



### III. Personal Comments

Consider and write your Personal Comments carefully; many admissions committees place significant weight on this section.

- The available space for this essay is 5,300 characters (including spaces), or approximately 1 full page. Hard returns ('enter' key) count as two characters.
- Proofread carefully! No changes (including grammatical or typographical errors) may be made after your application is submitted to AMCAS.
- You cannot run a spell check in the AMCAS Application.
- Applicants who plan to cut & paste their essays into the application should draft their essays in a text-only format, preferably in text-only word processing software such as Microsoft Notepad. Copying formatted text into the application may result in formatting issues that cannot be edited once your application is submitted.
- Applicants should enter all text responses in the application just as they would like the medical schools to see them, avoiding use of all caps or all lower case. Medical schools have indicated that they prefer to receive applications that evidence normal writing practices regarding case.
- Plagiarism or misrepresentations will prompt an investigation.
- It is not necessary to repeat information reported elsewhere on your application.

Some questions you may wish to consider while drafting this essay are:

- Why have you selected the field of medicine?
- What motivates you to learn more about medicine?
- What do you want medical schools to know about you that has not been disclosed in another section of the application?

In addition, you may wish to include information such as:

- Special hardships, challenges or obstacles that may have influenced your educational pursuits.
- Commentary on significant fluctuations in your academic record, which are not explained elsewhere in your application.

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**DO NOT SUBMIT TO AMCAS. THIS IS A WORKSHEET ONLY,  
AND IS INTENDED TO BE USED SOLELY AS A PREPARATION TOOL.**