

Annual TAAHP Update

Texas Health Education Service

Joint Admission Medical Program

Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service



Our Mission!



Today we will share with you...

A Look Back
Opportunities Discovered
Looking Forward

Presenting Today



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Texas Health Education Service

Year in Review



Year in Review

New Member Institutions

Dental

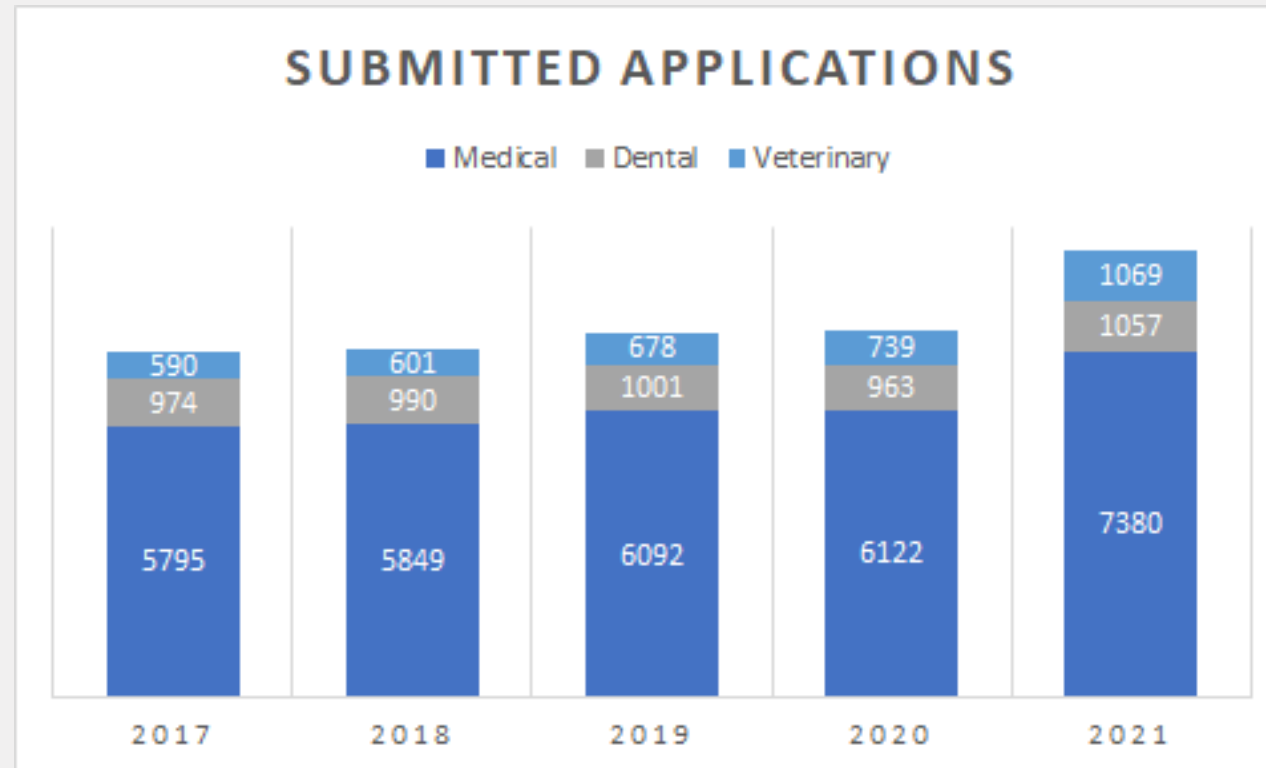
Woody L. Hunt School of Dental Medicine
at Texas Tech Health Science Center El Paso

Veterinary

Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine

EY 2021 - Application Numbers

- 22% Increase in application submissions from EY 2020
- 20.5% increase in medical; 9.7% increase in dental; 44.7% veterinary applications



Submitted Averages vs. Interviewed Status

Medical Applicants	Submitted Applications	Applicants Interviewed
GPA	3.68	3.76
MCAT	507	511

Dental Applicants	Submitted Applications	Applicants Interviewed
GPA	3.50	3.76
DAT (AA)	19	21
DAT (PA)	19	21

Special Populations - Applicants

URM

Dental: 308 (↑ 16%)

Medical: 2121 (↑ 34%)

Veterinary: 252 (↑ 27%)

Texas Residents

Dental: 938 (↑ 9%)

Medical: 5532 (↑ 20%)

Veterinary: 874 (↑ 47%)

Non-TX Residents

Dental: 111 (↑ 44%)

Medical: 1783 (↑ 24%)

Veterinary: 194 (↑ 34%)

Special Populations - Applicants

Re-Applicants

Dental: 309 (↑ 5%)

Medical: 1574 (↑ 11%)

Veterinary: 243 (↑ 40%)

Military / Veterans

Dental: 27 (↑ 59%)

Medical: 122 (↓ 3%)

Veterinary: 8 (↑ 167%)

Non-Traditional

Dental: 321 (↑ 24%)

Medical: 2029 (↑ 24%)

Veterinary: 110 (↑ 41%)



Year in Review

Year in Review

Applications for EY2021 class

- 613 Applications started
- 325 Submitted
 - 265 applicants from public institutions
 - 60 applicants from private institutions
- 100 students to be selected – February 16th

Year in Review

Preparing for the MCAT

- Students continue with online delivery of MCAT preparation through Kaplan:
- Provided with 3-Phase program:
 1. CARS Enrichment
 2. Science Enrichment
 - Biology
 - Chemistry
 - Biochemistry
 3. Live Online Classes
 - Weekly classes and heading to the finish line.

Year in Review

JAMP medical school match (EY2021)

- Round 1
 - 66 Students
 - Average MCAT – 509
 - 27 students from public institutions
 - 39 students from private institutions
- Round 2
 - 21 students
 - Average MCAT – 505
 - 17 students from public institutions
 - 5 students from private institutions

Year in Review

New institutions added

- New institutions added (70 total)
 - Texas A&M – San Antonio
 - University of North Texas at Dallas



