

From Community College to the UC San Diego School of Medicine

Kama Guluma, MD

Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Affairs

UC San Diego School of Medicine

***Community Colleges and
the UC San Diego School of Medicine***

Center for Community College Initiatives



Ramon A. Hernandez, DrPH, MPH
Project Director, Health Career Opportunities Program (HCOP)
Project Director, Hispanic Center of Excellence (HCOE)

Developing and Sustaining a Diverse Healthcare Workforce to Address Health Inequity

Awareness, Education, Recruitment, Retention, Persistence

UCSD: Research Methodology Training Laboratory (RMTL)

SDSU: UB HCOP Scholars

AHEC: Camp Scripps HCOP

UCSD: UniversityLink Medical Science Program (ULMSP)

SDSU: HCOP Academy Scholars

UCSD: Research Methodology Training Laboratory (RMTL), Project PUMA, SNMA Mentoring

Conditional Acceptance Program (CAP) Pre-Matriculation Program

UCSD Hispanic Center of Excellence

PRIME HEq, HCOE Student and Faculty Scholars

High School

Community College

University Undergraduate

Post Baccalaureate

Health Professions School

UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

HCOE
Hispanic Center of Excellence



UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

University Link Medical Science Program (ULMSP)



ULMSP PURPOSE

Summer residential and year-long advising and academic enrichment program that assists **community college** students from disadvantaged and underrepresented backgrounds to make a successful transfer to the university and to enter the health professions.



Longitudinal Community of Practice Model

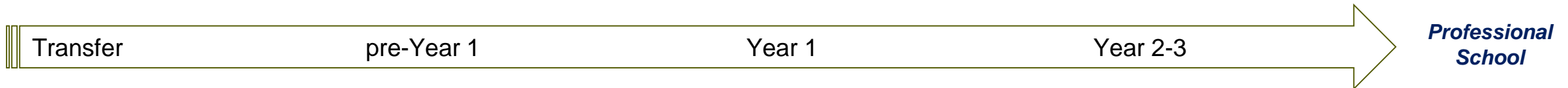
ULMSP Summer Residential



ULMSP Research Academy (URA)



Portfolio Development



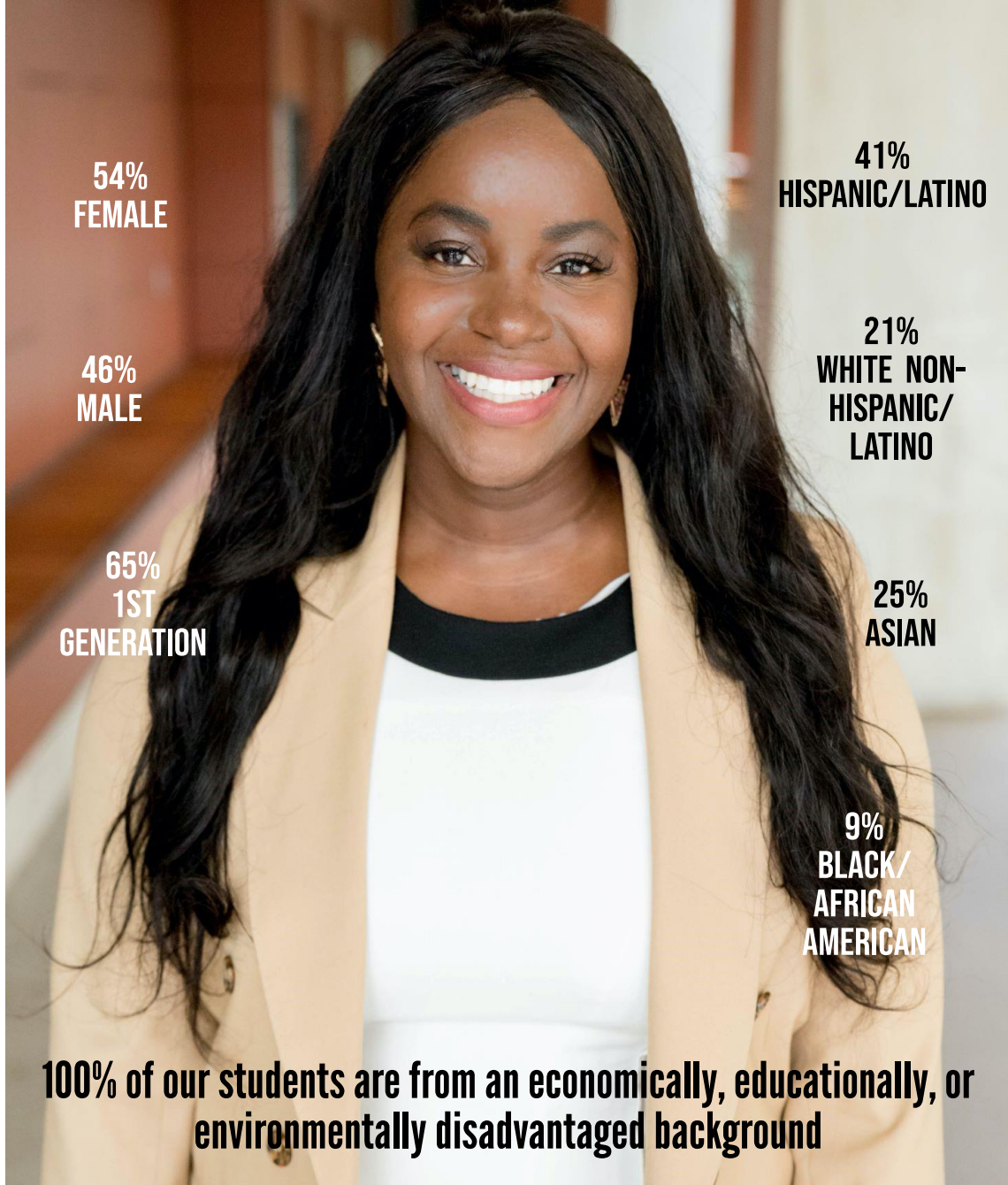
2020 UniversityLink Medical Science Program (ULMSP)



2021 UniversityLink Medical Science Program (ULMSP)



Who are we?



54%
FEMALE

46%
MALE

65%
1ST
GENERATION

41%
HISPANIC/LATINO

21%
WHITE NON-
HISPANIC/
LATINO

25%
ASIAN

9%
BLACK/
AFRICAN
AMERICAN

100% of our students are from an economically, educationally, or environmentally disadvantaged background

Where did we transfer from?

SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE
19%

SAN DIEGO
CITY COLLEGE
12%

SAN DIEGO
MIRAMAR
COLLEGE
9%




15%




8%



GROSSMONT
COLLEGE
15%



CUYAMACA
COLLEGE
6%



PALOMAR COLLEGE®
Learning for Success
7%



MIRACOSTA
COLLEGE
6%

83% OF ELIGIBLE ULMSP PARTICIPANTS TRANSFERRED TO UC SAN DIEGO
100% OF ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS CHOSE TO ATTEND A 4 YEAR UNIVERSITY IN CALIFORNIA

Our Success

SINCE 2001

165
STUDENTS HAVE
PARTICIPATED IN
ULMSP

98%
TRANSFERRED TO A
4-YEAR UNIVERSITY

89% OBTAINED A
BACHELOR'S
DEGREE

90% OBTAINED A
DEGREE IN THE
BIOMEDICAL
SCIENCES

65% HAVE
ENROLLED IN
PROFESSIONAL OR
GRADUATE SCHOOL



What are we saying about ULMSP

ULMSP has done so much for me. Coming into the program, I had no confidence and no support system. I now have that support that I need to carry on towards my goals.

