Matriculating Student Questionnaire

2017 All Schools Summary Report

December 2017

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2017 AAMC Matriculating Student Questionnaire
All Schools Summary Report & Individual School Report

Executive Summary

Background

The Matriculating Student Questionnaire (MSQ) is administered annually by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and collects information about entering medical students for the purpose of helping U.S. LCME-accredited medical schools improve medical education. The MSQ reports serve as benchmarking tools, and feedback from the MSQ helps medical schools plan their educational programs to fit the needs of their students. The *All Schools Summary Report* presents national data from the 2017 MSQ and includes national data from the 2015 and 2016 MSQs for comparison purposes, where comparison data are available. Some counts may change slightly from previous MSQ reports due to updates made to the MSQ data file. Copies of the *All Schools Summary Report* and the survey tool are publicly available on the AAMC website at www.aamc.org/data/msq.

In addition to receiving the *All Schools Summary Report*, each medical school is separately issued its own MSQ school report, which displays data for the medical school as well as the national data. By request, regional campuses and programs that offer specialized medical training under the aegis of an accredited institution are also issued MSQ campus reports if there are five or more student respondents from that campus or program. Campus reports are produced for each of the requested campuses and display data for the campus as well as data for the parent medical school (which includes data for all campuses combined). School and campus reports are made available to schools' authorized Student Surveys contacts, who have access via the AAMC Medical School Profile System (MSPS) web application at https://services.aamc.org/mspsreports. New requests for campus-level MSQ reports can be directed to msq@aamc.org.

Methodology

The 2017 MSQ was open from June 1 through September 15, 2017. There were 21,996 individuals invited to participate via email in the 2017 MSQ online survey. These individuals were accepted for 2017 admission to any of the 147 U.S. LCME-accredited medical schools that enrolled students in 2017, including two new institutions enrolling students for the first time in 2017 (University of Nevada Las Vegas, School of Medicine and Washington State University Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine).

The 2017 MSQ *All Schools Summary Report* includes responses from 13,868 individuals who consented to participate in the survey. Of these, 13,852 were ultimately 2017 matriculants (representing 64.9 percent of the 21,338 matriculants in 2017). The additional 16 respondents had effective matriculation dates prior to 2017, or were second-time enrollees who were asked by their medical schools to complete the 2017 MSQ. Excluded from the report are the 124 survey respondents who participated in the MSQ but did not matriculate to medical school in the 2017-2018 academic year. Survey data for participating individuals may not be comparable to data for non-participants. Comparing response rates among the 147 schools with matriculating students in 2017, there were two medical schools achieving a 100 percent response rate among its matriculants; 24 medical schools with response rates between 90 percent and 99 percent; 43 medical schools with response rates between 70 percent and 89 percent; 42 medical schools with response rates between 50 percent and 69 percent; 28 medical schools with response rates between 25 percent and 49 percent; and eight medical schools with a response rate below 25 percent. Through a variety of measures, medical schools independently encouraged matriculating students to participate in the MSQ. The AAMC also sent notifications to these same students.

The MSQ includes questions used to better understand the lifestyles and personal characteristics of entering medical students. Some of these questions measure items such as tolerance for ambiguity, empathic concern, quality of life,

and perceived stress. The scales included in the MSQ were chosen because prior research has shown how the corresponding measures impact medical education and medical care. Descriptions of each scale are provided within the *All Schools Summary Report*, since the number of items in each scale, and the way the scales are calculated, differ. A reliability estimate (Cronbach's alpha) is also provided as a measure of internal consistency, where applicable.

Percentages displayed in the report may not sum to 100 due to rounding or to questions permitting more than one response. All percentages are rounded. As a result, a percentage of "0.0" does not necessarily indicate that no student responded to that survey option.

MSQ Content Changes

The MSQ continues to evolve as part of ongoing efforts to re-engineer and align the AAMC Student Surveys. For example, extensive changes were made to the content of the MSQ in 2013. In addition, minor changes were made to the MSQ in 2015, 2016, and 2017. For new survey items, comparisons to prior years cannot be made. Blank rows and columns indicate that comparable data are not available.

Only one change was made to the 2017 MSQ. The question asking participants to provide an estimate of the current average salary for the specialty of interest was removed.

Selected Findings

The selected findings below reflect key items about matriculants that have been of interest to members of the academic medicine community; however, readers may also wish to examine the other items about matriculants that the tables in the report contain.

Financial Consideration Findings are Consistent from 2015 to 2017, with 35 Percent of Matriculants Reporting Educational Debt.

In 2017, 35.3 percent of MSQ participants entered medical school already carrying educational debt. This represents similar findings from 2015 (35.8 percent) and 2016 (35.7 percent). For those carrying educational debt, the median total debt in 2017 remained the same as reported in 2016, $27,000. The median parental income reported in 2017 by new medical students also remained steady at $125,000.

The Age of MSQ Participants at Matriculation Continues to Rise.

The percentage of respondents aged 23 to 25 increased to 48.7 percent in 2017 (up from 46.4 percent in 2015 and 46.9 percent in 2016), and respondents aged 20 to 22 upon matriculation dropped from 35.7 percent in 2016 to 34.5 percent in 2017. Similarly, well over half (62.6 percent) of new matriculants reported that more than a year had passed since graduating from college (up from 59.9 in 2015 and 60.6 in 2016).

Over One-third of Matriculants are Interested in Primary Care Specialties and Subspecialties.

In 2017, 35.3 percent of new medical students indicated plans to enter Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Internal Medicine/Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, or Pediatrics specialties or subspecialties. Of those who indicated an interest in those specialty areas, 48.3 percent are considering a career in a subspecialty, 27.5 percent are considering a career in primary care practice, 6.1 percent are considering a career as a hospitalist, and 18.0 percent are undecided.

Matriculants are Interested in Working in Patient Care While Still Considering Work/Life Balance.

Almost all 2017 MSQ participants (98.3 percent) indicated plans to participate in patient care during their career. Of those respondents, 17.7 percent anticipate working in patient care on a part-time basis (less than 36 hours a week). Over three-fifths (62.2 percent) of MSQ participants indicated plans to participate in research during their career. Only 1.8 percent of 2017 MSQ participants who indicated plans to participate in research during their career expect to be involved in research on a full-time basis. Of those participants, 41.1 percent expect to be "significantly involved" in research.

When asked to think about career paths after medical school, "work/life balance" (47.0 percent), having a "stable, secure future" (41.9 percent), and the "ability to pay off debt" (41.4 percent) were most frequently cited as "essential" considerations. The career consideration that was most frequently reported as "not important" to new medical students was "social recognition or status" (37.9 percent).

The Median Number of Secondary/Supplemental Applications Rose to 15 Applications in 2017.

In 2017, the median number of secondary/supplemental applications completed rose from 14 applications in 2016 to 15 applications in 2017. Furthermore, nearly 18 percent (17.5 percent) of MSQ respondents indicated submitting 25 or more secondary/supplemental applications. When asked, in total, how much was spent on secondary/supplemental applications, the median cost reported by MSQ participants was $1,100. The median number of interviews offered was four, while the median number of interviews attended by MSQ respondents was three interviews. The median cost reported for attending those interviews rose to $700 in 2017. Additionally, over 20 percent (23.2 percent) of MSQ respondents reported spending $2,000 or more on interviews during the medical school application process.

Medical School Matriculants Self-Report their Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation.

