

## Master of Science in Anesthesia Program General Suggestions for Strengthening an Application

1. **Strengthen your academic preparation.**
  - o If applicable, complete any missing prerequisite courses. It's advisable to retake prerequisite coursework in which you earned a grade lower than a B-, or courses that no longer meet our time requirements.
  - o Applicants may benefit from retaking the MCAT if their score is below 499. A score of 502 or higher is generally considered competitive for the program.
  - o For applicants who submitted GRE scores, performance at or above the 60th percentile in all three sections is considered competitive. Retaking the GRE may be helpful if scores fall well below this range.
  - o We encourage you to review the program's [admissions requirements](#) to ensure alignment with current expectations.
2. **Continue developing your interviewing skills.** Applicants with competitive applications are invited to interview. The interview accounts for approximately 50% of an applicant's overall evaluation. We encourage all prospective applicants to continue refining their interview skills as part of the application process.
3. **Further explore the profession through shadowing.** The MSA program strongly recommends shadowing a Certified Anesthesiologist Assistant (CAA) in the operating room setting. For applicants in areas where CAAs are not readily available, shadowing an anesthesiologist or nurse anesthetist practicing within the anesthesia care team model is an appropriate alternative.
4. **Build familiarity with anesthesia concepts.** Reviewing a basic anesthesia text can help strengthen your understanding of the field. [Basics of Anesthesia](#) by R.D. Miller and M. Pardo is one recommended resource.
5. **Gain additional healthcare experience.** Any form of healthcare experience can be valuable preparation for the program, including hospital volunteering or employment in healthcare roles such as anesthesia tech, medical scribe, EMT, CNA, or similar positions.

If you choose to reapply, the admissions committee will be interested in learning how you have strengthened your application since your previous submission.

You can take advantage of the reapplicant feature in CASAA to carry over completed sections of last year's application to your new one.