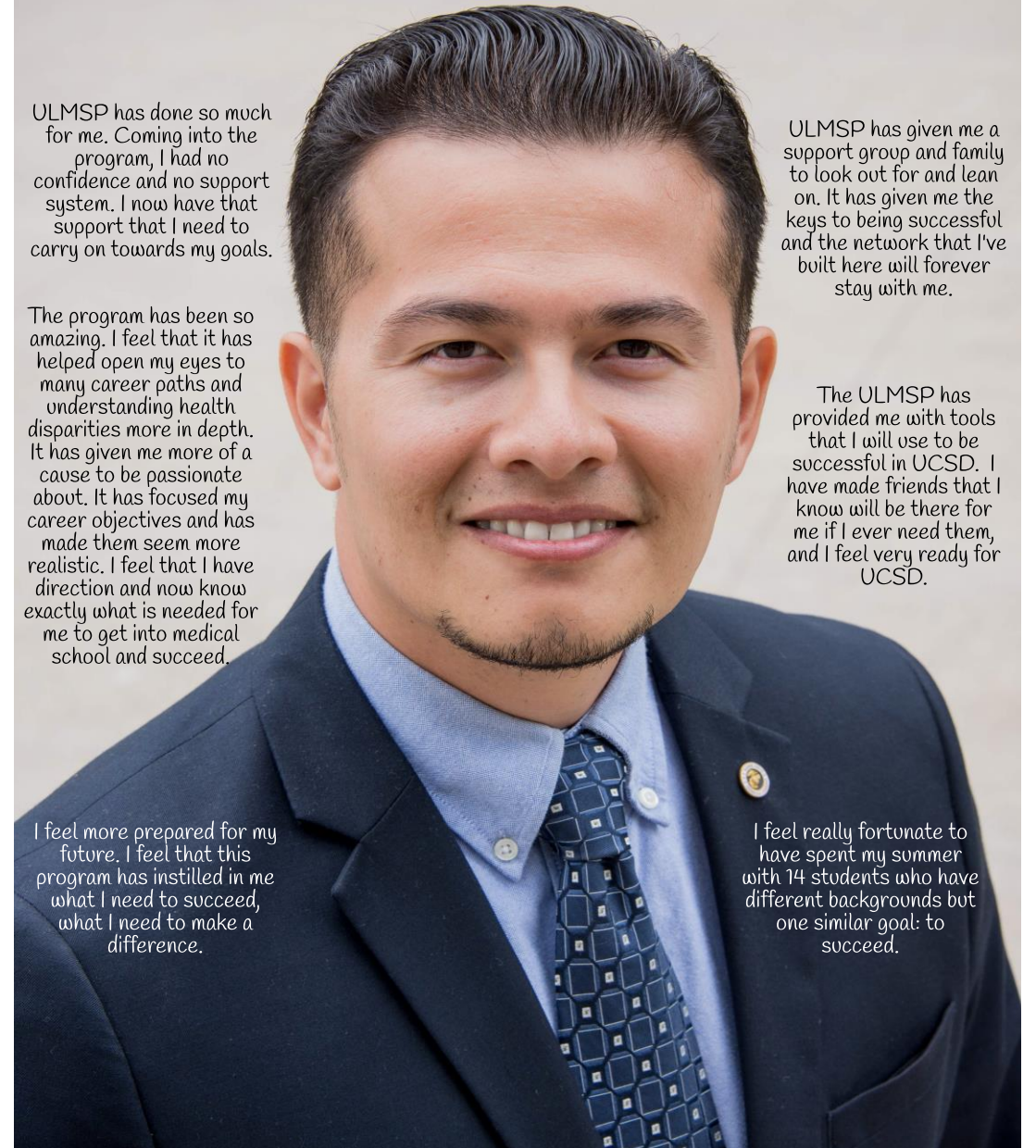
The program has been so amazing. I feel that it has helped open my eyes to many career paths and understanding health disparities more in depth. It has given me more of a cause to be passionate about. It has focused my career objectives and has made them seem more realistic. I feel that I have direction and now know exactly what is needed for me to get into medical school and succeed.

I feel more prepared for my future. I feel that this program has instilled in me what I need to succeed, what I need to make a difference.

ULMSP has given me a support group and family to look out for and lean on. It has given me the keys to being successful and the network that I've built here will forever stay with me.

The ULMSP has provided me with tools that I will use to be successful in UCSD. I have made friends that I know will be there for me if I ever need them, and I feel very ready for UCSD.

I feel really fortunate to have spent my summer with 14 students who have different backgrounds but one similar goal: to succeed.



From Evidence Base to Scaling and Sustainability

The California Medicine Scholars Program



The California Medicine Scholars Program (CMSP)

- The signature program of the California Medicine Coalition.
- A system-wide, collaborative pathway to support and increase the numbers of underrepresented minority physicians, in efforts to address the physician shortage in under resourced and underserved communities.
- Increasing the numbers of URiM physicians also addresses inequities and disparities in the health and health outcomes of California's diverse communities.



FOUNDATION *for* CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGES



UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

SB 40 (Hurtado): Addressing Need in the Valley and California

CA Senator Melissa Hurtado, D-14

Author Senate Bill 40: *California Medicine Scholars Program*

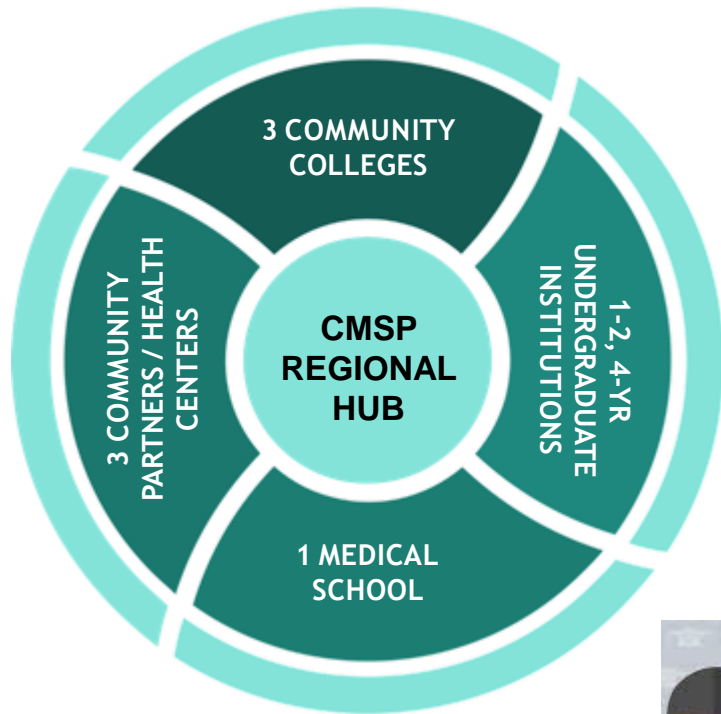


SB 40: *At a Glance*

- 3-Year Pilot
- 4 Regional Hubs
- At least one Hub in the Central Valley
- Promote students giving back to their local communities
- Engage cross-sector institutions and agencies in a region
- Support & track institutional transfer rates for URiM students
- Passed Senate Health Committee with unanimous vote



CA Medicine Scholars Program



Community College

Undergraduate Institution

Medical School

Residency & Practice

A Coordinated Pathway of Systemic Changes to a Diverse CA Physician Workforce



BOLD POLICY



EMBEDDED STUDENT SUPPORTS



RESPONSIVE DATA & ACCOUNTABILITY



SHIFT INSTITUTIONAL CULTURE & VALUES



CROSS SECTOR COLLABORATION



Rowena Robles, PhD

Executive Director, California Medicine
Foundation for California Community Colleges

rrobles@foundationccc.org | foundationccc.org

<https://california-medicine.org>

UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

UniversityLink Medical Science Program 2022



Scan this QR Code to be taken straight to the ULMSP Application!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PURSUING A CAREER IN MEDICINE, DENTISTRY, PHARMACY, VETERINARY, BIOMEDICAL, OR THE BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES?