The percentage of those reporting a different gender identity from their sex assigned at birth in 2017 was 0.6 percent. MSQ participants were also asked to self-identify their sexual orientation. In 2017, 7.8 percent reported being "Bisexual" or "Gay or lesbian," compared with 6.9 percent reported in 2016 and 6.3 percent reported in 2015.

Providing Feedback

We encourage constituents to provide feedback regarding the MSQ reports. If you would like to provide feedback, please contact msq@aamc.org, or Lindsay Roskovensky, Senior Research and Data Analyst, Data Operations and Services (lroskovensky@aamc.org).

	All Medical Schools		
	2015	**2016**	**2017**
Total number of students who responded to the questionnaire:	13,840	13,486	13,868

1. Sex:
Note: This information is populated from other AAMC data sources (e.g., AMCAS).

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Male	50.2	48.1	47.2
Female	49.8	51.9	52.8
Number of respondents	13,837	13,485	13,860

2. Age at matriculation:
Note: This information is populated from other AAMC data sources (e.g., AMCAS).

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Under 20	0.1	0.2	0.1
20 through 22	36.4	35.7	34.5
23 through 25	46.4	46.9	48.7
26 through 28	11.3	11.1	11.0
Over 28	5.8	6.1	5.7
Number of respondents	13,840	13,486	13,868
Median age at matriculation	23	23	23

3. How do you self-identify?
Note: This information is populated from other AAMC data sources (e.g., AMCAS). Percentages may not sum to 100% as multiple responses are allowed. Race/ethnicity data are only displayed for U.S. citizens and permanent residents.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.9	0.9	0.9
Asian	22.9	23.1	24.7
Black or African American	7.4	8.1	7.4
Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin	9.4	10.1	10.1
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.3	0.3	0.3
White	62.1	62.7	61.7
Other	3.4	3.1	3.3
Non-US citizen and Non-permanent resident	1.5	1.3	1.2
Number of respondents	13,689	13,411	13,743

All Medical Schools

	2015	2016	2017

4. What is your current marital status?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Single (never legally married)	90.9	90.5	91.4
Legally married	8.1	8.5	7.8
Common law or civil union	0.3	0.4	0.3
Divorced	0.5	0.4	0.4
Separated, but still legally married	0.1	0.1	0.2
Widowed	0.0	0.1	0.0
Number of respondents	12,372	11,960	12,522

5. How many dependents do you have (not including a spouse/partner)?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
None	96.8	96.9	97.3
One	1.9	1.9	1.5
Two	0.9	0.9	0.7
Three	0.3	0.2	0.3
Four or more	0.1	0.1	0.1
Number of respondents	12,374	11,954	12,517

6. When did you definitely decide that you wanted to study medicine?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Before high school	19.9	20.5	21.4
During high school/before college	30.5	31.6	31.7
During the first two years of college	23.7	22.7	22.2
During junior year in college	10.2	10.3	10.0
During senior year in college	4.1	3.7	3.7
After receiving a bachelor's degree	9.7	9.2	9.2
After receiving an advanced degree	1.9	1.9	1.9
Number of respondents	13,699	13,339	13,711

All Medical Schools

	2015	2016	2017

7. Please indicate any experiences in which you have participated. Note: Percentages may not sum to 100% as multiple responses are allowed.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Middle school pre-medical or science program	9.5	10.1	9.9
Magnet science/health science high school	7.0	7.1	7.2
Summer laboratory research apprenticeship for high school students	12.5	12.6	12.1
Classroom-based summer, after-school, or Saturday pre-medical program for high school students	8.4	8.4	8.1
Laboratory research apprenticeship for college students	59.9	60.5	59.6
Summer academic enrichment program for college students	14.6	14.0	14.7
MCAT preparation course	58.6	57.7	57.1
Non-degree post baccalaureate program to strengthen academic skills	6.6	7.3	7.1
Non-degree post baccalaureate program to complete pre-medical requirements	9.7	9.2	8.9
Volunteered in the healthcare field	92.1	92.6	92.5
Volunteered in a non-healthcare field	86.2	87.5	87.8
International volunteer experience	36.3	35.6	36.2
Shadowed a physician or other healthcare professional	93.9	95.2	94.6
None of the above	0.2	0.2	0.2
Number of respondents	13,682	13,327	13,696

8. How many times did you take the MCAT prior to getting accepted into medical school?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Once	60.1	62.6	65.1
Twice	28.0	26.0	23.8
Three or more times	9.7	9.3	8.9
None	2.2	2.1	2.2
Number of respondents	13,682	13,307	13,697

9. Did your scores improve after retaking the MCAT? Note: Only those who responded "Twice" or "Three or more times" to Q8 could respond to this item.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	86.7	89.0	90.7
No	13.3	11.0	9.3
Number of respondents	5,133	4,677	4,465

	All Medical Schools		
	2015	**2016**	**2017**

10. What was the major cause of the improvement?
Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to Q9 could respond to this item.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
I did nothing differently	11.3	9.8	7.7
Taking online MCAT practice exams	21.4	19.3	22.9
Taking an MCAT preparation course	15.2	16.3	15.0
Taking additional course work	6.8	8.1	8.6
Private tutoring	3.3	3.7	2.8
Changing my personal study habits (please describe)	41.3	42.2	42.3
Getting specific advice from a health advisor (please describe)	0.8	0.7	0.7
Number of respondents	4,435	4,153	4,035

11. During your undergraduate experience, how often did you gain a deeper understanding of other perspectives through conversations with fellow students because:
Note: Respondents who indicated "Somewhat often," "Often," or "Very often" are combined and displayed as "Often".

	Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating				
		Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Often	Count
Their religious beliefs were different from yours						
All Medical Schools	2017	2.5	10.8	25.7	61.0	13,442
All Medical Schools	2016	2.6	11.7	26.1	59.6	13,011
All Medical Schools	2015	3.0	11.6	27.2	58.2	13,393
Their political opinions were different from yours						
All Medical Schools	2017	1.4	8.3	23.4	66.9	13,418
All Medical Schools	2016	1.6	8.9	23.0	66.5	12,974
All Medical Schools	2015	1.8	9.4	23.7	65.1	13,365
Their nationality was different from yours						
All Medical Schools	2017	1.1	5.7	17.1	76.2	13,401
All Medical Schools	2016	1.0	6.9	17.8	74.2	12,967
All Medical Schools	2015	1.1	6.8	19.2	72.9	13,341
Their primary language was different from yours						
All Medical Schools	2017	4.5	22.1	26.8	46.7	13,427
All Medical Schools	2016	4.9	23.3	26.5	45.3	12,958
All Medical Schools	2015	5.2	23.2	27.2	44.3	13,356
Their race or ethnicity was different from yours						
All Medical Schools	2017	1.1	5.2	15.7	78.0	13,385
All Medical Schools	2016	1.1	6.1	17.5	75.3	12,954
All Medical Schools	2015	1.2	6.7	19.3	72.9	13,331
Their sexual orientation was different from yours						
All Medical Schools	2017	2.9	13.8	24.5	58.8	13,406
All Medical Schools	2016	3.7	15.2	24.5	56.6	12,946
All Medical Schools	2015	4.2	16.0	26.0	53.7	13,355
Their socioeconomic background was different from yours						
All Medical Schools	2017	1.1	5.4	19.0	74.5	13,388
All Medical Schools	2016	1.0	6.0	20.0	73.0	12,944
All Medical Schools	2015	1.2	6.4	20.7	71.7	13,342

