Navigating the MCA Application Process

Application Timeline

MCA application opens in October → Once MCA app is submitted, secondary application is sent → Early application closes January 31 – Final application closes on May 22 → Interviews are held February through June.

MCA Application

Primary Application
- Biographical information
- Educational history
- MCAT, DAT, GRE, or GMAT*
- Application fee

Secondary Application
- Letters of Recommendation
  3 required
  Comment on skills, attitudes, and characteristics
- Personal Statement
  - Why have you selected this program and how do you see it helping you meet your long-term goals?
  - What motivates you to learn more about the anatomical sciences?
  - What else do you want the Admissions Committee to know about you?
- Experiences
  - Work
  - Healthcare
  - Volunteering
  - Research
  - Extra-curricular
- File Submission
  - Transcripts
  - Curriculum vitae
  - Any additional info

Note: Application is complete when both primary and secondary application materials have been submitted.

INTERVIEWS

2:1, 25-min Individual interview

OFFERS

Admissions are offered on a rolling basis February through June.

* Highly recommended, but not required

ggrad.admissions.uiowa.edu/academics/master-clinical-anatomy
HELPFUL TIPS FOR APPLYING TO THE MCA Program

1. UNDERSTAND WHY YOU WANT TO APPLY
Take time to familiarize yourself with the components of the program. Consider what aspects of the program are of interest and can help you achieve your long-term goals.

2. EXAMINE YOUR STRENGTHS
Consider your academic and extra-curricular successes. Recount the skills you’ve gained and experiences you’ve had and think about how those attributes can contribute to your success as a graduate student.
Take this time to also reflect on opportunities for improvement and consider how this master’s program could help you grow in the areas you identify.

3. SEEK OUT RESOURCES
Ask for advice from academic and/or pre-health advisors about connecting your aspirations to application materials. Utilize your institution’s career center for assistance with crafting and editing your personal statement.

4. CRAFT YOUR STATEMENT
Use the application process as an opportunity to share who you are, why the MCA is right for you, and what your goals are following this program. Use descriptive language and detail in your application to show your interest in the program. Make sure your application is free of typos and grammatical errors!

5. FOCUS YOUR NARRATIVE
Note that this is not an application for medical, dental, or any other professional program.
Your application should reflect interest in the MCA graduate program specifically.
Avoid submitting the same narrative as other applications to ensure your intentions are clear.

6. SELECT THE RIGHT RECOMMENDERS
Select a breadth of individuals with whom you have known and interacted who can comment on your skills, attitudes, and characteristics that support your application to the program. Tell them why you want to attend the MCA program and give them at least three to four weeks to complete your letter.

7. GIVE YOURSELF TIME
Take the time you need to craft your story, collect your materials, and reach out to your references.
Don’t forget to contact the program if you have any questions throughout the application process!

CONTACT INFO
MCA Program
Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology
51 Newton Road | Iowa City, IA 52242
319-335-7197
mca-program@uiowa.edu
→ MEDICINE.UIOWA.EDU/ACB/MCA