Applying

- Complete Secondaries
 - *If you are applying to the Texas A&M College of Medicine, you must go to their admissions website to create an account and submit your secondary. Texas A&M will **not** email you secondary. You must initiate the process yourself. See [HERE](#) for information.
- Texas medical schools will begin to extend interview invites starting in mid-July. Check both your email and phone voicemail as some schools call candidates to give them an interview invite.

TMDSAS Match Process (after receiving acceptance offers)

- Read about the match process [HERE](#).
- If you complete an interview with a TMDSAS medical school, it will be noted on your TMDSAS application.
- You must rank your interviewed schools by the rank deadline. This is imperative. **If you forget to submit your rank choices, you will be automatically left out of the TMDSAS match and will not match into any TMDSAS school** (including schools where you received a pre-match offer).
- You may receive pre-match starting October 15th.

If you have additional questions regarding TMDSAS, whether pertaining to coursework, activities, in-state residency, matching, etc., we suggest you contact [TMDSAS](#) directly.

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