



# Applying to Medical School

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## INTRODUCTION

This document was designed by Marie-Claude Lépine, Academic and Vocational Information Advisor at Cégep Édouard-Montpetit, and translated and adapted by Marlene Canuel, the guidance counsellor at Champlain Lennoxville.

It presents medical programs offered in Quebec Universities.

You will find a summary of the particularities of each program in terms of :

- The structure of the different programs
- The particularities of admission based on the DEC and on university studies
- The information about the multiple mini-interviews and the online CASPer test

In order to obtain all the information, please consult the hyperlinks and web links that you will find on each page of the document.



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# Programs in Quebec

*Laval University*

*University of Montreal*

*McGill University*

*Sherbrooke University*

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# Laval University



UNIVERSITÉ  
LAVAL

## Program of 4 to 5 years

Language: French

Admission: Fall

Campus: Québec, Levis, Rimouski

Pre-Med program: No

## Structure of the program:

- Pre-clerkship (100 credits)
- Clerkship (100 credits)

## Admission:

- DEC Health Sciences
  - Biology 401
  - Chemistry 202
  - R Score: minimum 33
- **Students must have completed their DEC in 4 semesters**
- Deadline: March 1st
- The first round of file evaluation: R Score + Casper test
- Second round of file evaluation: Interview (100%)

## FAQ

# University of Montreal



## Program of 5 years (200 credits)

Language: French

Admission: Fall

Campus: Montreal, Trois-Rivière

Pre-Med program: Yes

## Structure of the program:

- Pre-Med preparation (9 months, 40 credits)
- Pre-clerkship ( 2 years)
- Clerkship ( 2 years)

## Admission:

- DEC Health Sciences
  - Biology 401
  - Chemistry 202
  - R Score: minimum 33
- **Students must have completed their DEC in 3 years maximum**
- Deadline: March 1st
- The first round of file evaluation: R Score (60%) Casper test (40%)
- Second round of file evaluation: R Score (20%), Casper test (20%) and Interview (60%)

More information [here](#)

# McGill University



## Program of 5 years

Language: English (Montreal) or French (Gatineau)

Admission: Fall

Campus: Montreal, Gatineau

Pre-Med program: Yes

## Structure of the program:

- Pre-Med preparation (1 year)
- Fundamental training ( 1-year 1/2)
- Transition to the clinical practice ( 1-year 1/2)
- Clerkship (2 years)

## Admission:

- DEC Health Sciences
  - Biology 401
  - Chemistry 202
  - R Score: minimum 33
- **Students must have completed thier DEC in 2 years maximum**
- Deadline: March 1st
- The first round of Admission file evaluation: R Score (70%) Casper test (20%) and Resume (10%)
- Second round of file evaluation: Interview (100%)

For more information, [click here](#).

# Sherbrooke University



## Program of 4 years

Language: French

Admission: Fall

Campus: Sherbrooke, Longueuil, Chicoutimi, Moncton

Pre-Med program: No

## Structure of the program:

- Pre-clerkship (2 years ½)
- Clerkship (1-year ½)

## Admission:

- DEC Health Sciences
  - Biology 401
  - Chemistry 202
  - R Score: minimum 32
- **Students who have completed their DEC in more than 4 semesters will not be penalized**
- Deadline: March 1st
- The first round of admission file evaluation: R Score (70%) [Casper test](#) (30%)
- Second round of file evaluation: R Score (40%), and the Interview (60%)

For more information, [click here](#)

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# Casper test

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The CASper test is a situational judgement test that assesses cross-cutting competencies (professionalism, integrity, ethics, communication, collaboration, openness to criticism, and stress and priority management).

The test lasts a maximum of 90 minutes, including an optional 15-minute break.

The CASper test is composed of 12 sections. Each section presents a video or written scenario, followed by a series of three essay questions.

Video scenarios include the following:

- A description of your role
- A short video (1-2 minutes in length)
- Three essay questions about the video. You must answer these three questions in less than five minutes.