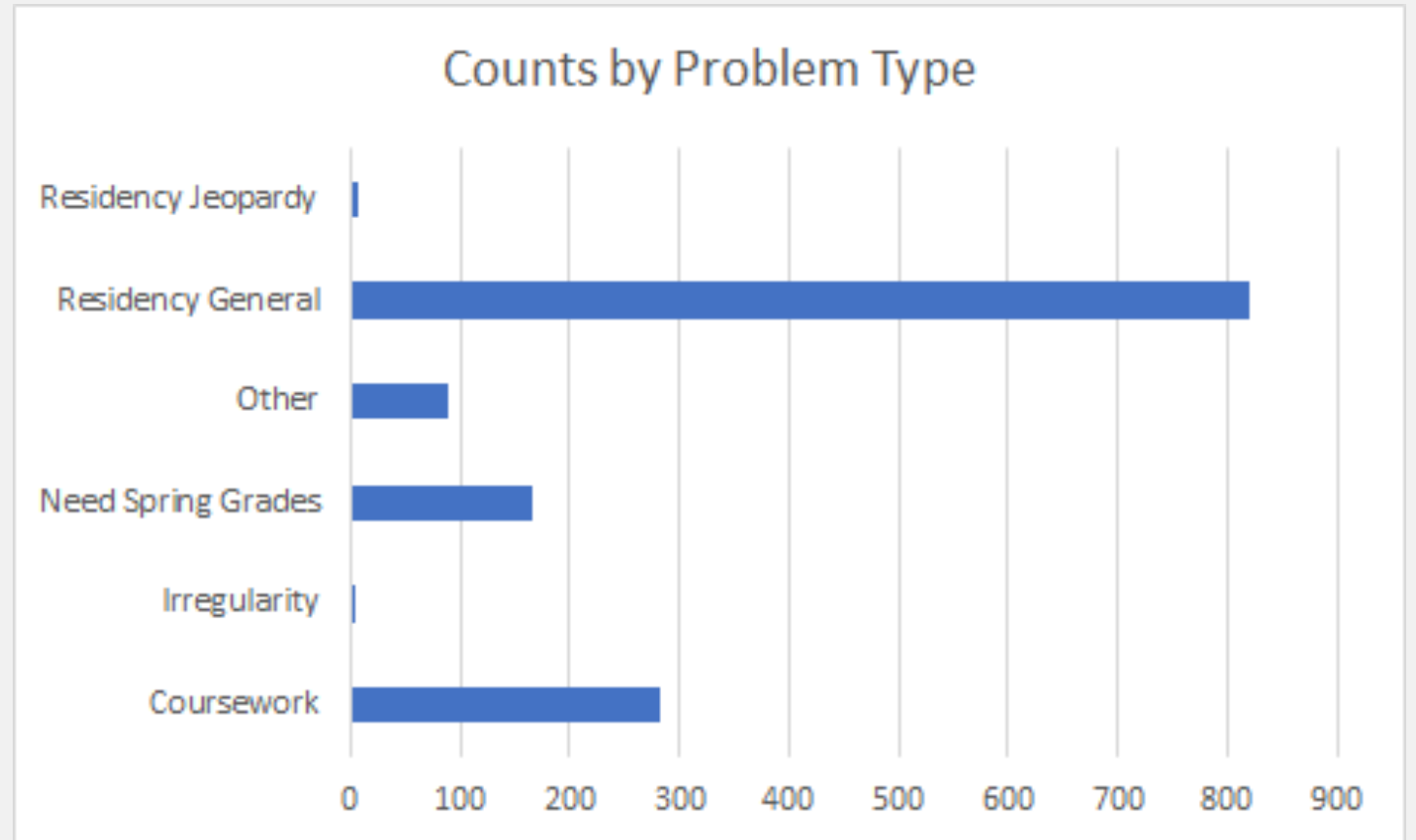
Year in Review

TMDSAS

Year in Review

Application Support

- Application Support Requests
 - **EY 2021:** 14.7% (1365)
 - **EY 2020:** 16% (1252)
 - **EY 2019:** 15.4% (1199)
- Change in process and timeline should allow us to resolve problems before we get to application in the queue



Year in Review

Transcript Policy Update

- Only requested transcripts from applicants once accepted to an institution
- Received a significantly reduced number of transcripts in our office this year
 - Will likely take 2-3 cycles to get word out to our applicants





Year in Review Assessment & Planning

TMDSAS Assessment

Summary of Spring Applicant Surveys

- Survey of the applicant experience for all individuals who submitted a TMDSAS application for the respective entry year
- Available for a two-week period following the Match
- Included topics: communication, application resources, application usability, support features (v. 2020), and self-identifying questions

EY 2019

- Surveyed 7,699; completed by 469 applicants, or ~6% of the applicant pool
- First survey of its kind
- Aided in establishing benchmarks

EY 2020

- Surveyed 7,818 applicants; completed by 626, or ~8% of applicant pool
- 2% increase in response rate result of increased email/social media campaigns
- Comparative data now available (see highlights)



TMDSAS Assessment Survey Highlights

Evaluation Question: *How does a more personalized application process impact applicant communication and overall satisfaction?*

Conclusions: Communication has grown!

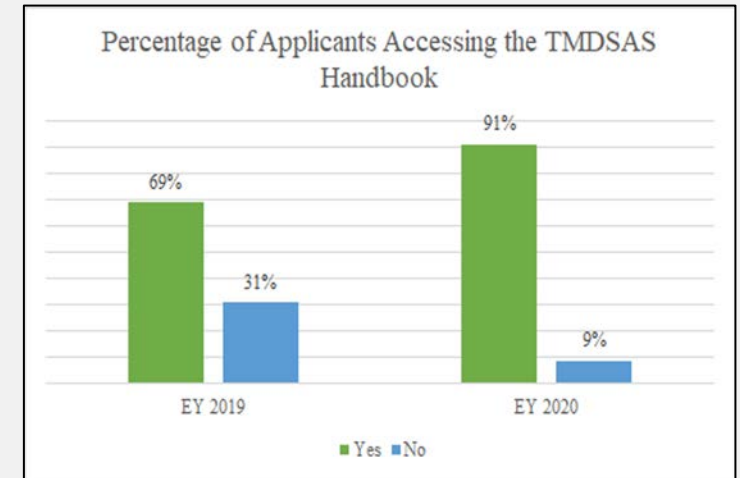
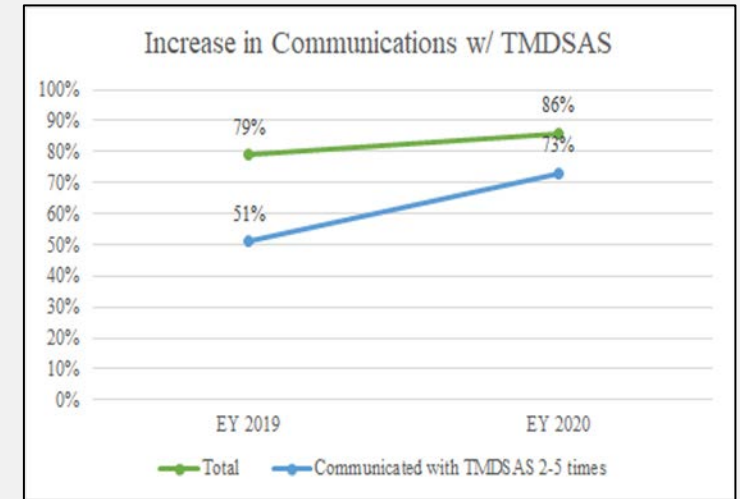
Evaluation Question: *How does the marketing of TMDSAS resources impact their utilization and effectiveness?*

Conclusions: Awareness of resources has improved, but education about utilization might be needed.

