



# FACTS & QUESTIONS

More questions about applying for a TAP HEALTH rotation program (TAP MD or TAP HC)? Check out this document to see if we cover what you need to know! And for more info, please e-mail Heleena McKinney: [hmckinney@healthcollab.org](mailto:hmckinney@healthcollab.org).

## **What are the major differences between TAP MD and TAP HC?**

TAP MD typically has more events that are tailored for students more interested in being a physician. Occasionally the events are longer in time.

In terms of the application, we do request students provide standardized test scores to apply for TAP MD. We know test scores aren't everything, but they are one of the best indicators of future medical student success. As such, if you have higher standardized scores – and you're pretty sure whatever you do, you want to include a degree higher than a bachelor's – then TAP MD may be the program for you.

If and once you are accepted, TAP MD students and HC students will all get personalized lab coats and jackets. The MD students' jackets are "white coats" and look more like those a physician would wear. The HC student's jackets are also clinical jackets, but shorter.

## **Can I apply for both? Can I be accepted to both?**

We encourage students to apply to the program they feel fits their interests best, but you can apply for both TAP HC and MD! Though it may increase your odds into getting into one of the programs, you don't get any additional points for applying to both and you can only be in one. We have had students get into neither, so please don't consider it a guarantee by applying for both. If it turns out you get into both, the Selection Committee will then make the determination as to which program makes the most sense.

## **But COVID is going on. What are the rotations like right now?**

Our program has had to drastically pivot due to COVID as no hospitals and medical facilities are letting in non-essential staff. The hospitals and departments we work with have been trying to figure out ways to incorporate virtual events and we have received commitments for events throughout 2021 - however at this point, we're planning for virtual only. If our hospitals open up to these type of experiences, we expect to switch our virtual events from the summer and fall of next year to physical ones whenever possible.

New: In addition to virtual events, we plan to host at least one guest lecturer per month, a workshop for both TAP MD and for TAP HC students during the year and an ongoing activity to build career aptitude skills together.

## **What is the \$150 Participatory Fee?**

The Health Collaborative is a non-profit organization and though we're happy to offer this program as a benefit to the community, the one-time administrative fee helps offset some of the associated costs.

## **What is the waiver?**

If you are applying to the program and feel you/your family would not be able to pay the one-time Participatory Fee of \$150, you can fill out the section on the application requesting a waiver. This in no way helps or hinders your process – the Selection Committee isn't made aware of which students have requested waivers.

## **Does my application have to be fully complete for me to submit it?**

Your entire application must be received by 11:59PM on (Friday) January 8, 2021. The applications do come in time-stamped. There is a way to start your application and save it so that you can update and add things to it before you submit.

## **Can the Educator from my school and the person who writes me a letter of recommendation be the same person?**

Absolutely. That choice is up to you. We do suggest (especially if you are at a school where counselors and teachers get multiple requests) that you ask EARLY, and that you consider asking someone familiar with you who may not fall under those roles. Still, it is your choice whom to ask.

## **Can I send in the letter of recommendation from the person I ask?**

No, please share the link for your recommender to complete separately. That link is: [bit.ly/taphealthrecommender](https://bit.ly/taphealthrecommender). (It is also found within the application). Their portion is also due by 11:59PM on (Friday) January 8, 2021. It is up to you to remind them to submit their letter. They also have the option of mailing in their letter of recommendation and information for that is included at the link.

## **Will any of the information I send in be verified?**

It can be! In the past we've verified standardized testing scores, school and activities, letters of recommendation or more. As such, please only send in accurate and up to date information.

## **Is it okay for me to mail or e-mail my application in?**

It is NOT okay. We prefer that every portion of your application come in using one of the forms, and though we make exceptions for Letters of Recommendation (if absolutely necessary) - we are unable to do so for the full application. As a reminder, the application can be found at:

[bit.ly/2021taphealth\\_app](https://bit.ly/2021taphealth_app)

## **When will I know if I got in?**

We tentatively plan to let TAP MD and TAP HC students know of their acceptance no later than noon on January 25, 2021. Once notified, you will have a short turn around to decide if you plan to accept - so we encourage students to apply because they are interested and NOT just to see if they might get in. Now more than ever, we do not want to ask our healthcare community for experiences for anyone other than students who 100% want to be in our programs.

## **If I get into one of the programs, do I have to accept?**

Actually, you don't! If you are accepted and something changes after you applied but before the program starts, just let us know and we will remove you.

## **If the program does change to in-person events in the future, anything I need to know?**

As of now, the events for 2021 are expected to be virtual but if we are able to add in in-person events, please keep in mind, we will! The most exciting part of healthcare is how it is constantly evolving. And we would love to have you all together at least once or twice next year. If we do add in person events, we are not able as of now to provide transportation to and from any event - but we will give you as much notice as possible. We also will still maintain guest lecturers and activities online regardless of any in-person events being incorporated back into the program.

## **I submitted my application and then saw this.**

We're sure your application is great!! But if for any reason you want to re-submit, please know we take the most recent timestamp of your application as the one that counts.