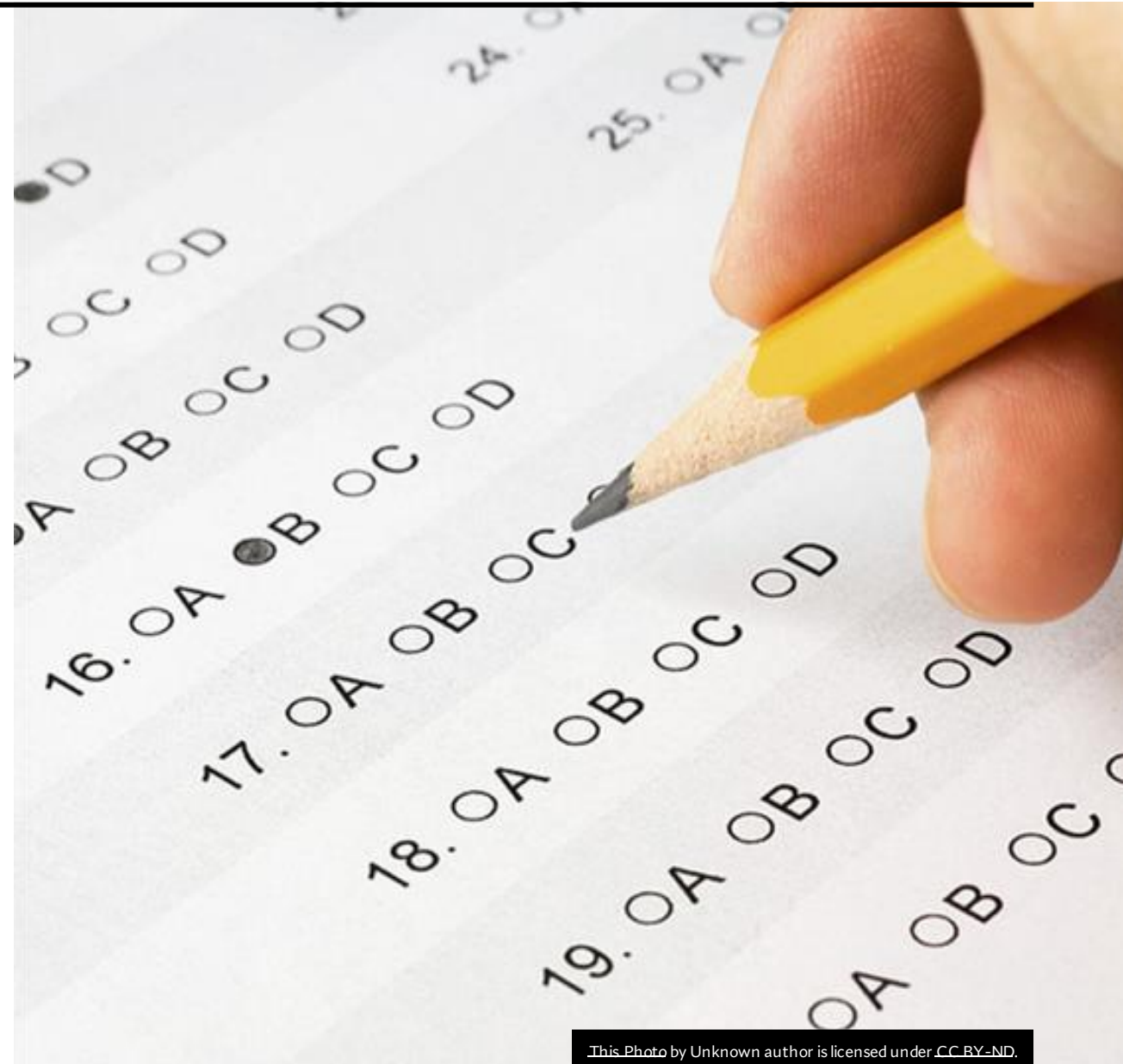
Written scripts include the following:

- A brief descriptive statement
- Three open-ended questions about the statement. These three questions must be answered in less than five minutes.

Note: There is NO VIDEO in this section.

**\*\*WARNING\*\*:** There are two types of exams (Level 1 and Level 2). The most commonly required is Level 2. Be sure to register for the correct test (the choice of test should be made according to the program ).