Evaluation Question: *What other common threads do we see in the data?*

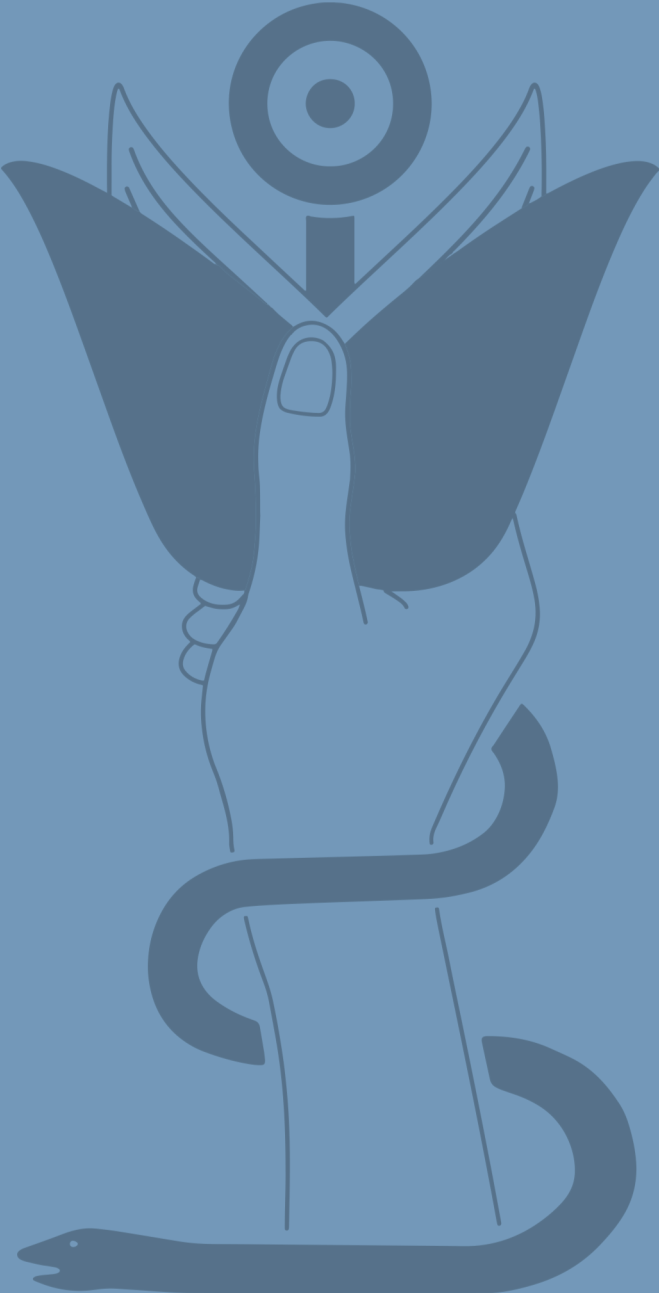
Conclusions: Open-ended survey questions reveal that applicants would like to see improvements to the following:

- Increased marketing of resources to out of state applicants
- Expansion of our Prescribed Course Lists to include more in-state and out of state schools
- Updates to the application interface and functionality, including the addition of an auto-save feature



Year in Review

Texas Health Education Service



Year in Review

Courage Sessions

- Encourage applicants to keep moving forward
 - 28 Courage Sessions now available on YouTube
 - Audio-only versions available via *Inside Health Education* Podcast.
- Upcoming *Courage Sessions*:
 - 2/17 at 1pm CT
 - TAAHP Ambassador Team on Considerations for Applicants During COVID
 - 2/23 at 2pm CT
 - Baylor College of Medicine



"Success is not final, failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts." - Winston Churchill

Year in Review

Newsroom

- COVID-19 Impacts on TMDSAS
- Articles exploring:
 - Changes in timeline
 - Preparing for virtual interviews
 - Understanding pre-match offers
 - Application numbers by month

Texas Health Education Service

PLAN APPLY SUPPORT PODCAST NEWS ABOUT

Newsroom


▼ Podcast

▼ Articles

Updates

Courage Sessions

How to Prepare for Virtual Interviews



Interviews for professional school are the culmination of years of preparation and represent an important step in your journey toward becoming a healthcare professional.

Throughout the [Courage Sessions](#), we've learned about [how the admissions process has been affected by COVID-19](#). A key change to this application cycle is the implementation of virtual interviews across the TMDSAS schools. While preparing for an interview used to consist of practicing questions, finding comfortable shoes for walking tours, and taking good notes, the migration to a virtual environment requires you to take some additional considerations.

We've collected the following advice from the AAMC's ["Prep for Success in Your Virtual Interview"](#) presentation, the ["Zoom Interview Tips for Medical & Dental School Applicants"](#) by Mr. Caleb Marsh from Temple University, the AAMC's ["Virtual Interviews: Tips for Medical Applicants"](#) document, and feedback from the dental, medical, and veterinary member institutions.

How Are Interviews the Same?

TXHES



Year in Review

TAAHP Ambassadors

TAAHP Ambassadors

Dedicated group of 3 TAAHP leadership officers to advise operations and initiatives:

- Aliya Bhimani - Rice University
- Taiya Fabre - Houston Baptist University
- Pam McNulty - Southern Methodist University

Projects:

- Assess Preparation and Develop an “Orientation Course” for Applicants
 - Current focus on High School and Community College pathways
 - Partner with health professions advisors at community colleges
 - Study trends and develop best practices



Advisors' Handbook

Health Professions Advisors' Guide

A collaborative guide brought together by a special team from: TAAHP, TXHES, TMDAS, & JAMP



Version 1 (2020)



MCAT

How Registration Works

The MCAT exam is offered multiple times a year from January and March through September at hundreds of test sites in the United States, Canada, and around the world.

MCAT FAQs

How to Prepare

Exam Content

- Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems Section
- Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems Section
- Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior Section
- Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills Section

Scoring

The MCAT exam multiple choice section has seven practice exams.

MCAT scores are scaled (range from 118 (lowest) to 132 (highest) per section, and for a total score from 472 to 528).

Strategies for Improving Score

The MCAT exam tests your knowledge of fundamental biological and chemical concepts, your quantitative problem-solving skills, general and organic chemistry, and physics, as well as your cognitive flexibility, reading, and writing. While these goals are specific, preparing you must be able to integrate and use the material. It's important to test yourself with the content and skills tested. If you feel that additional coursework or studying is needed to help you prepare, talk about testing when you feel that you're comfortable that coursework is done.