11. **During your undergraduate experience, how often did you gain a deeper understanding of other perspectives through conversations with fellow students because:**
Note: Respondents who indicated "Somewhat often," "Often," or "Very often" are combined and displayed as "Often". (Continued)

		Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating				
		Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Often	Count
Their physical abilities were different from yours						
All Medical Schools	2017	5.6	24.8	26.4	43.1	13,409
All Medical Schools	2016	5.3	25.5	27.5	41.7	12,958
All Medical Schools	2015	5.5	24.7	27.0	42.8	13,343
Their age was different from yours						
All Medical Schools	2017	4.4	23.7	25.8	46.0	13,412
All Medical Schools	2016	4.3	23.9	26.4	45.5	12,975
All Medical Schools	2015	4.2	23.6	26.1	46.2	13,365

	All Medical Schools		
	2015	**2016**	**2017**

12. **As an undergraduate, did you have an assigned advisor through a formal advising program?**

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	79.3	78.5	78.3
No	20.7	21.5	21.7
Number of respondents	13,460	13,042	13,491

13. **As an undergraduate, did you experience other, more informal, types of mentoring?**

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	78.4	78.9	79.0
No	21.6	21.1	21.0
Number of respondents	13,458	13,046	13,493

14. **Thinking about your FORMAL advising relationship(s), how important were the following different types of support provided?**
Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to Q12 could respond to this item.

		Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating					
		Not applicable	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important	Count
Helped me to meet new people who had an influence on my professional/educational opportunities							
All Medical Schools	2017	23.3	24.6	22.0	19.4	10.7	10,365
All Medical Schools	2016	22.8	25.2	21.6	19.4	11.0	10,027
All Medical Schools	2015	23.7	24.6	22.6	18.6	10.6	10,433
Provided me with opportunities and means to stretch my knowledge and skills							
All Medical Schools	2017	17.1	17.5	21.3	27.4	16.7	10,332
All Medical Schools	2016	16.5	17.8	21.3	27.6	16.8	10,000
All Medical Schools	2015	17.2	18.1	22.2	26.2	16.3	10,395

14. Thinking about your FORMAL advising relationship(s), how important were the following different types of support provided?
   Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to Q12 could respond to this item. (Continued)

		Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating					
		Not applicable	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important	Count
Gave me feedback that improved my potential							
All Medical Schools	2017	11.6	13.8	21.1	30.6	22.9	10,316
All Medical Schools	2016	11.8	14.2	21.2	30.8	22.0	9,989
All Medical Schools	2015	12.3	14.4	21.8	30.0	21.5	10,386
Was a role model for me in terms of work/professional behavior that I would like to imitate							
All Medical Schools	2017	17.8	24.0	21.1	22.2	15.0	10,311
All Medical Schools	2016	17.5	23.7	21.7	21.5	15.6	9,983
All Medical Schools	2015	18.0	24.8	21.5	20.9	14.8	10,380
Provided me with emotional support							
All Medical Schools	2017	22.4	28.0	21.4	16.6	11.6	10,334
All Medical Schools	2016	22.1	29.3	20.7	16.1	11.8	9,993
All Medical Schools	2015	22.8	29.2	21.2	15.5	11.3	10,372
Provided helpful advice for personal and professional decisions							
All Medical Schools	2017	8.7	10.8	21.5	31.8	27.2	10,322
All Medical Schools	2016	8.5	10.8	21.1	32.9	26.7	9,976
All Medical Schools	2015	9.0	11.2	21.7	32.4	25.6	10,386
Provided opportunities to demonstrate my skills or knowledge to others							
All Medical Schools	2017	20.0	20.4	21.9	23.8	13.8	10,328
All Medical Schools	2016	19.4	21.0	21.9	23.9	13.9	10,002
All Medical Schools	2015	20.2	21.2	21.6	23.1	13.8	10,394

15. Thinking about your INFORMAL advising relationship(s), how important were the following different types of support provided?
   Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to Q13 could respond to this item.

		Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating					
		Not applicable	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important	Count
Helped me to meet new people who had an influence on my professional/educational opportunities							
All Medical Schools	2017	5.6	5.3	19.2	35.2	34.6	10,253
All Medical Schools	2016	6.0	6.1	20.2	35.2	32.4	9,879
All Medical Schools	2015	5.8	5.7	20.9	35.9	31.7	10,156
Provided me with opportunities and means to stretch my knowledge and skills							
All Medical Schools	2017	3.4	3.6	16.4	36.4	40.2	10,234
All Medical Schools	2016	3.4	4.0	16.9	37.1	38.6	9,846
All Medical Schools	2015	3.7	3.9	17.6	37.4	37.5	10,141
Gave me feedback that improved my potential							
All Medical Schools	2017	2.0	2.6	14.8	38.4	42.2	10,236
All Medical Schools	2016	2.1	2.9	14.9	39.2	40.9	9,853
All Medical Schools	2015	2.4	3.1	16.0	38.1	40.4	10,117
Was a role model for me in terms of work/professional behavior that I would like to imitate							
All Medical Schools	2017	2.4	3.1	12.5	33.3	48.6	10,220
All Medical Schools	2016	2.2	3.8	13.0	33.7	47.2	9,847
All Medical Schools	2015	2.6	3.8	14.7	32.8	46.1	10,116

15. Thinking about your INFORMAL advising relationship(s), how important were the following different types of support provided?
Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to Q13 could respond to this item. (Continued)

		Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating					
		Not applicable	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important	Count
Provided me with emotional support							
All Medical Schools	2017	6.2	12.5	22.2	27.6	31.5	10,239
All Medical Schools	2016	6.8	13.0	21.6	27.7	30.8	9,841
All Medical Schools	2015	7.0	13.5	21.9	27.5	30.1	10,123
Provided helpful advice for personal and professional decisions							
All Medical Schools	2017	1.8	2.1	15.0	37.6	43.5	10,204
All Medical Schools	2016	1.8	2.5	15.1	38.6	42.0	9,840
All Medical Schools	2015	1.8	2.8	15.9	37.9	41.6	10,111
Provided opportunities to demonstrate my skills or knowledge to others							
All Medical Schools	2017	5.7	7.6	20.9	32.8	33.1	10,235
All Medical Schools	2016	5.5	8.2	21.4	34.0	30.9	9,856
All Medical Schools	2015	5.7	7.4	21.7	33.8	31.3	10,129

	All Medical Schools		
	2015	**2016**	**2017**

16. How many years have passed since you graduated from college?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Less than 1 year	40.2	39.4	37.5
1-2 years	38.3	39.4	41.4
3-4 years	13.0	12.7	13.2
5 or more years	8.6	8.5	8.0
Number of respondents	13,190	12,779	13,251

17. How did you spend your time between college and medical school?
Note: Percentages may not sum to 100% as multiple responses are allowed. Only those who responded "1-2 years," "3-4 years," or "5 or more years" to Q16 could respond to this item.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Worked at another career	51.9	51.4	52.5
Worked to improve finances	34.3	34.9	35.4
Continued coursework to fulfill pre-medical requirements	15.8	15.8	15.0
Took pre-medical courses for the first time	9.4	8.5	8.1
Pursued graduate studies	23.4	23.6	23.6
Worked/volunteered internationally	15.0	13.5	12.4
Worked/volunteered in research	45.3	46.1	46.3
Helped fulfill family obligations	17.7	17.8	18.1
Other	16.5	16.4	16.3
Number of respondents	7,865	7,721	8,259

Personal Characteristics - The following scales are used to help member medical schools learn about the lifestyles and personal characteristics of entering medical students. Descriptions of each scale are provided, as the number of items in each scale and the way the scales are calculated differ.