UC San Diego, School of Medicine offers an intensive four-week summer residential* program and year-long academic enrichment program for community college transfer students who are interested in pursuing a career in the health professions.

"It has completely turned my life around. It was a one-of-a-kind experience that can never be replaced."

ULMSP Alumni



UniversityLink Medical Science Program (ULMSP) activities include: study and test taking skills development; lectures on health sciences, health disparities, and culturally competent medicine; basic science, community based, clinical and public health training; health career and pre-medicine counseling; and long-term mentoring. ULMSP also helps participants develop linkages to campus programs and resources.

Application Opens: December 1, 2021
Deadline to Apply: March 11, 2022
Program dates: June 26 - July 23, 2022
To apply go to: ucsdulmsp.weebly.com



Authorizing legislation: Section 739 of the Public Health Service Act as amended by the Affordable Care Act
 *ULMSP residential program may be held virtually based on current COVID guidelines. Updates will be provided.

Eligibility Criteria

- Currently attending community college in any of the San Diego or Imperial Valley community colleges.
- UniversityLink or IGETC students interested in the health sciences.
- Intend to transfer to UC San Diego in Fall 2022.
- Meet UC eligibility and have a GPA of 3.5 or higher
- A U.S. citizen or permanent resident

For more information, go to:
www.ucsdulmsp.weebly.com
 or e-mail
ulmsp@ucsd.edu



California Medicine Scholars San Diego/Imperial Counties Pilot 2022



INTERESTED IN PURSUING A CAREER IN MEDICINE?

The UC San Diego, School of Medicine in partnership with local area community colleges and San Diego State University and California State University, San Marcos offers a pre-med pathway program for community college students interested in pursuing a career as a medical doctor.

"As a first-generation community college transfer student, I understand and have encountered the unique barriers community college students face when navigating pre-medical pathways. Programs like California Medicine have played a pivotal role in the development of my science and career identity, my success as a first-year medical student, and positively influenced my service interests as a future doctor. I see myself as a physician and community advocate, an agent of change promoting equitable healthcare practices, and a mentor to community college students interested in pursuing medicine."

Cheyenne N. Mercer, MS1, UC San Diego School of Medicine PRIME-HEq, San Diego Mesa Community College

-
-
-
-

Program Eligibility:

- Currently attending any San Diego or Imperial County Community colleges.
- Intend to transfer to UC San Diego, San Diego State University, or CSU San Marcos in Fall 2023.
- Meet UC or CSU eligibility and have a GPA of 3.2 or higher.

Application is now open and the deadline to apply is March 11th, 2022. Scan the QR code on this flyer to be taken straight to the application!

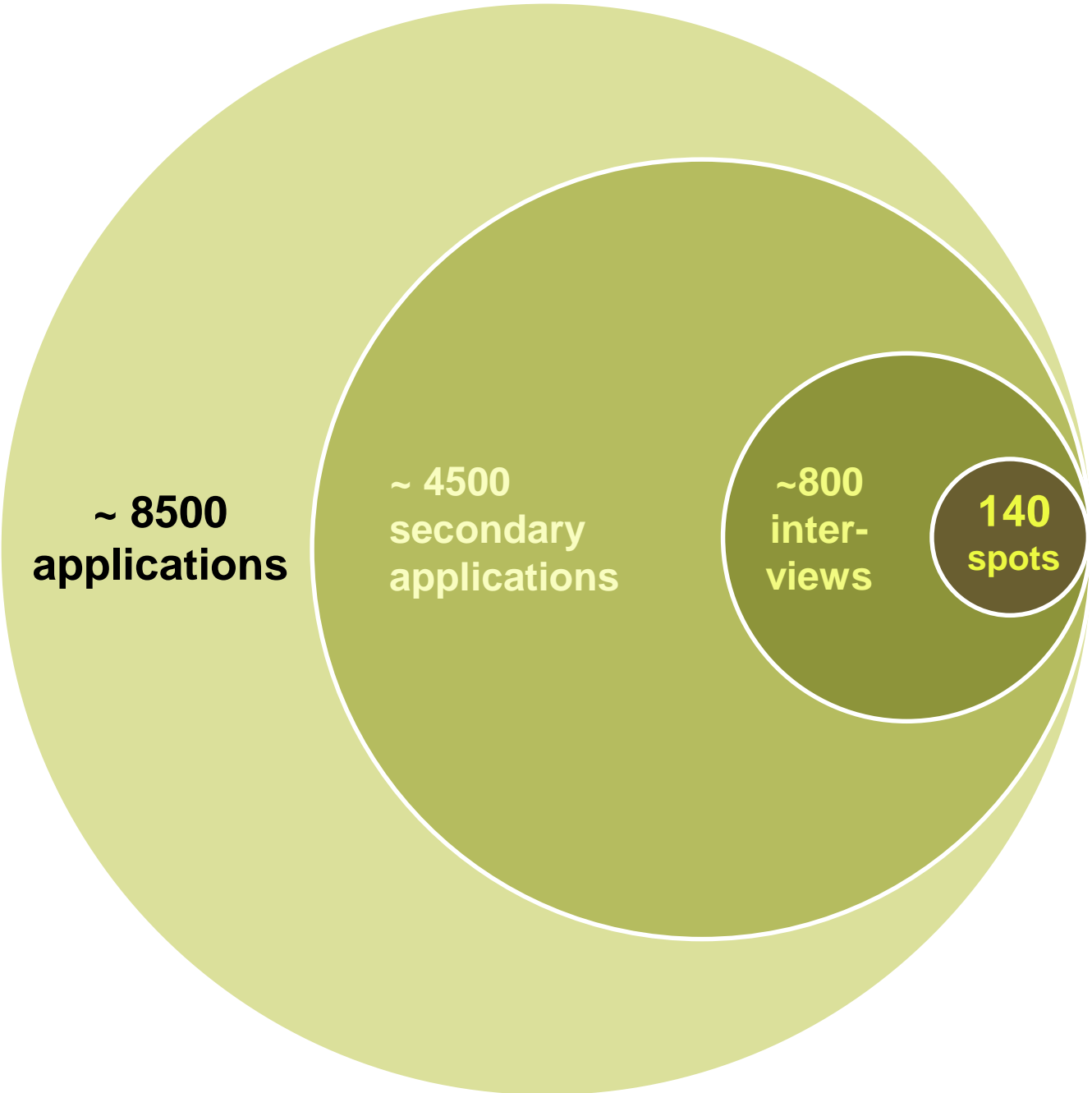
Program Dates: April 2022 – August 2023

For more information visit our website at www.california-medicine.org or email us at info@california-medicine.org.



