

**Tips on Letters for Med Schools**

* All letters should be from individuals who know you well who can critically evaluate your academic potential, maturity, strengths and weaknesses, etc. Comments that expand beyond what may be reflected by your grade in the class or address any special achievements or attributes are desirable.
* A letter based upon direct interaction with you and addressing qualities such as maturity, empathy, character, reliability, interpersonal skills, and any special attributes or experiences will be the most helpful.
* The quality of the relationship between the writer and the student is more important than the title or position of the letter writer.
* Letters should be submitted on college/university or business letterhead and should contain clear and current contact information for the author.
* Wayne State Premed and Health Science Center will store letters, free of charge, beginning in a student’s junior year. Please see wayne.edu/advising/pre-health/ for more information.
* Wayne State Premed and Health Science Center **does not** write composite or committee letters. If you need an academic advisor letter in substitution, please schedule an advising appointment with one of our pre-med advisors.
* If there are special circumstances or potential concerns raised within your application (ex: lower grades one semester, compelling reason for withdrawal from a class, minor institutional action), consider securing a letter that could validate or clarify the situation.
* Ideally, letters should be dated within one year of your application.
* Letters should not be written by family members.

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| School | Letters Needed |
| Wayne State University School of Medicine | * Minimum of three letters, maximum of ten * Two letters must be from faculty members * One letter must have been written within the past 12 months |
| Central Michigan University  College of Medicine | * ​​Minimum of three letters, maximum of five * Each letter should be written by an author who knows the applicant through a professional relationship or association, and must have firsthand knowledge of the applicant’s qualifications, skills and values |
| Michigan State University  College of Human Medicine (MD) | * Minimum of three letters, maximum of five * One letter must address personal experiences and characteristics * One letter from Basic Science or Medical Science Professor * Recommend one letter from someone who has observed applicant in a clinical setting |
| Michigan State University  College of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) | * Minimum of three letters * Recommends at least one letter written by an academic or medical professional * A letter from an osteopathic physician is ***not*** required |
| Oakland University William Beaumont  School of Medicine | * Minimum of three letters, maximum of five * Suggest at least one science faculty member * Letter writers should be able to speak to the student’s qualifications for entering the medical field |
| University of Michigan School of Medicine | * Minimum of three letters, maximum of six * Letters of recommendation may come from any individuals you believe can objectively assess your personal qualities such as ethics, dependability, teamwork skills, and a desire to learn |
| Western Michigan School of Medicine | * Minimum of three letters, maximum of four * Two of these letters are recommended to be from faculty members * Non-traditional applicants should submit letter from an employment supervisor |