18. Tolerance for Ambiguity (TFA) Scale

Tolerance for Ambiguity (TFA) is a measure of one's ability to cope with situations of uncertainty. Scales measuring TFA have been used in prior research to show how ambiguity impacts medical education and medical care. TFA scores are calculated by summing across 7 items, which are measured on a 1-6 point scale. The possible range of scores is 7 to 42, and higher scores are correlated with higher tolerance for ambiguity. Only participants who responded to every item on the scale are included in the summary statistics. The mean TFA score, the standard deviation, and the number of respondents are displayed below. Additionally, a reliability estimate (Cronbach's alpha) is shown as a measure of internal consistency. The measure varies from 0 to 1, and an instrument is often considered to be reliable if the estimate is 0.7 or higher.

Tolerance for Ambiguity (TFA) Scale		Reliability Estimate	Mean	Standard Deviation	Count
All Medical Schools	2017	0.7	25.1	5.7	12,793
All Medical Schools	2016	0.8	25.1	5.7	12,276
All Medical Schools	2015	0.8	25.0	5.7	12,693

19. Interpersonal Reactivity Index (IRI)

The Interpersonal Reactivity Index (IRI) is a measure of individual differences in empathy. Scales measuring empathy have been used in prior research to show how levels of empathy may change throughout medical education. For MSQ purposes, the IRI consists of two subscales – perspective taking and empathic concern – which each include 7 items. IRI scores are calculated by summing across 14 items, which are measured on a 0-4 point scale. The possible range of scores is 0 to 56, and higher scores are correlated with higher levels of empathy. Only participants who responded to every item on the scale are included in the summary statistics. The mean IRI score, the standard deviation, and the number of respondents are displayed below. Additionally, a reliability estimate (Cronbach's alpha) is shown as a measure of internal consistency. The measure varies from 0 to 1, and an instrument is often considered to be reliable if the estimate is 0.7 or higher.

Interpersonal Reactivity Index (IRI)		Reliability Estimate	Mean	Standard Deviation	Count
All Medical Schools	2017	0.8	42.7	6.6	12,287
All Medical Schools	2016	0.8	42.4	6.6	11,746
All Medical Schools	2015	0.8	42.2	6.6	12,210

20. Quality of Life (QOL) Scale

The Quality of Life (QOL) scale, which includes items from the Linear Analogue Self-Assessment Scale (LASA-6), is a measure of the following aspects of life: overall quality of life, mental (intellectual) well-being, physical well-being, emotional well-being, level of social activity, and spiritual well-being. The QOL questions ask about feelings during the last week. QOL scores are calculated by summing across the 6 items, which are measured on a 0-10 point scale. The possible range of scores is 0 to 60, and higher scores are correlated with higher quality of life. Only participants who responded to every item on the scale are included in the summary statistics. The mean QOL score, the standard deviation, and the number of respondents are displayed below. Additionally, a reliability estimate (Cronbach's alpha) is shown as a measure of internal consistency. The measure varies from 0 to 1, and an instrument is often considered to be reliable if the estimate is 0.7 or higher.

Quality of Life (QOL) Scale		Reliability Estimate	Mean	Standard Deviation	Count
All Medical Schools	2017	0.9	46.7	7.6	12,518
All Medical Schools	2016	0.9	46.8	7.4	11,970
All Medical Schools	2015	0.9	46.9	7.5	12,410

Additional Quality of Life (QOL) Scales

Additional Quality of Life (QOL) items are also taken from the Linear Analogue Self-Assessment Scale (LASA) and are distinct measures of the following aspects of life: level of fatigue, level of social support from family and friends, and level of financial concerns. The QOL questions ask about feelings during the last week, and the scores are calculated individually on 0-10 point scales. The possible range of scores is 0 to 10, and higher scores represent more positive outcomes: no fatigue, higher levels of social support from family and friends, and no financial concerns. The summary statistics displayed below include the mean score, the standard deviation, and the number of respondents. Because the additional QOL items are calculated individually, the internal consistency estimate is not provided.

20a. QOL - Level of fatigue (0 = Constant tiredness, 10 = No fatigue)

		Mean	Standard Deviation	Count
All Medical Schools	2017	6.1	2.2	12,652
All Medical Schools	2016	6.2	2.2	12,088
All Medical Schools	2015	6.2	2.2	12,527

20b. QOL - Level of social support from family and friends (0 = No support, 10 = Highest level of support)

		Mean	Standard Deviation	Count
All Medical Schools	2017	8.5	1.7	12,630
All Medical Schools	2016	8.5	1.7	12,066
All Medical Schools	2015	8.5	1.7	12,516

20c. QOL - Level of financial concerns (0 = Constant concerns, 10 = No concerns)

		Mean	Standard Deviation	Count
All Medical Schools	2017	5.4	2.8	12,672
All Medical Schools	2016	5.4	2.8	12,114
All Medical Schools	2015	5.3	2.8	12,551

21. Perceived Stress Scale (PSS)

The Perceived Stress Scale (PSS) is a widely used instrument for measuring the perception of stress. The scale measures the degree to which situations in one's life are considered stressful. The scale also includes a number of direct questions about current levels of experienced stress. The questions in the PSS ask about feelings and thoughts during the last month. In each case, respondents are asked how often they felt a certain way. PSS scores are calculated by summing across 4 items, which are measured on a 0-4 point scale. The possible range of scores is 0 to 16, and higher scores are correlated with higher perceived levels of stress. Only participants who responded to every item on the scale are included in the summary statistics. The mean PSS score, the standard deviation, and the number of respondents are displayed below. Additionally, a reliability estimate (Cronbach's alpha) is shown as a measure of internal consistency. The measure varies from 0 to 1, and an instrument is often considered to be reliable if the estimate is 0.7 or higher.

Perceived Stress Scale (PSS)		Reliability Estimate	Mean	Standard Deviation	Count
All Medical Schools	2017	0.8	4.3	2.5	12,489
All Medical Schools	2016	0.8	4.3	2.5	11,946
All Medical Schools	2015	0.8	4.3	2.5	12,376

22. In thinking about a typical week during the two months BEFORE entering medical school, please provide the average number of hours PER DAY that you spent doing the following activities? Note: Responses needed to total 24 hours.

		All Medical Schools		
		2015	2016	2017
Sleep	Mean	7.7	7.7	7.7
	Standard Deviation	1.1	1.1	1.1
Educational activities (e.g., attending class, studying)	Mean	2.0	1.8	1.9
	Standard Deviation	3.1	3.0	3.0
Non-educational activities (e.g., being with friends/family, solitary recreation)	Mean	6.3	6.3	6.4
	Standard Deviation	3.5	3.5	3.6
Paid work	Mean	4.2	4.3	4.2
	Standard Deviation	4.0	4.0	4.0
Exercise/sports	Mean	1.4	1.4	1.4
	Standard Deviation	1.0	1.0	1.0
Other	Mean	2.4	2.4	2.4
	Standard Deviation	2.5	2.5	2.5
Number of respondents		12,327	11,898	12,444

23. Have you been accepted to more than one medical school?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	52.1	52.3	54.1
No	47.9	47.7	45.9
Number of respondents	12,482	12,055	12,622

24. **In choosing the medical school you now (or will) attend, how important were the following factors?**
Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to Q23 could respond to this item.

		Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating					
		Not applicable	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important	Count
General Factors							
General reputation of the school							
All Medical Schools	2017	0.4	2.1	16.5	46.1	34.9	6,771
All Medical Schools	2016	0.3	2.1	16.8	46.4	34.4	6,237
All Medical Schools	2015	0.2	2.0	16.7	45.3	35.8	6,426
Research reputation of the school							
All Medical Schools	2017	0.6	18.4	28.5	31.4	21.2	6,762
All Medical Schools	2016	0.6	18.7	28.9	31.2	20.5	6,221
All Medical Schools	2015	0.5	19.3	28.6	31.6	20.0	6,415
Interviews/meetings with faculty							
All Medical Schools	2017	0.6	3.3	16.8	42.3	37.0	6,762
All Medical Schools	2016	0.6	3.6	16.9	41.0	37.8	6,220
All Medical Schools	2015	0.5	4.0	17.8	41.1	36.6	6,423
Interviews/meetings with administrators							
All Medical Schools	2017	2.6	9.1	27.6	36.8	24.0	6,756
All Medical Schools	2016	2.5	9.8	27.5	37.1	23.2	6,228
All Medical Schools	2015	2.4	10.3	27.4	36.2	23.7	6,420
Interviews/meetings with students							
All Medical Schools	2017	0.6	2.9	13.2	36.6	46.8	6,728
All Medical Schools	2016	0.7	3.0	13.1	36.2	46.9	6,203
All Medical Schools	2015	0.6	2.9	14.6	35.9	45.9	6,394
Geographic location of the school							
All Medical Schools	2017	0.1	4.5	14.9	32.5	48.0	6,766
All Medical Schools	2016	0.3	4.7	16.1	32.2	46.7	6,235
All Medical Schools	2015	0.2	5.1	15.2	32.5	47.0	6,427
Financial considerations/cost of attending							
All Medical Schools	2017	2.5	10.1	17.6	25.1	44.7	6,765
All Medical Schools	2016	2.5	10.7	17.5	25.5	43.7	6,228
All Medical Schools	2015	2.5	11.2	18.0	25.6	42.6	6,421
Amount of financial support offered							
All Medical Schools	2017	7.8	14.0	20.2	22.6	35.4	6,756
All Medical Schools	2016	7.3	14.0	20.4	23.7	34.5	6,217
All Medical Schools	2015	7.4	15.0	20.0	23.8	33.7	6,407
Quality of the medical school facilities							
All Medical Schools	2017	0.2	1.9	14.8	42.9	40.3	6,753
All Medical Schools	2016	0.2	1.7	14.6	44.1	39.4	6,223
All Medical Schools	2015	0.1	2.0	14.1	43.6	40.2	6,405
Personal experience with the school							
All Medical Schools	2017	3.5	6.3	11.3	30.2	48.7	6,736
All Medical Schools	2016	3.4	5.7	12.6	29.4	48.9	6,208
All Medical Schools	2015	3.1	5.5	11.9	29.9	49.6	6,392
Programs for minority and/or disadvantaged students							
All Medical Schools	2017	22.3	28.3	22.2	16.3	10.9	6,728
All Medical Schools	2016	23.5	30.9	20.6	14.8	10.1	6,203
All Medical Schools	2015	25.2	34.0	19.5	13.1	8.1	6,393

24. In choosing the medical school you now (or will) attend, how important were the following factors?
Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to Q23 could respond to this item. (Continued)

		Not applicable	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important	Count
		Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating					
General Factors							
Diversity of the student body							
All Medical Schools	2017	1.2	16.2	26.4	33.1	23.1	6,754
All Medical Schools	2016	1.6	18.5	28.1	30.9	20.9	6,219
All Medical Schools	2015	1.4	21.7	28.9	30.9	17.1	6,411
Diversity of the faculty							
All Medical Schools	2017	1.7	22.7	30.5	29.3	15.8	6,732
All Medical Schools	2016	1.9	25.6	31.5	26.9	14.2	6,200
All Medical Schools	2015	1.7	29.3	31.5	26.3	11.2	6,391
School's Medical Education Program							
School's teaching methods/curricula							
All Medical Schools	2017	0.2	2.8	15.8	41.0	40.2	6,749
All Medical Schools	2016	0.3	2.6	15.9	41.7	39.6	6,211
All Medical Schools	2015	0.1	3.0	16.7	42.1	38.1	6,412
Program of elective courses							
All Medical Schools	2017	0.7	11.5	30.2	38.1	19.5	6,709
All Medical Schools	2016	0.8	10.1	31.6	38.9	18.7	6,177
All Medical Schools	2015	0.7	11.1	30.7	39.3	18.2	6,379
Medical ethics/medical humanities emphasis							
All Medical Schools	2017	1.1	17.9	31.1	31.0	18.9	6,711
All Medical Schools	2016	1.0	18.2	32.0	31.6	17.2	6,162
All Medical Schools	2015	1.0	18.8	31.7	30.9	17.6	6,358
Dual Degree opportunity such as PhD, MPH, MPA, JD or MBA							
All Medical Schools	2017	10.0	44.4	21.8	11.9	11.9	6,723
All Medical Schools	2016	9.2	43.7	21.3	12.8	12.9	6,199
All Medical Schools	2015	9.5	44.2	21.0	13.0	12.4	6,383
Research experience/opportunity							
All Medical Schools	2017	0.6	10.2	22.9	33.5	32.7	6,750
All Medical Schools	2016	0.5	10.8	23.2	33.4	32.1	6,209
All Medical Schools	2015	0.5	11.2	23.3	34.2	30.9	6,398
Rural medicine experience/opportunity							
All Medical Schools	2017	2.7	53.4	24.6	13.2	6.1	6,736
All Medical Schools	2016	2.6	53.9	24.4	13.1	6.0	6,201
All Medical Schools	2015	2.5	52.6	24.6	14.0	6.4	6,398
Community-based medicine experience/opportunity							
All Medical Schools	2017	0.6	11.7	23.7	35.6	28.4	6,734
All Medical Schools	2016	0.6	12.8	24.0	35.2	27.5	6,203
All Medical Schools	2015	0.5	12.9	25.0	35.5	26.1	6,397
Family medicine experience/opportunity							
All Medical Schools	2017	1.4	32.5	34.8	20.7	10.7	6,729
All Medical Schools	2016	1.3	31.1	34.0	22.7	11.0	6,186
All Medical Schools	2015	0.9	30.9	33.8	23.1	11.3	6,394

24. In choosing the medical school you now (or will) attend, how important were the following factors?
Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to Q23 could respond to this item. (Continued)

		Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating					
		Not applicable	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important	Count
Other Educational Factors							
Desire to attend school within my home state							
All Medical Schools	2017	7.6	30.8	15.4	16.9	29.2	6,755
All Medical Schools	2016	8.1	30.4	15.5	17.6	28.3	6,222
All Medical Schools	2015	8.3	29.8	14.8	17.2	29.9	6,423
Sense of safety							
All Medical Schools	2017	1.3	13.9	26.6	34.1	24.1	6,733
All Medical Schools	2016	1.3	15.0	25.8	35.3	22.7	6,206
All Medical Schools	2015	1.2	15.0	26.7	35.3	21.9	6,407
Influence of spouse/partner							
All Medical Schools	2017	45.8	17.8	12.6	12.0	11.8	6,749
All Medical Schools	2016	47.1	17.1	12.4	11.6	11.8	6,210
All Medical Schools	2015	47.0	16.9	12.2	11.8	12.0	6,410
Faculty mentorship at the school							
All Medical Schools	2017	4.7	10.1	23.3	36.8	25.2	6,734
All Medical Schools	2016	4.3	10.3	24.2	36.6	24.7	6,205
All Medical Schools	2015	5.3	10.8	24.8	36.3	22.8	6,400
Ability of the school to place students in particular residency programs							
All Medical Schools	2017	1.1	4.9	15.7	33.0	45.2	6,753
All Medical Schools	2016	0.7	5.1	15.8	34.5	43.9	6,212
All Medical Schools	2015	1.1	5.1	15.4	34.4	43.9	6,417