***How the UC San Diego SOM looks at
applicants***

Admissions



Admission to Medical School

- In most basic terms, medical schools are looking for evidence that you will **A)** be a good medical student, and **B)** become a good doctor
 - **Academic readiness (GPA/MCAT)**
 - **Extracurricular creative and scholarly activities**
 - Meaningful exposure to medical profession (research, clinical “shadowing”)
 - Evidence of a commitment to service
 - Other (leadership, artistic endeavors, athletics)
 - **Communication/collaboration skills**
 - Support of your faculty and other supervisors (Letters)
 - Interview



<https://www.facebook.com/UCSanDiegoSchoolofMedicine/>

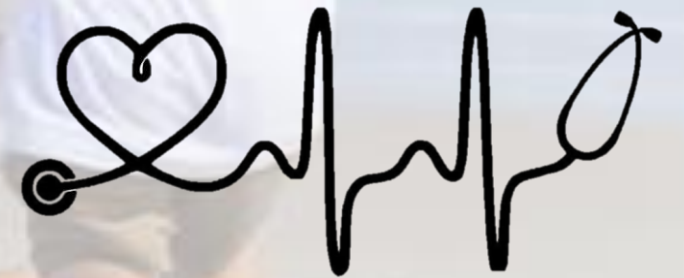
Our vision

Training for tomorrow,
rooted in science and justice,
delivered with heart.



Our Mission

To educate and inspire physicians to provide innovative, compassionate, and equitable care to advance the health of patients, families, and communities.

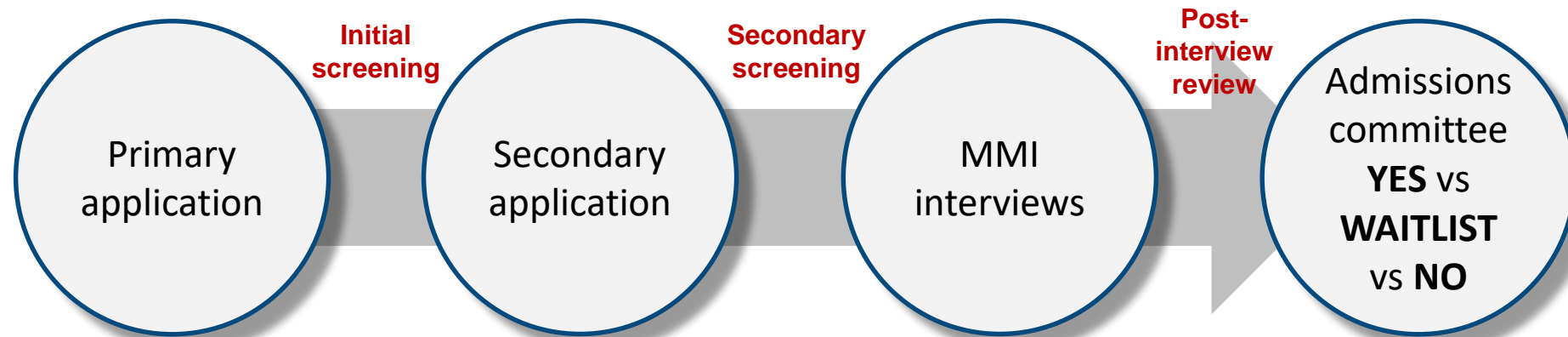




Our Core Values

- Compassionate
- Person-Centered
- Equitable & Just
- Creative & Innovative
- Scientifically-Informed
- Collaborative

The Process (at UC San Diego SOM and many others)



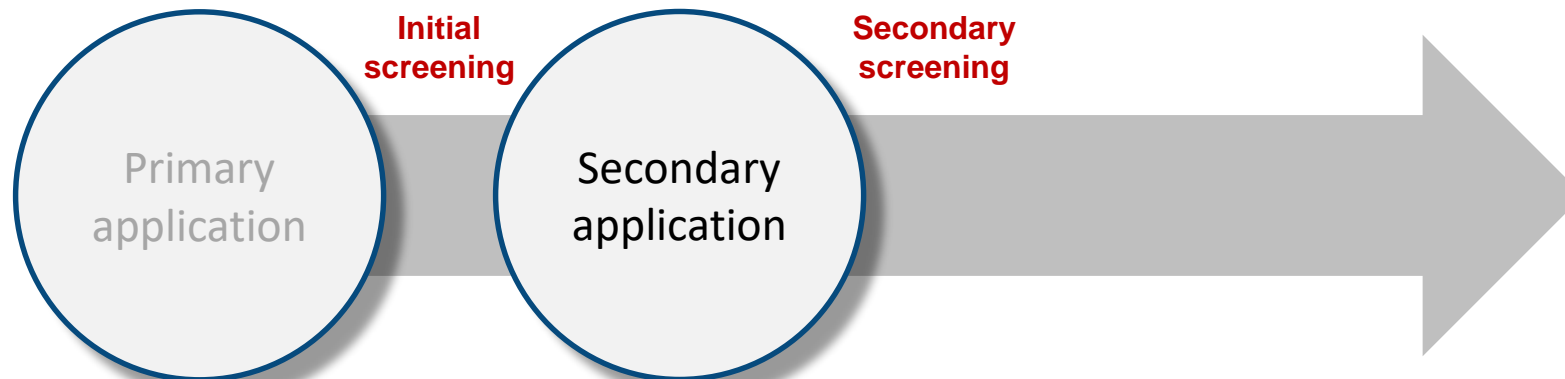
Primary application (AMCAS)

- MCAT score; transcript(s)
- Demographic information
- Experiences
- Personal statement
- Of the Primary applications, a portion are invited to submit Secondary applications after review



Secondary application

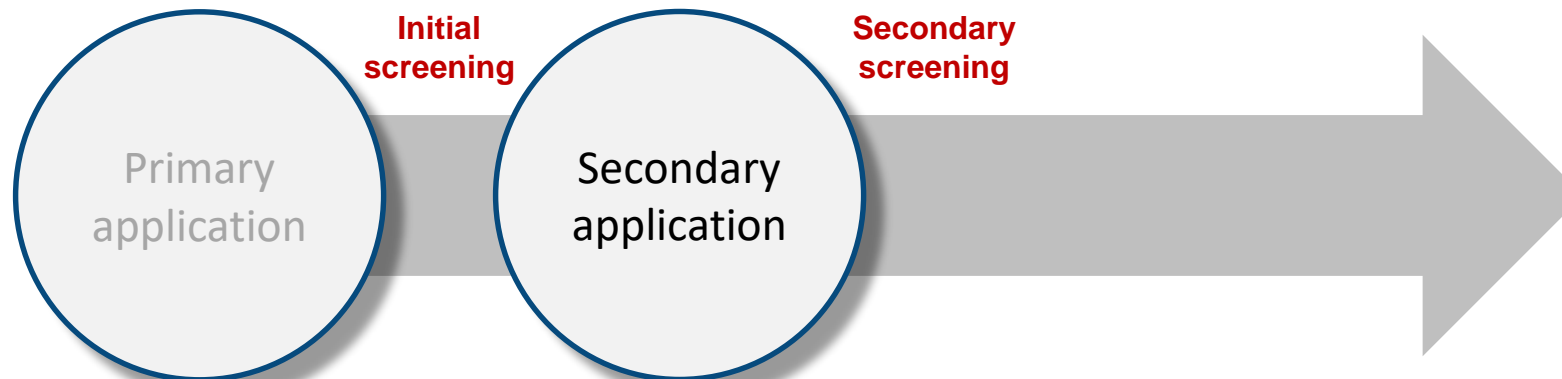
- These are school specific
- UCSD's secondary application has
 - Autobiographical sketch
 - Family background information
 - Statements of interest in specialized academic tracks
 - PRIME-Health Equity (health equity)
 - PRIME-TIDE (American Indian health)
 - GHAC (global health)
 - MSTP (combined MD + PhD)
 - Letters of recommendation
 - Faculty, research mentors, community service mentors, coaches, healthcare professionals with whom you have worked, etc.