The choice of test should be made according to the program to which you have applied. See the website <https://takealtus.com/> for more details.



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# MEM

(mini entrevues  
multiples)

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# MEM (Interviews)

What is it? The following information describes the process in the presence of the MEMs.

- A course of 10 short stations: each station being a mini-interview done in the context of a in a situational setting.
  - Objectives: Aimed at assessing the candidate's personal competencies and general skills. (Does not require medical knowledge)
  - Procedure: The candidate has 2 minutes to read a vignette presenting the proposed scenario,
    - The candidate then enters the interview room for the 7-minute station.
    - There are two types of stations: "Role-playing" and "Discussion".
    - Personal qualities and competencies sought: Ability to communicate, collaborate, exercise judgment, respect others, be responsible, be a good listener, and have integrity.
  - Feedback on the MEM
    - In the interest of fairness, the 3 Quebec francophone faculties of medicine have agreed not to give any feedback to any candidate on his/her performance in the different stations of the MEM.
  - Fees associated with the MEMs
    - Pay the \$260 fee online with a credit card.
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# Preparing for the MEMs



Here are some tips to help you prepare for the MEMs.

## Before the MEMs

- Find a partner or partners to spontaneously discuss different topics for a period of 7 minutes.
- Familiarize yourself with the 7-minute format so that you can clearly and concisely state your ideas in that time.
- Expect to be surprised by new topics, interventions or questions.
- Practice debating your ideas on a variety of topics.
- Think about significant situations or life experiences that have helped create the person you are today.

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# MEM day

## The information provided if the interview is virtual due to the covid situation

- Sit in a quiet, well-lit area.
- Dress professionally, but make sure you are comfortable.
- Make sure you eat properly before your interviews. Being hungry can interfere with concentration, as can drinking too much water, coffee or juice.
- Someone will move you from one virtual room to another after verifying your identity.
- Read the instructions available during the time allotted before you begin each station.
- Before starting your station, introduce yourself to the evaluator, clearly stating your first and last name in full.
- Listen carefully to the questions or instructions of the evaluators or station actors, as appropriate.
- When you finish a station, focus immediately on the next station, not on the previous one. Remember that there are many interviews, and you may find some more difficult than others.
- Stay natural and authentic. Avoid stating prefabricated, memorized answers. Knowing the themes of past MEMs has sometimes served candidates well in the past.
- You are in an interview, show who you are.



# External Coaching for MEMs

- The MEMFI Central Management Committee is not affiliated with any company that provides preparation or coaching services for MEMs. It does not endorse or validate any information or training, nor any document other than what is posted on the websites of the 3 francophone faculties of medicine in Quebec.
- We do not encourage you to pay for preparation sessions, which can be very costly.
- **Instead, we encourage you to take the time to reflect on your skills and strengths as you would when preparing for any other type of interview.**
- Read the MEM preparation tips above and familiarize yourself with the MEM format to reduce your level of anxiety on interview day.
- Trust yourself and be yourself, it's your best bet for success.
- Source: Université Laval, MEM preparation: <https://www.fmed.ulaval.ca/programmes-detudes/etudes-en-medecine/doctorat-de-1er-cycle-enmedecine/admission/>

# Examples of MEMs

## **Discussion" type station**

Our universities are struggling to balance their budgets. It's even worse now that more and more students are entering college. Among the various measures to optimize the costs of university education, some propose increasing the number of students per class. Immediately, opponents of this idea raised the cries from opponents...Please consider this debate. (At the sound of the bell you will enter and have 7 minutes to discuss your views with the interviewer).

- In this type of station, the candidate speaks directly with the evaluator, who also acts as the interviewer.

## **Role Play Station**

Your company assigns you and a colleague (Sara) from another division to attend a critical business meeting. This meeting is taking place in San Diego. You and Sara live in Montreal. To simplify things, you have suggested to Sara that you pick her up at her home and then drive together to Pierre Elliott Trudeau Airport (in Dorval). At the agreed-upon time, you ring Sara's doorbell. She invites you in. (At the signal of the bell you enter, and you will have 7 minutes to complete this meeting).