25. If available, would you use the following support services at your medical school?

		Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating			
		No	Yes	Not sure	Count
Child care services					
All Medical Schools	2017	78.4	8.6	12.9	12,509
All Medical Schools	2016	78.6	8.6	12.8	11,929
All Medical Schools	2015	78.0	8.8	13.2	12,362
Partner support group					
All Medical Schools	2017	61.4	20.5	18.1	12,492
All Medical Schools	2016	61.7	20.3	18.0	11,914
All Medical Schools	2015	63.2	19.0	17.8	12,341
Career counseling services					
All Medical Schools	2017	8.1	84.2	7.7	12,521
All Medical Schools	2016	8.4	83.3	8.2	11,946
All Medical Schools	2015	8.7	82.3	9.0	12,375
Student wellness services					
All Medical Schools	2017	5.7	84.6	9.7	12,515
All Medical Schools	2016	6.4	82.9	10.7	11,942
All Medical Schools	2015	7.5	81.1	11.5	12,376

25. If available, would you use the following support services at your medical school? (Continued)

Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating

		No	Yes	Not sure	Count
Mental health services					
All Medical Schools	2017	18.6	54.5	26.8	12,506
All Medical Schools	2016	23.1	47.7	29.2	11,916
All Medical Schools	2015	26.8	43.9	29.3	12,347
Careers in Medicine online career planning tool					
All Medical Schools	2017	7.8	77.4	14.8	12,524
All Medical Schools	2016	7.1	77.5	15.4	11,944
All Medical Schools	2015	7.8	76.6	15.6	12,367
Financial advice and counseling					
All Medical Schools	2017	8.3	84.0	7.7	12,529
All Medical Schools	2016	7.9	83.9	8.2	11,961
All Medical Schools	2015	8.3	83.6	8.1	12,371
Peer advising services					
All Medical Schools	2017	8.2	77.3	14.5	12,497
All Medical Schools	2016	8.7	75.9	15.4	11,915
All Medical Schools	2015	9.5	74.8	15.7	12,351
Medical specialty organization/society					
All Medical Schools	2017	1.8	91.6	6.6	12,532
All Medical Schools	2016	1.8	91.4	6.8	11,951
All Medical Schools	2015	1.9	91.0	7.1	12,378
Recreational facilities					
All Medical Schools	2017	1.5	95.5	3.0	12,523
All Medical Schools	2016	1.2	95.7	3.0	11,943
All Medical Schools	2015	1.2	95.6	3.2	12,368

26. In which of the following activities do you plan to participate during your career?
Note: Percentages may not sum to 100% as multiple responses are allowed.

	All Medical Schools		
	2015	2016	2017
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Patient Care	98.3	98.2	98.3
Research	61.1	61.5	62.2
Teaching	55.8	55.4	55.5
Medical School Faculty	32.2	33.0	32.7
Administration (e.g., Department Chair, Dean)	21.9	22.7	22.4
Military Service	5.2	4.9	4.9
Public Health	39.4	40.2	41.1
Other	3.0	2.9	3.1
Number of respondents	12,384	11,960	12,530

	All Medical Schools		
	2015	**2016**	**2017**

27. Do you anticipate providing patient care full-time or part-time?
Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to plans to participate in Patient Care in Q26 could respond to this item.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Full-time (at least 36 hours a week)	82.1	82.3	82.3
Part-time (less than 36 hours a week)	17.9	17.7	17.7
Number of respondents	12,125	11,712	12,287

28. How exclusively do you expect to be involved in research?
Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to plans to participate in Research in Q26 could respond to this item.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Full-time	2.0	2.3	1.8
Significantly involved	40.5	40.5	41.1
Involved in a limited way	57.5	57.2	57.1
Number of respondents	7,540	7,342	7,783

29. What general specialty are you considering?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Anesthesiology or subspecialty	2.1	1.8	2.0
Dermatology or subspecialty	2.2	2.5	2.6
Emergency Medicine or subspecialty	8.0	8.9	9.1
Family Medicine or subspecialty	5.7	5.8	5.3
Internal Medicine or subspecialty	14.1	13.6	13.3
Internal Medicine/Pediatrics	2.6	2.3	1.8
Medical Genetics or subspecialty	0.3	0.3	0.2
Neurological Surgery	2.2	2.2	2.6
Neurology or subspecialty	3.6	3.7	3.7
Nuclear Medicine	0.0	0.0	0.0
Obstetrics and Gynecology or subspecialty	4.3	5.0	5.0
Ophthalmology or subspecialty	1.8	1.7	1.8
Orthopaedic Surgery or subspecialty	7.4	7.1	7.0
Otolaryngology or subspecialty	1.0	1.0	1.1
Pathology or subspecialty	0.7	0.6	0.6
Pediatrics or subspecialty	10.6	10.0	9.9
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation or subspecialty	0.6	0.6	0.6
Plastic Surgery or subspecialty	1.0	1.0	1.0
Preventive Medicine or subspecialty	0.3	0.2	0.3
Psychiatry or subspecialty	1.6	1.8	2.3
Radiation Oncology	1.4	1.0	1.0
Radiology or subspecialty	1.5	1.3	1.4
Surgery or subspecialty	8.2	8.2	7.7
Thoracic Surgery or subspecialty	0.9	1.0	1.1
Urology or subspecialty	0.4	0.5	0.5
Vascular Surgery	0.2	0.2	0.2
Undecided	17.4	17.6	17.7
I do not plan to practice medicine	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number of respondents	12,411	11,985	12,555

30. You selected an interest in Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Internal Medicine/Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, or Pediatrics. What career are you considering?
Note: Only those who responded "Family Medicine," "Internal Medicine," "Internal Medicine/Pediatrics," "Obstetrics and Gynecology," or "Pediatrics" to Q29 could respond to this item. In 2015, respondents who selected "Internal Medicine/Pediatrics" started receiving this follow-up question.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Primary care practice (e.g., office-based continuing care in general Internal Medicine)	27.7	29.9	27.5
Hospitalist (i.e., full-time care of hospitalized patients)	5.8	5.6	6.1
Sub-specialty (e.g., Cardiology, Pediatric Oncology, Maternal and Fetal Medicine)	47.0	46.1	48.3
Undecided	19.4	18.4	18.0
Number of respondents	4,621	4,398	4,446