Secondary application review

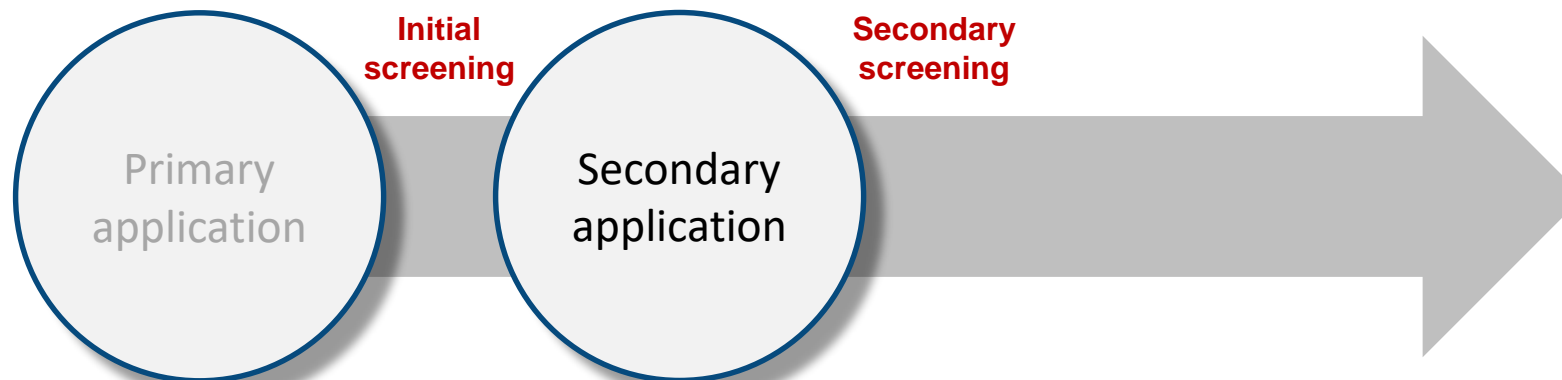
- This occurs in a context
 - Academic accomplishments
 - Trends over time; rigor of coursework
 - Extracurricular and service activities
 - Level of commitment, leadership, innovation
 - Work activities

These are all examined in the context of your background



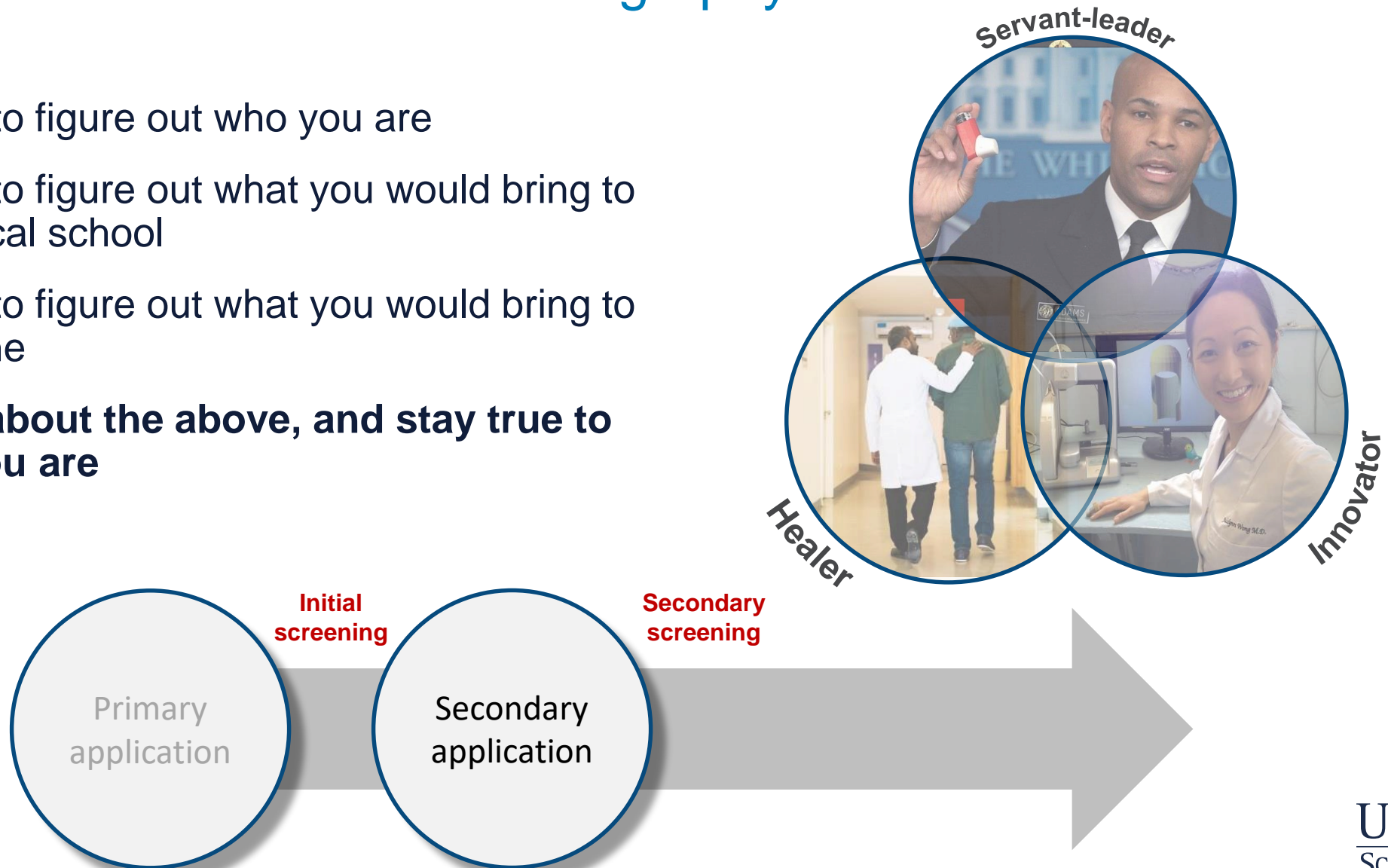
What do we mean by “your background”?

- Income, education, expectations of family
- Secondary education
- Ongoing family or personal circumstances affecting academic performance (e.g. need to work to pay for college during college education)
- First language
- Cultural barriers to academic success



Personal Statement and Autobiography

- We try to figure out who you are
- We try to figure out what you would bring to a medical school
- We try to figure out what you would bring to medicine
- **Think about the above, and stay true to who you are**



Personal Statement and Autobiography

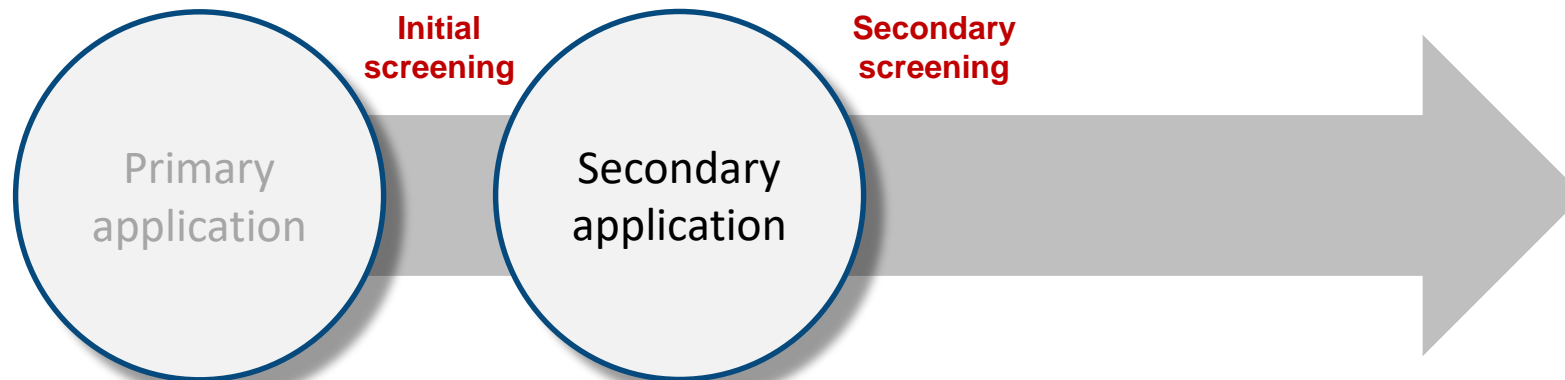
Questions you do **NOT** want to leave an Admissions Committee asking...