- In this type of station, the candidate interacts with an actor(s) playing the character(s) mentioned in the vignette (Sara in this case). Thus, when the candidate enters the room, the actress says: "I'm sorry to tell you this now, but since 2001 I don't fly on any plane: I'm too scared! I'm too scared! So, I won't be going to I'm not going to San Diego.

The evaluator is standing back and observing the candidate's performance.

# Careers options: Prepare a plan B!

Chiropractic

Physiology

Kinesiology

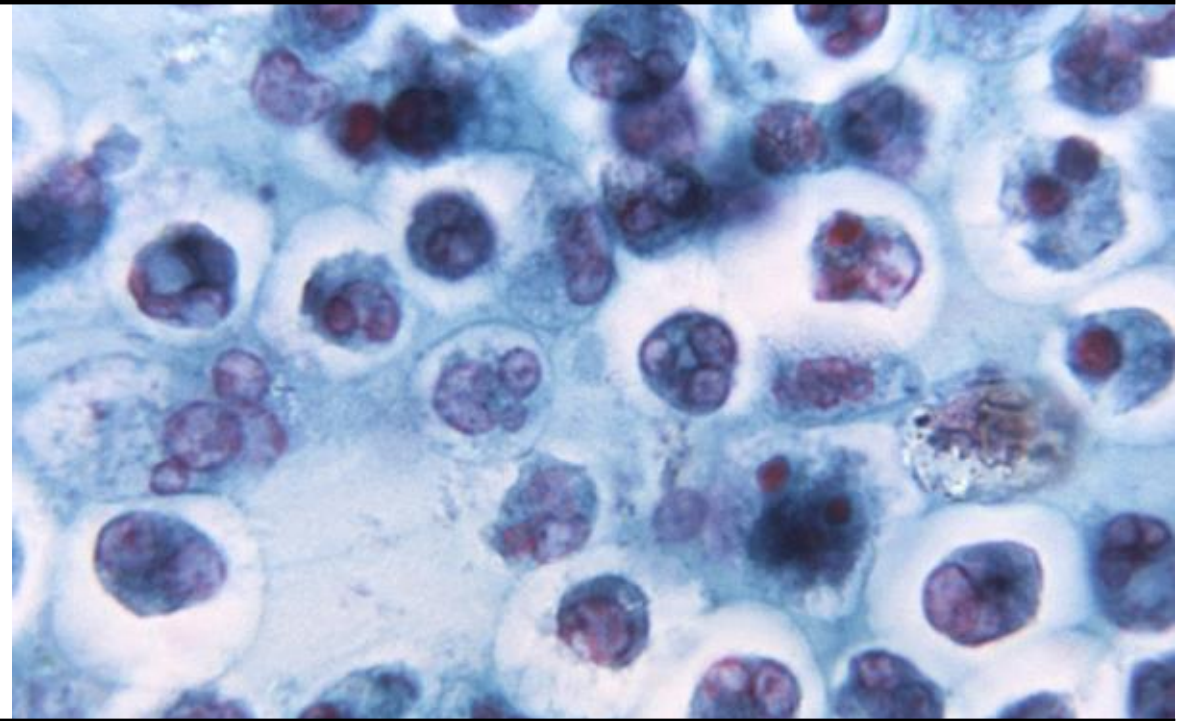
Biology

Pharmacy

Neuroscience

Biomedical  
Sciences

Biochemistry  
and Molecular  
Medicine





# References

Université de Montréal

<https://medecine.umontreal.ca/etudes/doctorat-en-medecine/>

Université Laval

<https://www.fmed.ulaval.ca/programmes-detudes/etudes-en-medecine/doctorat-de-1er-cycle-enmedecine/admission/>

Université de Sherbrooke

<https://www.usherbrooke.ca/doctorat-medecine/>

Université McGill

<https://www.mcgill.ca/medadmissions/fr/postuler>

Centre de documentations du Cégep Edouard Montpetit

<https://centrededocumentation.cegepmontpetit.ca>