	All Medical Schools		
	2015	**2016**	**2017**

31. Where do you hope to WORK after completing your medical training?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Alabama	0.9	0.8	0.7
Alaska	0.2	0.2	0.1
Arizona	0.8	0.8	0.8
Arkansas	0.4	0.3	0.3
California	14.7	14.7	15.3
Colorado	2.3	2.3	2.5
Connecticut	0.3	0.3	0.3
Delaware	0.1	0.1	0.1
District of Columbia	0.9	1.0	1.1
Florida	3.8	3.7	3.5
Georgia	1.8	1.5	1.1
Hawaii	0.3	0.3	0.3
Idaho	0.3	0.3	0.2
Illinois	3.3	3.3	3.4
Indiana	0.5	0.3	0.6
Iowa	0.3	0.2	0.2
Kansas	0.9	0.9	0.8
Kentucky	0.7	0.7	0.9
Louisiana	0.8	1.0	0.9
Maine	0.2	0.2	0.2
Maryland	1.1	1.0	1.1
Massachusetts	4.2	4.2	4.4
Michigan	3.0	2.9	2.4
Minnesota	1.7	1.8	1.9
Mississippi	0.3	0.4	0.1
Missouri	0.6	0.8	0.7
Montana	0.3	0.3	0.4
Nebraska	0.5	0.5	0.3
Nevada	0.3	0.2	0.6
New Hampshire	0.1	0.1	0.1
New Jersey	0.7	0.8	1.0
New Mexico	0.4	0.3	0.2
New York	8.2	7.7	7.6
North Carolina	2.0	2.3	2.1
North Dakota	0.1	0.2	0.1
Ohio	1.8	1.8	2.2
Oklahoma	0.3	0.2	0.1
Oregon	1.2	1.3	1.2
Pennsylvania	2.8	2.5	2.8
Rhode Island	0.1	0.1	0.1
South Carolina	1.4	1.5	1.6
South Dakota	0.2	0.3	0.2
Tennessee	1.2	0.8	1.0
Texas	4.8	5.8	5.2
Utah	0.7	0.7	0.5
Vermont	0.2	0.2	0.2
Virginia	1.5	1.1	1.4
Washington	2.3	2.5	2.7
West Virginia	0.5	0.5	0.5
Wisconsin	1.1	0.9	1.0
Wyoming	0.1	0.2	0.1
Puerto Rico	0.7	0.4	0.6

All Medical Schools

	2015	2016	2017

31. Where do you hope to WORK after completing your medical training? (Continued)

	Percent	Percent	Percent
U.S. Territory/Possession	0.1	0.1	0.1
Canada	0.3	0.2	0.2
Other Foreign Country	0.9	0.8	1.0
Undecided	20.7	21.4	20.8
Number of respondents	10,134	9,717	9,777

32. Please indicate the setting in which you plan to WORK after the completion of your medical education.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Large city (population 500,000 or more)	34.7	35.3	36.1
Suburb of a large city	13.9	13.9	13.7
City of moderate size (population 50,000 to 500,000)	21.0	20.6	20.3
Suburb of moderate size city	5.5	5.7	5.9
Small city (population 10,000 to 50,000--other than suburb)	4.2	4.5	4.2
Town (population 2,500 to 10,000--other than suburb)	2.1	2.0	2.2
Small town (population less than 2,500)	0.8	0.9	0.9
Rural/unincorporated area	1.7	1.6	1.5
Undecided or no preference	16.1	15.5	15.0
Number of respondents	12,377	11,958	12,533

33. Do you plan to WORK primarily in an underserved area?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	25.7	27.4	29.0
No	18.9	17.3	15.7
Undecided	55.4	55.3	55.3
Number of respondents	12,374	11,956	12,519

34. When thinking about your career path after medical school, how important are the following considerations?

		Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating				
		Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential	Count
Working for social change						
All Medical Schools	2017	5.0	30.3	40.2	24.5	12,459
All Medical Schools	2016	5.8	32.3	39.3	22.5	11,886
All Medical Schools	2015	6.5	34.9	37.8	20.8	12,311
High income potential						
All Medical Schools	2017	14.7	50.7	29.2	5.4	12,449
All Medical Schools	2016	15.3	53.0	27.1	4.6	11,877
All Medical Schools	2015	16.2	51.9	27.3	4.7	12,293

34. When thinking about your career path after medical school, how important are the following considerations? (Continued)

		Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential	Count
		Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating				
Social recognition or status						
All Medical Schools	2017	37.9	45.2	14.6	2.3	12,450
All Medical Schools	2016	37.7	45.9	14.5	1.9	11,868
All Medical Schools	2015	37.2	46.3	14.3	2.2	12,301
Stable, secure future						
All Medical Schools	2017	1.0	12.4	44.7	41.9	12,460
All Medical Schools	2016	0.9	12.4	45.7	41.0	11,896
All Medical Schools	2015	1.0	12.4	45.4	41.2	12,323
Creativity and initiative						
All Medical Schools	2017	3.9	30.7	44.2	21.2	12,448
All Medical Schools	2016	3.7	29.4	46.1	20.8	11,877
All Medical Schools	2015	3.5	29.2	45.7	21.6	12,311
Expression of personal values						
All Medical Schools	2017	3.2	21.9	44.9	29.9	12,456
All Medical Schools	2016	3.6	23.9	44.7	27.8	11,880
All Medical Schools	2015	4.1	24.4	44.5	27.0	12,314
Availability of jobs						
All Medical Schools	2017	2.3	22.9	52.3	22.5	12,462
All Medical Schools	2016	1.7	22.4	53.4	22.5	11,892
All Medical Schools	2015	1.9	22.0	52.2	23.9	12,316
Leadership potential						
All Medical Schools	2017	4.3	28.9	45.5	21.3	12,453
All Medical Schools	2016	4.4	29.1	45.7	20.8	11,874
All Medical Schools	2015	3.9	29.8	45.6	20.7	12,304
Work/life balance						
All Medical Schools	2017	1.5	14.5	37.0	47.0	12,457
All Medical Schools	2016	1.4	14.6	38.0	46.0	11,896
All Medical Schools	2015	1.4	13.9	37.9	46.8	12,324
Ability to pay off debt						
All Medical Schools	2017	9.1	15.8	33.7	41.4	12,463
All Medical Schools	2016	8.5	15.7	34.8	41.0	11,882
All Medical Schools	2015	8.9	15.7	34.5	40.9	12,305
Opportunity for innovation						
All Medical Schools	2017	4.3	32.1	41.0	22.5	12,442
All Medical Schools	2016	4.1	32.1	41.8	21.9	11,881
All Medical Schools	2015	3.9	32.2	42.0	22.0	12,295

	All Medical Schools		
	2015	2016	2017

35. Regardless of your dependency status, please indicate your parents' combined gross income for last year (a rough estimate is sufficient). Note: Starting in 2013, parental income values of $0 are included. Therefore, data reported for previous years may differ from historical MSQ reports.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Less than $25,000	6.0	6.4	6.2
$25,000 to $49,999	8.1	8.5	8.2
$50,000 to $74,999	11.1	10.8	10.4
$75,000 to $99,999	9.2	9.6	9.7
$100,000 to $149,999	19.6	18.6	19.8
$150,000 to $199,999	12.2	11.9	12.5
$200,000 to $249,999	11.2	11.2	10.6
$250,000 to $299,999	5.1	5.5	5.1
$300,000 to $399,999	6.9	6.7	7.1
$400,000 to $499,999	3.8	3.9	3.6
$500,000 or more	6.7	7.0	6.9
Number of respondents	11,158	10,885	11,299
Median income of parents of those providing figures	$125,000	$125,000	$125,000

36. Do you have any outstanding educational loans for your college/pre-medical education?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	35.8	35.7	35.3
No	64.2	64.3	64.7
Number of respondents	12,314	11,897	12,461