Why does this applicant want to be a doctor?

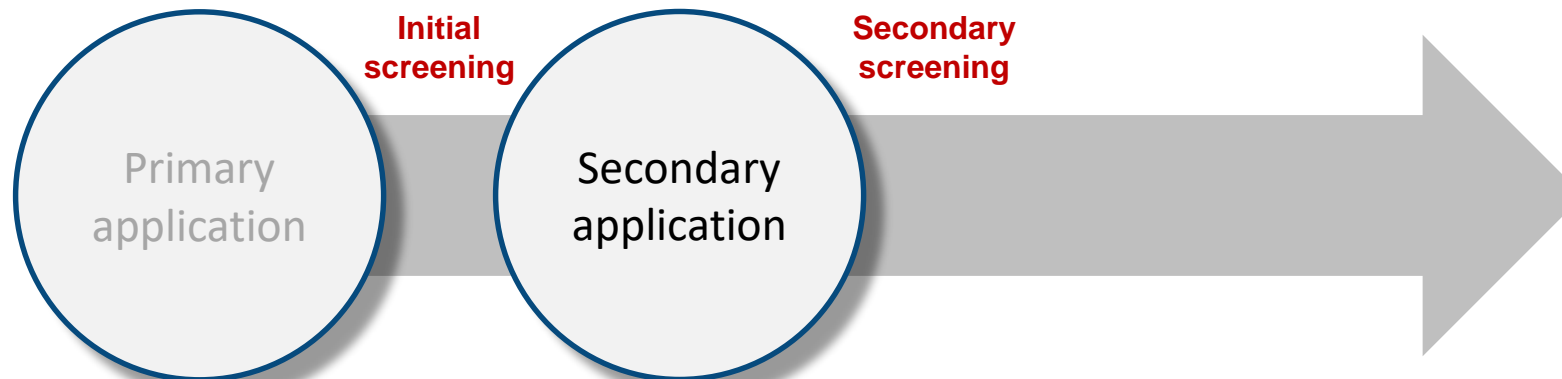
Why doesn't this applicant just apply to a PhD program?

Why – really - is this applicant changing their career path?

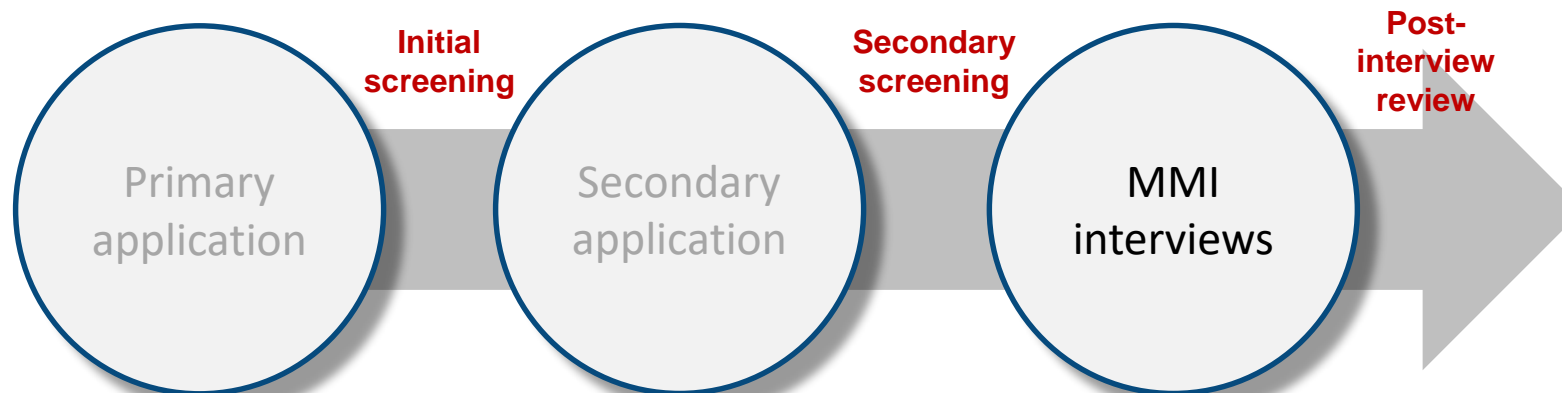


Letters of recommendation

- **GOOD** letters of recommendation describe...
 - How well you did (in a class, in a project, on a team)
 - How much you did (in a class, in a project, on a team)
- **BETTER** letters of recommendation also describe things like...
 - Your drive to help others; your drive to overcome barriers
 - Your passion; your compassion; your ethics
 - Your good character and how you treat others
 - How you stand out from others (in a good way)

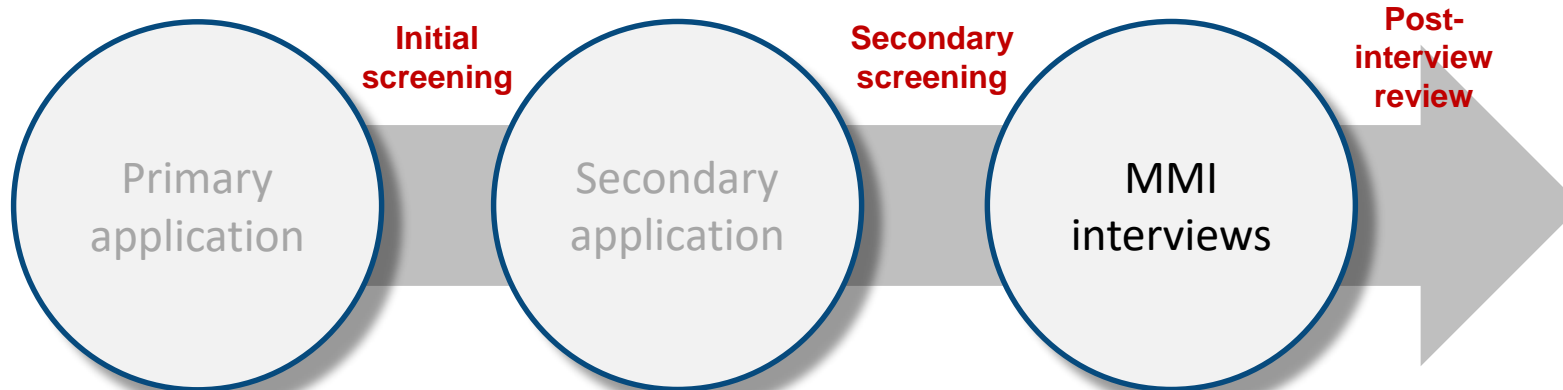
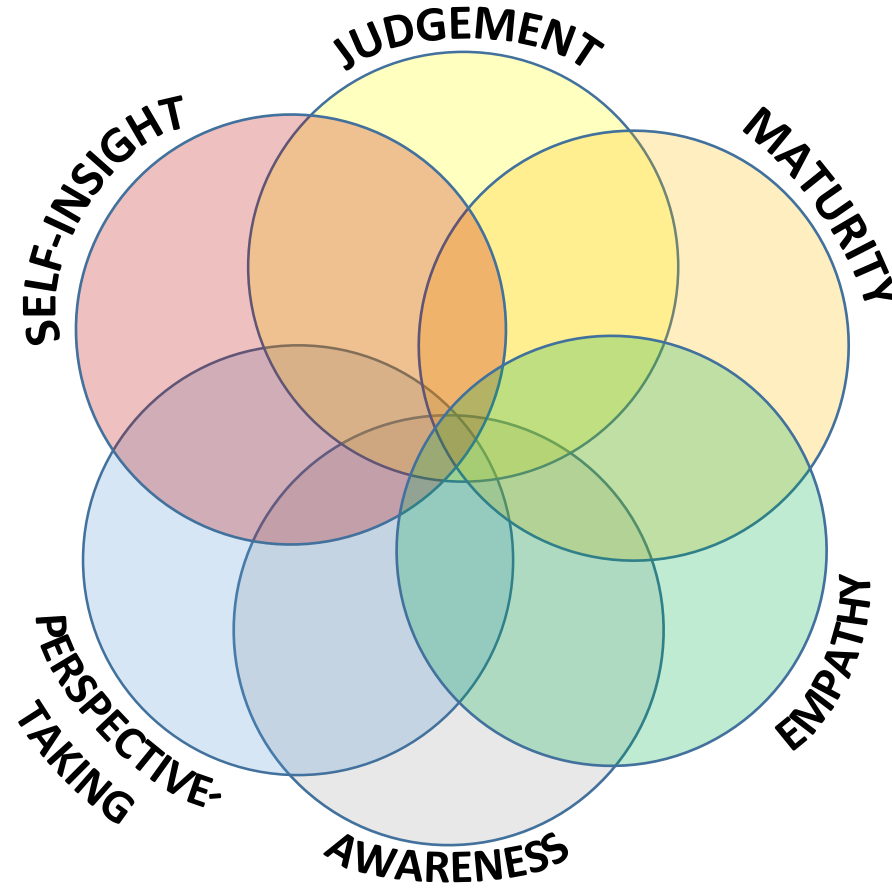


