



April 16, 2020

## Update from TMDSAS and Member Institutions on Changes to Policies and Procedures in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

### *Medical*

*Sam Houston State University  
College of Osteopathic Medicine*

*Texas A&M Health Science Center  
College of Medicine*

*Texas Tech University  
Health Science Center El Paso  
Paul L. Foster School of Medicine*

*Texas Tech Health Sciences Center  
School of Medicine at Lubbock*

*University of North Texas  
Health Science Center at Fort Worth  
Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine*

*The University of Texas at Austin  
Dell Medical School*

*The University of Texas  
Medical Branch at Galveston*

*The University of Texas  
Health Science Center at Houston  
McGovern Medical School*

*The University of Texas  
Health Science Center at San Antonio  
Long School of Medicine*

*The University of Texas  
Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine*

*The University of Texas  
Southwestern Medical Center*

*University of Houston  
College of Medicine*

### *Dental*

*Texas A&M Health Science Center  
College of Dentistry*

*The University of Texas  
Health Science Center at Houston  
School of Dentistry*

*The University of Texas  
Health Science Center at San Antonio  
School of Dentistry*

*Texas Tech University  
Health Science Center El Paso  
Woody L. Hunt School of Dental  
Medicine*

### *Veterinary*

*Texas A&M University  
College of Veterinary Medicine*

TMDSAS and its member institutions recognize the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, including the impact on family and health of our applicants and the pre-health community throughout the State of Texas. Given the unprecedented nature of this pandemic, our member institutions have come together to present the following accommodations and guidelines.

### **Making Exceptions for Courses Graded as P/F During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

TMDSAS member institutions have agreed to accept all courses graded as pass/fail as equivalent to graded courses during the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically the spring 2020 academic term (including winter 2020 quarter term). Member institutions will continue to review candidates utilizing a holistic, individualized review process, considering candidates based on the totality of their academic career.

### **Regarding Online Pre-Requisite Courses**

All prerequisite courses that were transitioned to an online format in the spring 2020 (including winter 2020 quarter term) and summer 2020 academic terms will be applied towards the education requirements for all TMDSAS member institutions.

### **Regarding MCAT/DAT Test Changes**

TMDSAS does not require test scores to process applications, so applicants should not delay applying simply because a MCAT or DAT score is not yet available. TMDSAS member institutions understand that scores will be available later in the cycle and will evaluate applications as scores are submitted to TMDSAS. The schools will use the time allotted from the new timeline to review applications and extend interview invites, ensuring that applicants are not adversely affected.

### **Immediate Changes to the Application Cycle Timeline**

To further support applicants during this time, TMDSAS has elected to extend the application deadline to October 30th, 2020. The deadline will remain September 15<sup>th</sup> for Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine. The deadline for test scores and letters of evaluation has been extended to November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Rest assured, we will continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and assess its impact on the pre-health community and the application cycle moving forward. Please continue to follow updates on the TXHES website: [www.txhes.com/newsroom](http://www.txhes.com/newsroom).

On behalf of TMDSAS and our member institutions, our goal is to support our applicants and the pre-health community in this challenging time. We remain committed to your success and encourage our applicants to remain steadfast in the pursuit of their goals.

Matthew C. Meeks, M.Ed.  
Executive Director | Texas Health Education Service

**Texas Medical & Dental Schools Application Service**

P.O. Box 2175 Austin, TX 78768 • (512) 499-4785 • Fax: (512) 499-4786 • [www.tmdsas.com](http://www.tmdsas.com)