37. What is the total amount of outstanding educational loans for your college/pre-medical education? Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to Q36 could respond to this item. Amounts totaling > $500,000 were treated as invalid.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
No debt ($0)	65.0	65.0	65.4
$1 to $4,999	1.4	1.3	1.5
$5,000 to $9,999	3.0	3.2	3.2
$10,000 to $14,999	3.3	3.1	3.4
$15,000 to $19,999	3.0	3.0	3.1
$20,000 to $24,999	4.9	4.5	4.1
$25,000 to $29,999	3.7	3.9	3.6
$30,000 to $49,999	7.6	7.6	7.2
$50,000 to $74,999	4.3	4.0	3.9
$75,000 to $99,999	1.8	1.9	1.9
$100,000 or more	2.0	2.5	2.5
Number of respondents	12,164	11,770	12,324
Median pre-medical debt of those reporting pre-medical debt	$26,000	$27,000	$27,000

	All Medical Schools		
	2015	**2016**	**2017**

38. How many secondary/supplemental applications did you complete?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Zero (0)	2.1	1.7	1.8
1 to 4	18.2	16.2	15.1
5 to 8	14.3	13.6	12.1
9 to 12	14.2	14.3	13.5
13 to 16	15.6	15.8	15.3
17 to 20	14.8	14.8	15.6
21 to 24	7.2	7.9	9.2
25 or more	13.7	15.6	17.5
Number of respondents	12,011	11,603	12,157
Median	13	14	15

39. In total, how much did you spend on secondary/supplemental applications?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
No cost ($0)	5.9	5.6	5.4
$1 to $499	25.8	23.7	21.5
$500 to $999	16.4	15.7	14.7
$1,000 to $1,499	16.6	16.2	16.4
$1,500 to $1,999	10.5	11.1	11.6
$2,000 to $2,999	16.4	18.1	19.4
$3,000 or more	8.3	9.6	11.0
Number of Respondents	11,425	11,122	11,598
Median	$1,000	$1,000	$1,100

40. How many medical schools offered you an interview?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Zero (0)	1.4	1.1	1.3
One	19.9	19.7	18.2
Two	16.1	15.8	15.6
Three	13.9	13.8	14.1
Four to Five	19.4	19.8	20.3
Six to Seven	12.4	12.4	12.7
Eight to 10	10.0	10.3	10.0
11 or more	6.9	7.1	7.8
Number of respondents	12,082	11,695	12,216
Median	3	3	4

All Medical Schools

	2015	2016	2017

41. How many interviews did you attend?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Zero (0)	1.4	1.1	1.3
One	22.7	22.5	21.1
Two	18.5	17.9	17.8
Three	14.9	15.8	16.2
Four	11.6	11.5	12.0
Five	9.3	9.0	9.1
Six to 10	18.6	19.3	18.9
11 or more	2.9	3.0	3.6
Number of respondents	12,051	11,659	12,194
Median	3	3	3

42. How many second visits (post-interview, pre-matriculation) did you make?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Zero (0)	53.1	50.7	50.4
One	35.6	36.8	38.1
Two	8.5	9.7	9.2
Three	2.1	2.1	1.8
Four or more	0.7	0.8	0.5
Number of respondents	11,866	11,459	12,042
Median	0	0	0

43. In total, how much did you spend on interview expenses, including lodging, travel, and meals?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
No cost ($0)	7.2	7.2	6.6
$1 to $499	31.8	32.0	30.4
$500 to $999	18.8	18.5	19.0
$1,000 to $1,499	13.6	13.8	14.2
$1,500 to $1,999	6.1	6.2	6.6
$2,000 to $2,999	10.6	11.0	11.0
$3,000 or more	11.9	11.3	12.2
Number of respondents	11,479	11,173	11,617
Median	$600	$600	$700

	2015	2016	2017

44. How do you plan to finance your medical school education? Please enter a percentage for each applicable category to total 100%.
Note: The percentage is the average of the percentages for the category. Responses needed to total 100%. The response option "Scholarships or awards with a service commitment (NHSC, military, etc.)" was added in 2013.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Scholarships or awards	14.3	15.0	14.7
Scholarships or awards with a service commitment (NHSC, military, etc.)	4.3	4.2	4.3
Loans	56.4	55.6	56.1
Work-study program	0.5	0.4	0.4
Personal income and savings	4.4	4.2	4.2
Money from parents, guardians, or other relatives	18.3	18.7	18.5
Money earned by spouse or partner	0.9	1.0	0.9
Other	1.0	0.9	0.9
Number of respondents	11,808	11,424	11,951

45. Do you have any non-educational, consumer debt that you are legally required to repay? (This includes credit card debt, car loans, home mortgages, or other consumer debt.)

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	17.2	17.7	16.9
No	82.8	82.3	83.1
Number of respondents	12,239	11,832	12,383

46. Please list the amount of your non-educational, consumer debt.
Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to Q45 could respond to this item. Amounts totaling > $500,000 for credit cards, car loans, and other debt were treated as invalid, and amounts totaling > $10,000,000 for mortgage and total debt were treated as invalid.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
No debt ($0)	83.2	82.7	83.5
$1 to $4,999	7.5	7.8	7.1
$5,000 to $9,999	2.8	2.9	2.8
$10,000 to $14,999	1.8	2.0	1.9
$15,000 to $19,999	1.1	1.3	1.1
$20,000 to $24,999	0.7	0.8	0.7
$25,000 to $29,999	0.3	0.3	0.3
$30,000 to $49,999	0.3	0.4	0.4
$50,000 to $74,999	0.2	0.1	0.1
$75,000 to $99,999	0.2	0.2	0.2
$100,000 or more	2.0	1.5	1.9
Number of respondents	12,187	11,772	12,316
Median non-educational debt of those reporting non-educational debt	$5,800	$5,960	$6,000

All Medical Schools

	2015	2016	2017

47. Please list the amount of your non-educational, consumer debt for each category listed below.
Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to Q45 could respond to this item. The number shown in each category is the median of those providing valid figures. Amounts totaling > $500,000 for credit cards, car loans, and other debt were treated as invalid, and amounts totaling > $10,000,000 for mortgage and total debt were treated as invalid.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Credit cards	$2,000	$2,000	$2,000
Number of respondents	1,514	1,558	1,483
Car loans	$10,000	$10,000	$10,000
Number of respondents	763	822	800
Mortgage	$144,000	$148,000	$170,000
Number of respondents	311	228	286
Other consumer loans	$3,000	$4,000	$4,000
Number of respondents	140	114	127
Total amount	$5,800	$5,960	$6,000
Number of respondents	2,049	2,038	2,029

48. Gender Identity:
Note: The results are derived from two questions: "What sex were you assigned at birth?" (response options "Male" or "Female") and "What is your current gender identity?" (response options "Male," "Female," "Trans male/trans man," "Trans female/trans woman," "Genderqueer/gender non-conforming," or "Different identity").

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Same gender identity as the sex assigned at birth		99.5	99.4
Different gender identity from the sex assigned at birth		0.5	0.6
Number of respondents		11,928	12,496

49. How do you self-identify?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Bisexual	2.8	3.4	4.2
Gay or lesbian	3.5	3.5	3.6
Heterosexual or straight	93.7	93.1	92.2
Number of respondents	12,245	11,848	12,413

50. Control of medical school:
Note: This information is populated from other AAMC data sources.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Private	39.2	39.2	40.0
Public	60.8	60.8	60.0
Number of respondents	13,840	13,486	13,868

All Medical Schools

	2015	2016	2017

51. Region of medical school:
Note: This information is populated from other AAMC data sources.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Northeast	27.8	27.2	27.8
South	32.4	33.3	31.2
Central	28.1	27.9	28.1
West	11.7	11.6	13.0
Number of respondents	13,840	13,486	13,868