MMIs



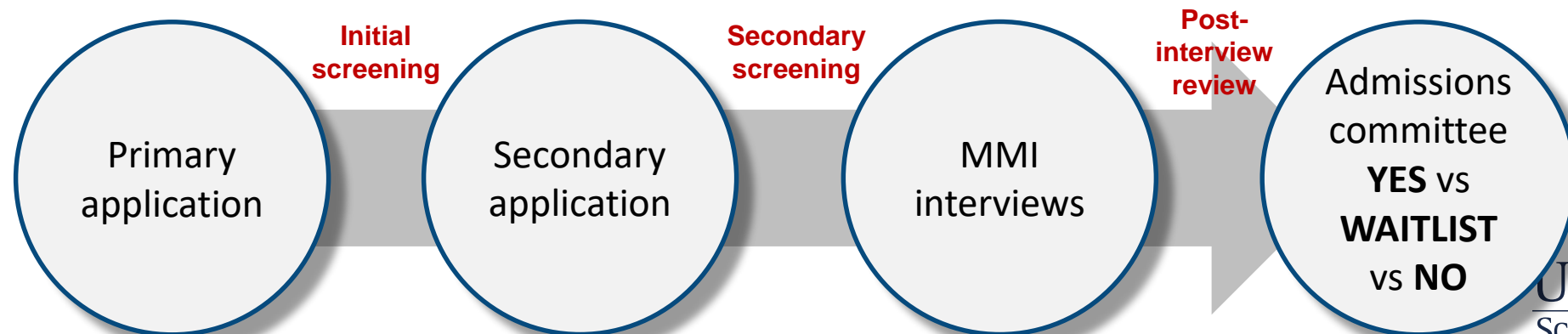
MMIs

Personal domains that may be assessed in MMIs



Advice

- Be early or on time in all actions
- Treat every contact with a medical school – its students/staff/faculty/administrators – as you would treat a formal interview
- Double check your application-spelling, grammar, accuracy of information

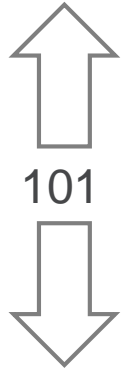


Sorting out FACT from FICTION...

Use trusted sources of information and advice

- AAMC “Aspiring Docs” website
 - <https://students-residents.aamc.org/choosing-medical-career/medical-careers/aspiring-docs/>
- AAMC “Medical School Admission Requirements” website
 - <https://apps.aamc.org/msar-ui/#/landing>
- College pre-health advisors
- Avoid:
 - Hearsay
 - Anonymous websites
 - Well-meaning people who would rather give you bad advice than no advice





Posted 12 days ago

Hey, got a question - am I at a disadvantage in applying to the UC San Diego SOM with 2 years of community college?



Posted 12 days ago

Oh, totally – same if you are from a **State university**



Posted 12 days ago

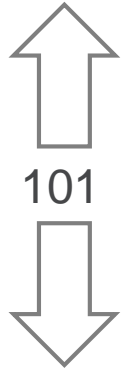
Yep, agreed – my dentist's father is a retired obstetrician and said something like that



Posted 11 days ago

I heard they purposefully screen out all the applicants with community college on their transcripts before review – I can't remember where I heard it though...

FALSE 



Posted 10 days ago

Hey, I have another question: I heard that I need to take 4 STEM classes a semester in community college to prove that I can handle harder material. Have you heard of this?



Posted 10 days ago

Definitely



Posted 10 days ago

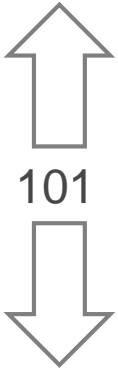
That's right – your medical school is going to be all STEM all the time, so of course



Posted 9 days ago

What's STEM?

FALSE 



Posted 10 days ago

...Okay, how about this – I heard that, if you’re taking post-bacc courses on your own (outside of a program), you should take all your post-bacc courses in the same year. True?



Posted 10 days ago

Well, “need” is a strong word – a medical student friend of mine told me that Ad Comms just want to be sure you’ll be able to handle the load of a medical school curriculum



Posted 10 days ago

That’s right – and they do take into account that you might be working a near full-time job while trying to do something like this

