Hello everyone,

This email will focus on **selecting schools** to which you will apply.

But first:

*For those applying to medical school, consider reading this VERY comprehensive article that discusses the current MCAT situation, AMCAS dates and more.

*The recent webinar on Navigating the AMCAS application was recorded. Find it [here](#).

*ADEA published its recent newsletter at adea.org/GoDental. Articles on the dental school virtual fair, a webinar on creating a top AADSAS application and info on the COVID-19 question are included.

*Job Listing at the end of this message

## COMPILING YOUR SCHOOL LIST

This is a time-consuming and personal process. Looking at a ranking list or looking at average GPAs and MCATs or DATs will give you a very simplistic and skewed view of schools, and of the admissions process. Spend the time to read official sites to help you choose schools that seem to match your interests and your profile. Read our website that discusses variables to consider when **selecting schools**. Also, the robust AAMC website has some very helpful **guidance**. We can give you **feedback** once you have done your thinking, research and incorporated more than just a ranking list into your choices. We will want to hear about your thinking and your priorities when you send us your list. **We will not give you a list of schools.**

**Please use the attached template when you send us your list for feedback.**

**Target month** is June to determine the MD schools to which you want to apply. If you are a Texas resident you should apply to all the Texas schools through their central application (TMDSAS) in May. DMD and DO decisions can be made later in the summer, usually by July.

You can always add schools to your common application later on, so if you cannot decide on all the schools to which you will apply, select the ones you know and submit your common application in June.

1. To start, use these websites for **MD, DO, DMD**
Read about the overall outline of a curriculum for these degrees as well as general information about the preparation they expect of competitive applicants. You need a frame of reference before you begin to look at specific schools. DO NOT SKIP THIS STEP.

II. Use school websites and/or official directories to help you learn about a school’s mission, its curriculum, special features, details about location and affiliated clinical facilities, joint programs, etc.

For MD programs, MSAR Online and the MSAR: Getting Started guidebook (print/ebook) is now available for purchase.

For DMD programs, the ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools is your “go-to” resource.

For DO programs, the CIB provides links to all the schools and info as to how to get their free information book.

III. Use data to understand the ratio of in-state/out-of-state applicants along with mean test scores, since this will play a role for many schools. Public schools outside of the northeast and West Coast could be good options for some students as they often have smaller or different applicant pools.

**Without a standardized test score, it is even more difficult to focus on metrics when making up your final list of schools so spend time thinking about the variables described above.**

Selecting schools is not a step that you will complete in one day. It takes some self-reflection in helping you decide what is important to you, some humility in understanding how many highly qualified applicants there are out there, and some flexibility and open-mindedness in how you want to consider various schools. While there are certainly differences among schools, there are many, many similarities and they will all give you the training you need to become a physician or dentist.

There is no need to worry about this selection process – enjoy the research. And do it alongside of completing your application, doing your HPRC interview, and prepping for your standardized test.

**Job Opening**

Research Technician position in Membrane Biology – Nephrology and Male
Reproduction at Massachusetts General Hospital. This was sent by Alex Mendelsohn, Tufts ’19 who currently holds this position (amendelsohn@mgh.harvard.edu). A job description is attached to this email.

Regards,

Carol, Amanda and Ericka