Also keep in mind, medical schools will be able to see all of your scored exams, and there are limits on the number of times you can take the exam. Take the MCAT frequently for more information about retaking your exam, including your scores (programs and testing limits).

Most importantly, take the exam when you're ready, not when you think you should be.

Practice Tests **Personal Study**

MCAT2015 Total Score

Create a Study Plan

Get a study guide, developed by the MCAT team at the AAMC, to help you create your own study plan.

TMDAS

The Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service (TMDAS) is the centralized application processing service for applicants to the first year entering classes of all of the public medical schools and osteopathic schools in the State of Texas.

Beyond An Application

TMDAS oversees the application process for both the applicants and the participating schools. We provide an essential coordination, where a student of the need to complete a separate application for each of the participating schools.

The TMDAS partnership includes health care training and education reformator on all applicants and by completing the assistance on the application. TMDAS is housed within the Texas Health Education Service of Austin, Texas.

Member Institutions

Medical

- UT Southwestern Medical School
- UT Medical Branch at Galveston
- Washington Medical School
- Long School of Medicine
- Texas A&M University College of Medicine
- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine at Lubbock
- University of Texas "Pecos" Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, PA-C, Foster School of Medicine at El Paso
- UT at Austin Dell Medical School
- UT Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine
- Dartmouth College School of Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine
- University of Houston College of Medicine

Dental

- Texas A&M University College of Dentistry
- The University of Texas School of Dentistry at Houston
- The University of Texas School of Dentistry at San Antonio
- Midwestern State School of Dental Medicine

Veterinary

- Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine
- Programs at 2017 Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine

Resources

Fee Structure

- Application

Application Handbook

- Handbook

Timeline

- Timeline

Application Booklets

- Booklets

Determining Texas Residency

- Residency

Application Line Agreement

- Line Agreement

TMDAS Web

- Web

Texas Health Education Service

The Texas Health Education Service employs, facilitates and administers resources to develop, evaluate, coordinate, and professional schools in Texas.

Goals for TXHES

Analysis

- Providing students with accurate educational resources to enhance their preparation for a career in the health professions.

Advocacy

- Supporting efforts by advisors and professional advisors to equip students and assist the application process.

Year in Review

Join the TXHES Advisory Council

Seeking stakeholders and representatives for subcommittees:

- **Dental**
- **Medical**
- **Veterinary**
- **Pre-health Advisors**
(public, private, community college)

Expectations:

- 1) Time Availability – short-term (<6 months), long-term (>6 months, or ad hoc (on specific projects such as focus groups)
- 2) Input – provide guidance and support resource creation
- 3) Output – assist with development of new resources (articles, podcasts, videos, etc.)

Access Sign-Up Form
at:



Year in Review

Key Takeaways

- JAMP
 - The program continues to grow by adding institutions.
 - JAMP students are receiving the support they need to succeed in their dream to become physicians.
- TMDSAS
 - Overall increase in applications for EY 2021
 - Continuing to evaluate our practices to better serve our applicants and the pre-health community
- TXHES
 - Courage Sessions continuing into 2021 with two sessions in February
 - Have ideas on helping educate and inform aspiring healthcare providers?
Join the TXHES Advisory Council!

Organizational Learning and Growth Opportunities



Responding to the Pandemic

Member Institutions

- Met monthly with institutions both as a group and then separately by type
 - Policies – Shared language
 - Online Courses – Discussion of online course approval for Fall 2020
 - MCAT – ensuring the process was equitable for all applicants
 - Pass/Fail courses – still accepted through spring 2021
- Developed resources to guide prospective applicants through the pandemic
 - Newsroom – Most accessed resource this application cycle
 - Discussions about virtual interviews
- Met with AAMC regularly to ensure MCAT testing was safe for our applicant

Responding to the Pandemic

Changes Made to Application Cycle Timeline

Global Changes

Began transmitting applications on June 1, 2020

Extended the application deadline to Oct 30, 2020

Test scores and evaluation letters deadline extended to November 13, 2020

Medical

Extended Medical Match to March 5, 2021

Last day for medical schools to make offers to candidates already holding seats elsewhere: May 15, 2021

Dental

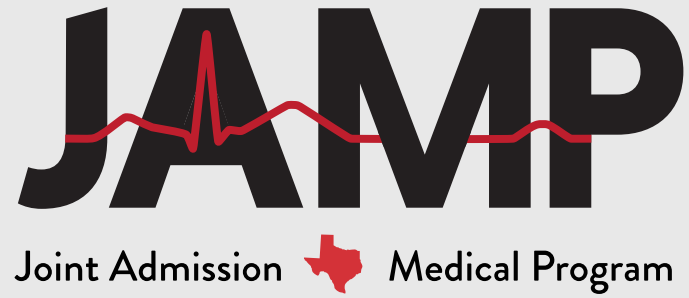
Offers of acceptance moved to December 15th

Veterinary

Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine: cancelled applicant interviews; offers begin mid-March

Texas Tech School of Veterinary Medicine: set application deadline to December 21





EY 2021 Pandemic Response and Opportunities Discovered

Responding to the Pandemic

Transitioning experiences online

- **Virtual summer internships**
 - Worked well:
 - Positive interactions with lectures and subject materials.
 - Getting a taste of what medical school will be like.
 - Reviewing:
 - Length.
 - Need for more physical activity/wellness activities.
- **Medical school interview processes**
 - Worked well:
 - Strength of partnerships.
 - JAMP students able to interview at all locations easily.

EY 2021 Pandemic Response and Opportunities Discovered

Responding to the Pandemic

TMDSAS Response

Updated Timeline

- Intended as a response to pandemic, learned that an extended timeline better served various members of the community
 - Increased time for advisors to complete and compile letters
 - More time to wrap up previous cycle for member institutions
 - More time for applicants to work through application

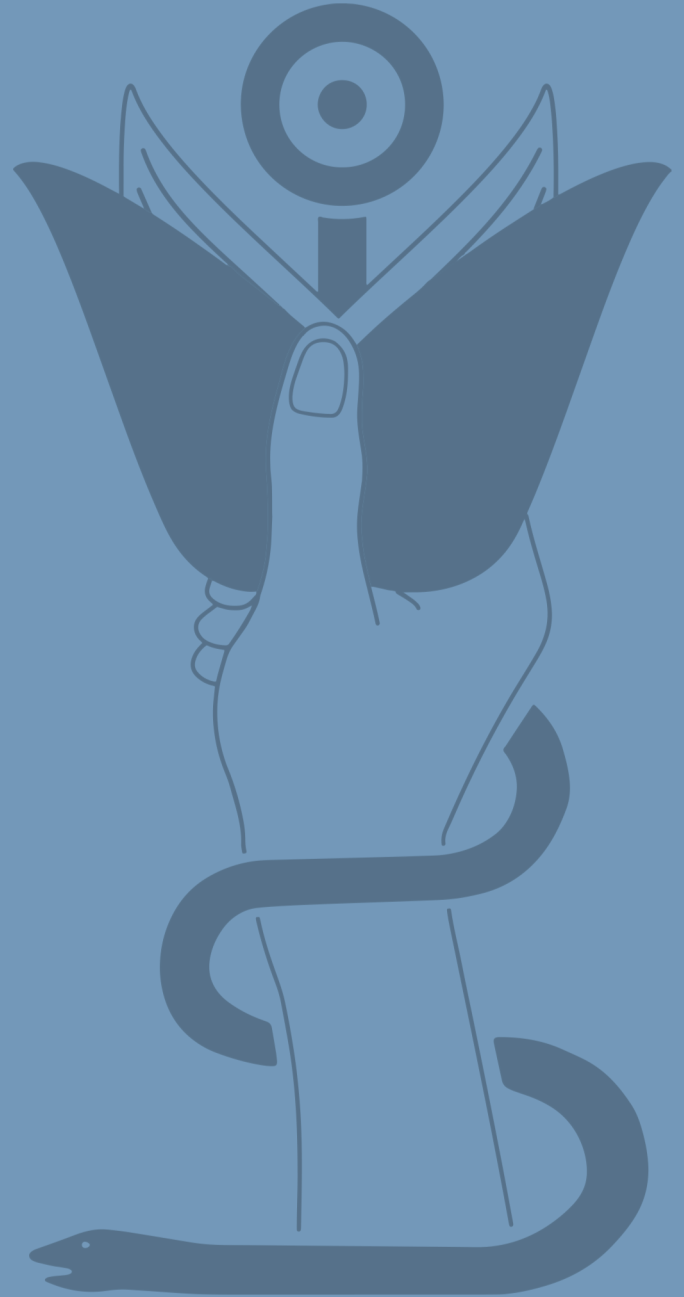
Virtual “Office Hours”

- Pandemic pushed TMDSAS to jump start our virtual outreach efforts
 - Discovered need to interact with a broader audience of applicants (out of state, non-traditional) *throughout* the application cycle to provide regular and informal app guidance.



Opportunities Discovered

Texas Health Education Service



Lessons Learned

Outreach Opportunities

- **COVID-19 Newsroom**

- Platform for TMDSAS, JAMP, and TXHES to collaborate with member institutions to support pre-health community

- **Growth in Applicant Pools**

- Assessing equity of growth
- Outreach to underrepresented groups

- **Improve Access to Education Resources**

- Recruit aspiring applicants where they are
- Assess points of intervention



Lessons Learned

Opportunities for Engagement

- Developing interest in engaging with organizations
 - TAAHP
 - St. David's Foundation
 - Texas Health Journal
 - Student National Medical Association/LMSA/ASDA/SAVMA
 - Tour for Diversity in Medicine
 - Texas Medical Association / Texas Osteopathic Medical Association
 - Texas Dental Association
 - Texas Veterinary Medical Association
 - AAMC's GSA, Pre-Medical, FIRST, and MCAT Groups



EY 2021 Pandemic Response & Opportunities Discovered

Key Takeaways

- JAMP
 - Strong engagement with students is important especially as we host online experiences.
 - Evaluation is necessary to drive success for program.
- TMDSAS
 - Changes to the cycle timeline provide numerous benefits to the greater pre-health community.
 - Virtual engagements have become critical to our education and outreach efforts.
- TXHES
 - Great success of communicating updates via the COVID-19 Newsroom as a service for students and pre-health community, new tool to work with.

Looking Towards the Future



Looking to the Future

New Institutions

Baylor College of Medicine

Prospective:

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of
Podiatry

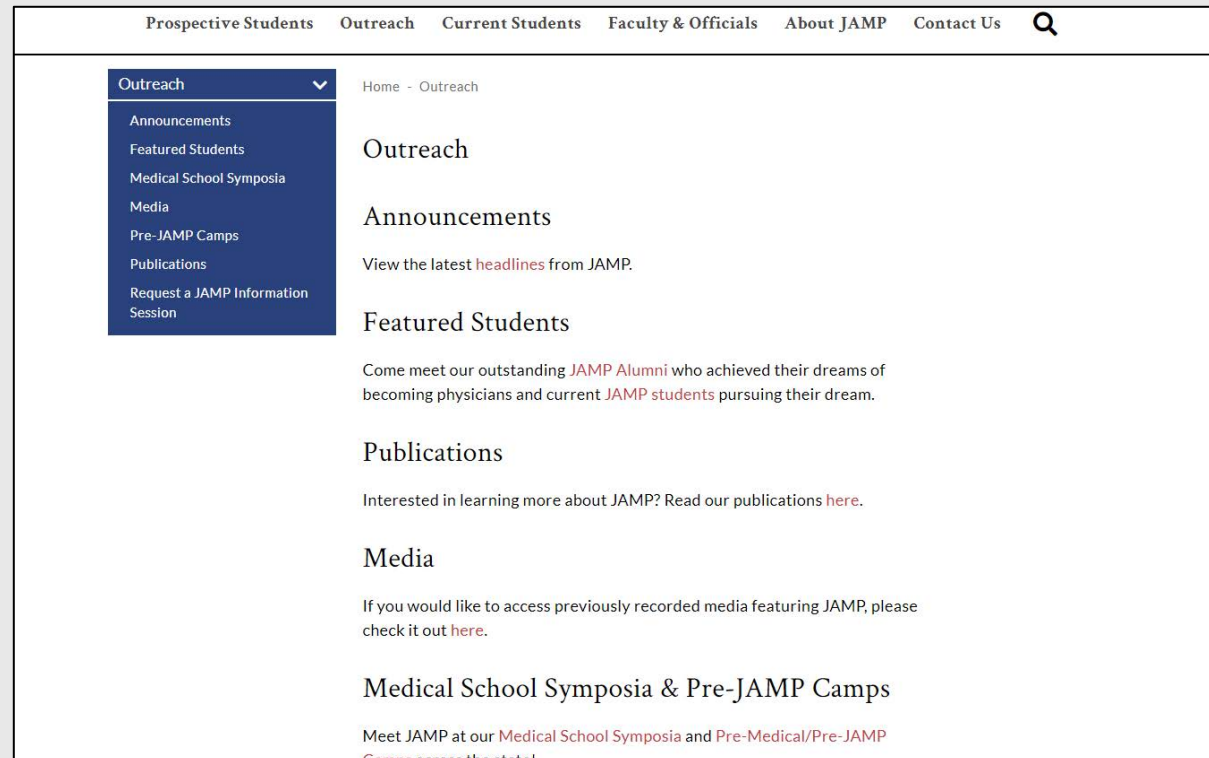


Looking Towards the Future

Looking towards the future

Outreach and education

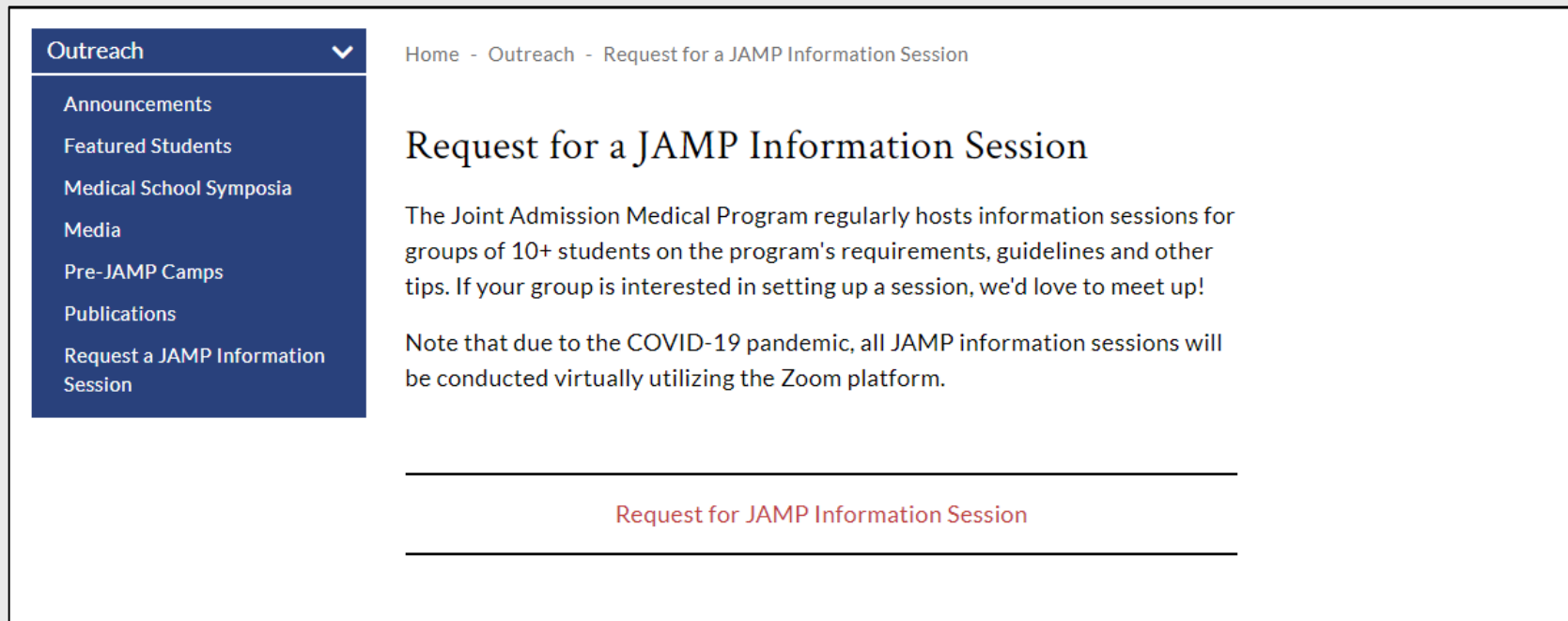
- Website Enhancements



Looking towards the future

Outreach and education

- **Virtual recruitment**

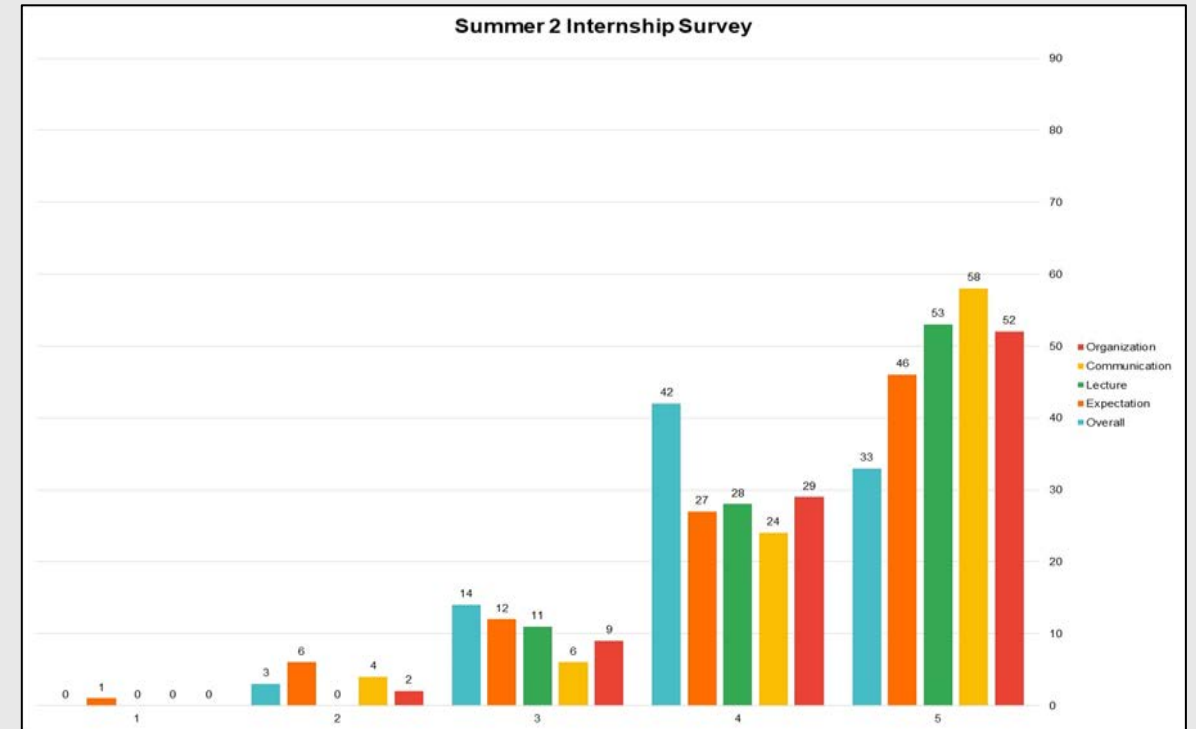
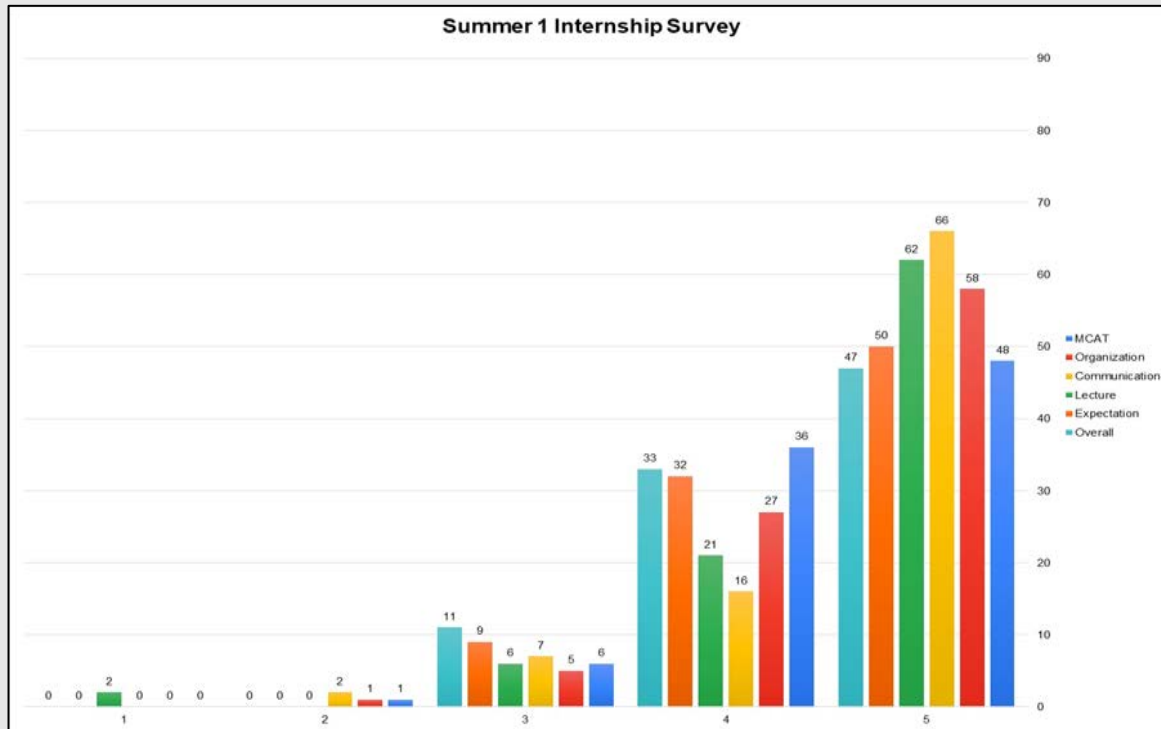


The screenshot shows a website page with a dark blue navigation menu on the left. The menu items are: Outreach (with a dropdown arrow), Announcements, Featured Students, Medical School Symposia, Media, Pre-JAMP Camps, Publications, and Request a JAMP Information Session. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail: Home - Outreach - Request for a JAMP Information Session. The title of the page is 'Request for a JAMP Information Session'. The text below the title reads: 'The Joint Admission Medical Program regularly hosts information sessions for groups of 10+ students on the program's requirements, guidelines and other tips. If your group is interested in setting up a session, we'd love to meet up!' Below this is a note: 'Note that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all JAMP information sessions will be conducted virtually utilizing the Zoom platform.' At the bottom of the page, there is a red button labeled 'Request for JAMP Information Session' between two horizontal lines.

Looking towards the future

Program evaluation

- Embracing the ideals of a learning organization



Looking Towards the Future

Looking to the Future

Developing a New Application

- New Application Benefits
 - Remove limitations to current system
 - More flexibility for member institutions
 - *Support for Individual timelines*
 - *Possibility for school-specific questions*
- Integrated instructions and enhanced responsiveness
- Address accessibility issues
- Future proofed (features we want and WILL want)
- User friendly and dynamic experience for applicants
- Will incorporate your feedback



TMDSAS Assessment

Program Evaluation Mission Driven Assessment

The Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service (TMDSAS) is the central organization through which participating member institutions unite to foster the success of aspiring dentists, physicians, and veterinarians. TMDSAS achieves this through:

- **Leadership** – Orchestrating essential discourse with member institutions on the equitable policies and conscientious procedures to be implemented through a standardized application that best serves its applicants.
- **Personalized Support** – Tailoring the administrative operations of the application process to ensure veracity and to achieve integrity.
- **Education** – Educating the greater pre-health community on the application through the development of inclusive resources and media updates.
- **Communication** – Openly communicating guidelines and support methods to enrich the applicant experience, further cultivating trust between applicants, TMDSAS, and Member Institutions.



Looking to the Future

Program Evaluation Next Steps

"As a learning organization, TMDSAS is involved in a mission-driven program evaluation to make organizational improvements."

Next Steps

- Continue Surveying - we want to hear from all key stakeholders!
- *Spring Applicant and Advisor Surveys*
 - Resources
 - Processing
 - Communication
 - Improvements to the application
 -
- Focused Group Discussions
 - Institutional
 - Applicant
 - Advisor
- Use feedback and assessment to drive improvements

Research questions

- Will future iterations of the TMDSAS application result in improved user satisfaction?
- How will increased knowledge of member institutions' admissions processes impact the efficacy in which TMDSAS educates applicants?
- How does the marketing of TMDSAS resources impact their utilization and effectiveness?



Looking to the Future

Increased outreach and education via expanded virtual presence

- **Webinars** – application workshops designed to provide thorough review of the application process to a broad audience prior to the start of the application cycle
- **“Office Hours”** – continuation of the Live Q&A sessions via Facebook to provide regular application support and guidance



Looking Towards the Future

EY 2022 TMDSAS Application Changes

Looking to the Future

Future Impact on Application Timeline

Feedback from EY2021

- Delay in transmission was helpful to advisors and evaluators for letters of evaluation
- Applicants able to complete their application without feeling rushed

EY 2022 Updates

- Delay application submission by two weeks
- Allow application submission through November 1
 - Compared to October 1 historically
- Match in early March
 - Compared to Early Feb historically



EY 2022 TMD SAS Application Changes

Family & Significant Person

EY 2021

- Applicants may enter two biological parents (one man, one woman) and two significant people (one man, one woman)

EY 2022

- Provide more options to allow all family types to be represented
- Removing gendered language and requirement to enter biological parents' information
- Up to six entries for parent/legal guardian
 - *Including: Adoptive parent, grandparent, stepparent, etc.*
- Option to enter up to six significant people
 - *Including sibling, spouse, grandparent*

Language

EY 2021

- Applicants asked if bilingual and to select which languages they are fluent in

EY 2022

- Applicants able to rank their proficiency in languages they speak
- Beginner, Intermediate, & Expert/Native Speaker



EY 2022 TMD SAS Application Changes

Leadership Prompt

EY 2021

- Current prompt: "Do you have any leadership roles or positions of responsibility to enter?"

EY 2022

- Additional line to leadership prompt: "In the absence of these roles, you may list leadership qualities you have learned from other opportunities."

New submission date

EY 2021

- Application opened May 1; applicants were able to submit the application at any point but were not transmitted until June 1

EY 2022

- Application will open May 3rd and can be submitted on May 17th.



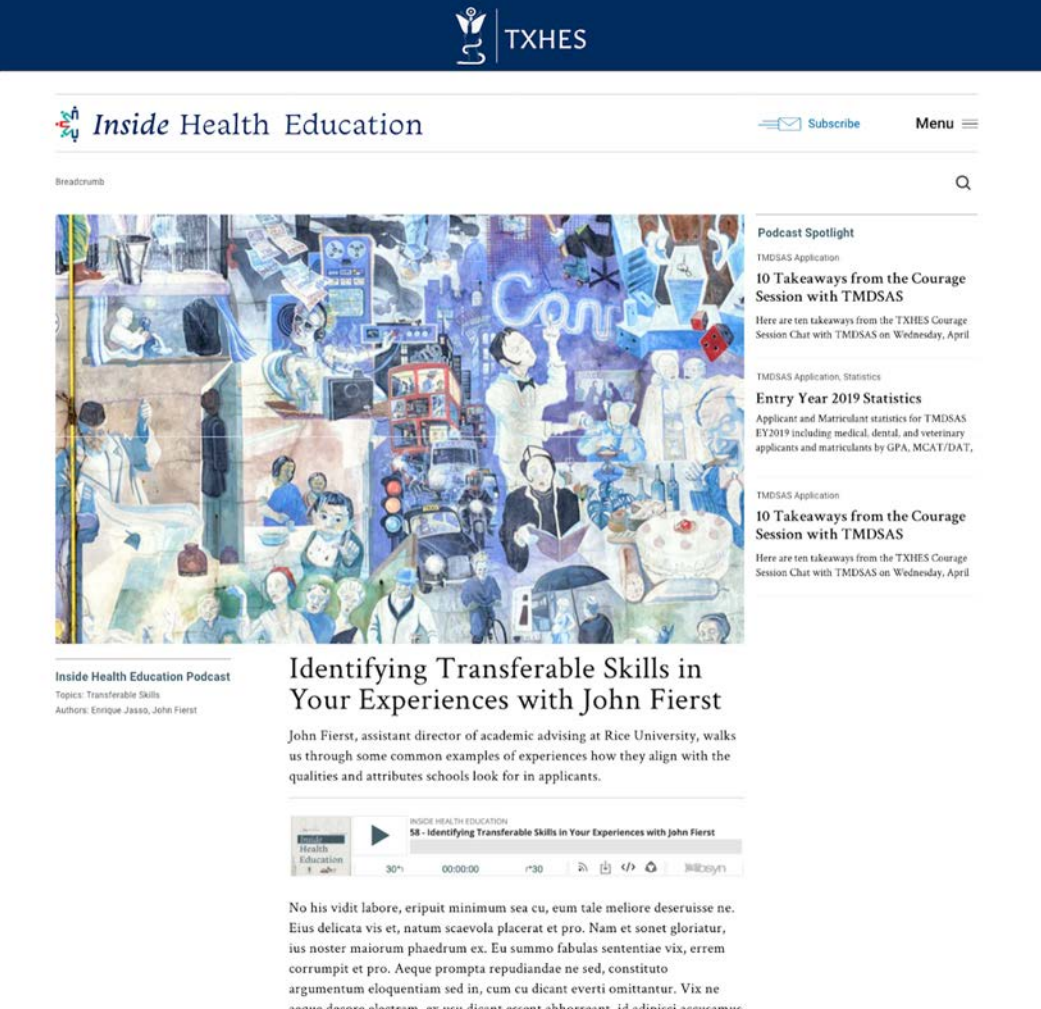
Looking Towards the Future

Texas Health Education Service



Introducing Inside Health Education!

- Promoting Outreach and Education
 - Resources and guidance from TMDASAS, JAMP, and TXHES
 - Home for live events such as Office Hours/ Courage Sessions and podcasts
 - Launch Date – March 1, 2021
- Now accepting contributors



Inside Health Education | TXHES

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Breadcrumbs

Podcast Spotlight

TMDASAS Application

10 Takeaways from the Courage Session with TMDASAS

Here are ten takeaways from the TXHES Courage Session Chat with TMDASAS on Wednesday, April

TMDASAS Application, Statistics

Entry Year 2019 Statistics

Applicant and Matriculant statistics for TMDASAS EY2019 including medical, dental, and veterinary applicants and matriculants by GPA, MCAT/DAT.

TMDASAS Application

10 Takeaways from the Courage Session with TMDASAS

Here are ten takeaways from the TXHES Courage Session Chat with TMDASAS on Wednesday, April

Inside Health Education Podcast

Topics: Transferable Skills

Authors: Enrique Jasso, John Fierst

Identifying Transferable Skills in Your Experiences with John Fierst

John Fierst, assistant director of academic advising at Rice University, walks us through some common examples of experiences how they align with the qualities and attributes schools look for in applicants.

INSIDE HEALTH EDUCATION
58 - Identifying Transferable Skills in Your Experiences with John Fierst

00:00:00

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TXHES Mission Evaluation

Mission evaluation with Angela Scoggins

- Doctoral student at Vanderbilt University
- Addressing problem(s) seen by the advising community
 - How TXHES works
 - Addressing needs of pre-health community
 - Prioritizing resources to address needs
- How can advisors help?
 - Join a Focus Group!
 - Use QR Code with your Camera app
or email angela.t.scoggins@vanderbilt.edu

Sign up at:



Looking towards the future

Key Takeaways

JAMP

- We need your help with reaching out by signing your student groups for virtual information sessions at www.texasjamp.org.
- Program evaluation will drive improvements and guide our efforts towards the success of students.

TMDSAS

- The TMDSAS Application is dynamic and continues to evolve to meet the needs of our community and promote best practice.
- Program evaluation will continue to promote organizational learning and improvement; ***we invite you to give your feedback.***
- Expect a more virtual presence – “Office Hours” and Webinars
- Our community continues to grow with the addition of new institutions!

TXHES

- Continue to seek opportunities for outreach, addressing disparities in the application pool.
- Inside Health Education launching March 1, 2021.
- Sign up to join for an Advisor Focus Group.

The TXHES Mission

The Texas Health Education Service amplifies TMDAS and JAMP's missions to serve students, collegiate advisors, and professional schools in Texas by:

- Providing students with accurate educational resources to enhance their preparation for a career in the health professions
- Supporting efforts by advisors and professional schools to reach students and enrich the applicant pool

Thank you