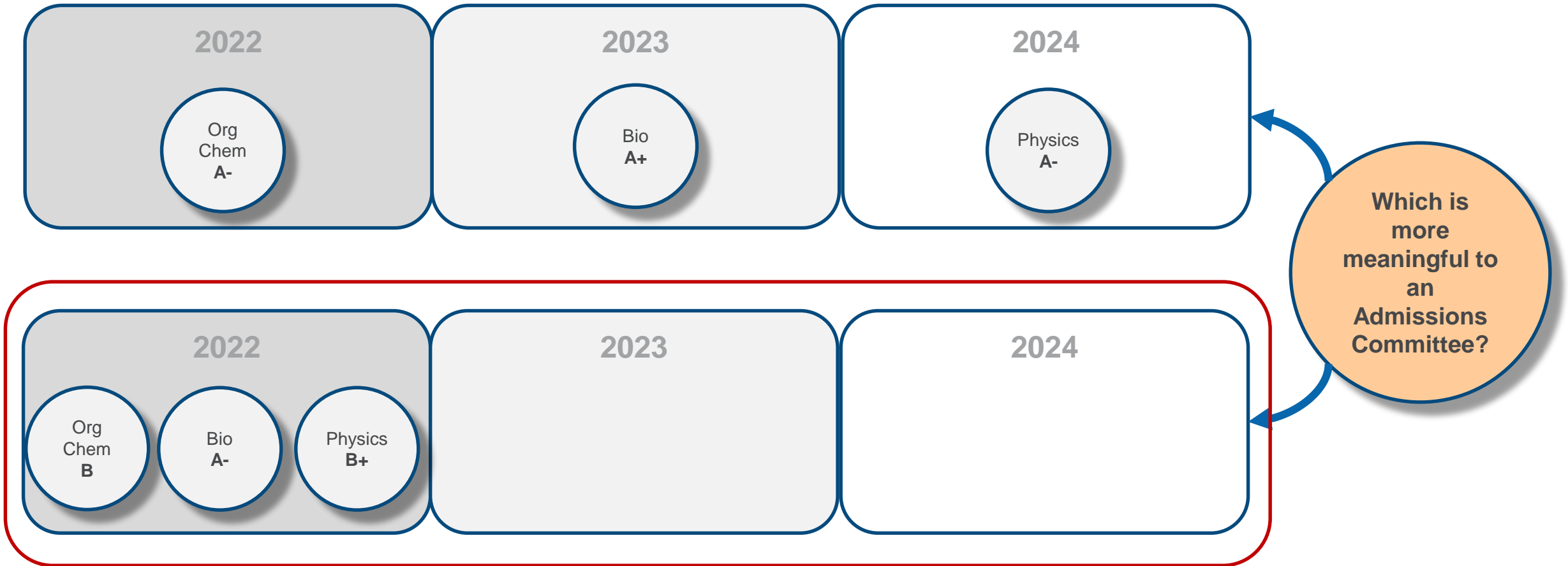


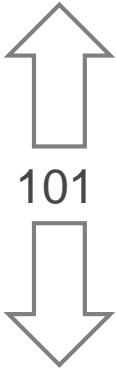
Posted 9 days ago

I also heard they do something call “holistic” admissions, where they look at everything you’ve had to overcome while trying to study and get to where you are.

SOMEWHAT TRUE 

How admissions committees may look at post-bacc courses





Posted 8 days ago

Okay, I got another question for you – I heard that at the STEM courses at Community College don't count as much as at a regular UC or private college. Is that true?



Posted 8 days ago

Totally true – don't even bother taking them at a Community College



Posted 8 days ago

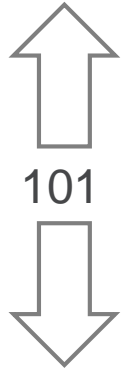
...And I heard if you get a C grade or something in O-chem, your application to med school is doomed



Posted 8 days ago

Hey, and BTW, you have to be a science major – you're not going to look as strong at the UC San Diego SOM with a humanities major.

FALSE



Posted 7 days ago

Okay – one more question. I heard that in order for you clinical activity to count when you apply to the UC San Diego School of Medicine, it has to be UNPAID (voluntary). True?



Posted 7 days ago

That's what I heard too. If you're a nursing assistant in a hospital, doesn't count – since you're being paid to do that



Posted 6 days ago

Yep - if you're a medical assistant in a hospital, doesn't count - volunteer outside of that



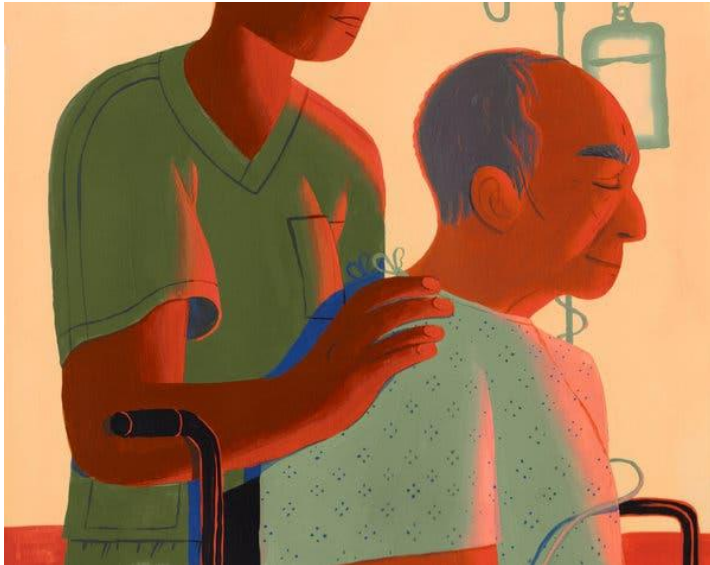
Posted 5 days ago

Yes, and it's the same if you are an EMT in an emergency department

FALSE

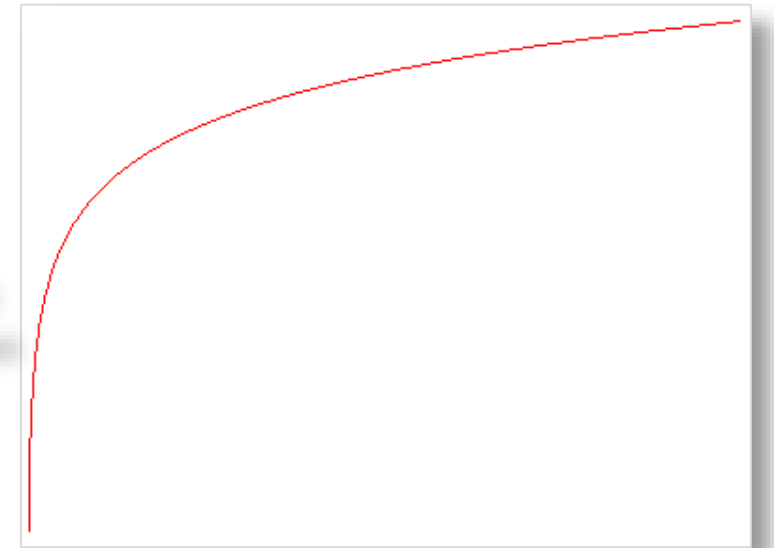
About Clinical Activity

- There is no “hard” minimum of clinical activity*
- The essential question for admissions committees is:
 - “Does this applicant know what they are getting into? Do they really understand what medicine is?”



Celia Jacobs, New York Times

**Positive
impact on
application**



Number of clinical hours

Clinical Activity

“Clinical” activity that *may** be viewed with skepticism as being clinical



“Gym coach”

“Camp for people with disabilities”

“As I worked with clients to improve their form and health, I really began to understand the essence of the physician-patient relationship...” (AKA, REGULAR NON-MEDICAL EMPLOYMENT)

Clinical research without any patient contact

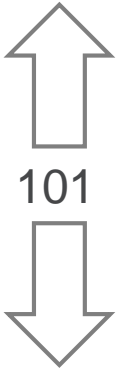
Veterinary hospital volunteering

“As I helped with the post-operative care of dogs and cats, I really came to understand human medicine...” (AKA, COMMUNITY SERVICE)

“I maintained the research database of patient contact information for the research study and really learned about healthcare...” (AKA, RESEARCH)

Public health research or service without any patient contact

“I worked with the County Department of Public Health taskforce to promote breast cancer screening...” (AKA, COMMUNITY SERVICE)



Posted 4 days ago

Okay LAST QUESTION, I promise – I heard that if you haven't done any research, you'll have very little chance of getting into the UC San Diego School of Medicine. Is that true?



Posted 3 days ago

Oh yeah, if there is no research in your file, you are “dead-on-arrival” - as they say in the ER I'm currently volunteering in ;)



Posted 3 days ago

I agree – AND I heard that it has to be biomedical or bio research; not engineering or other stuff like that



Posted 3 days ago

Awww, now I have to find a lab

FALSE 
(for the most part)



UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE