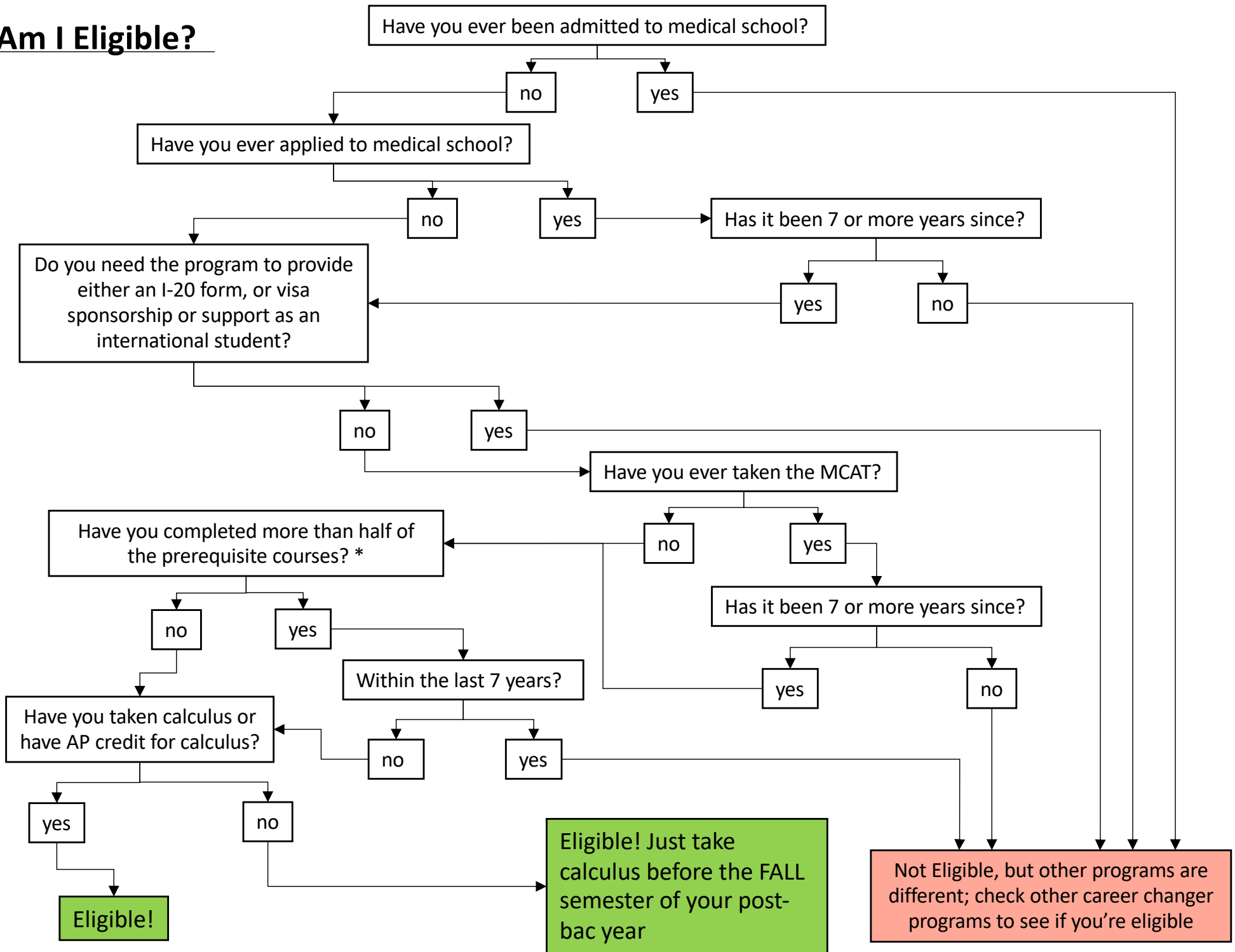


Am I Eligible?



Have you completed more than half of the prerequisite courses? *

Let's talk about what courses are "the" prerequisite courses and what "half" of them could look like.
Please note that "exactly half" is not more than half.

What are "the" prerequisite courses?

General Chemistry I (½ yr)	General Chemistry I Lab (½ yr)
General Chemistry II	General Chemistry II Lab
Organic Chemistry I	Organic Chemistry I Lab
Organic Chemistry II	Organic Chemistry II Lab
General Biology I	General Biology I Lab
General Biology II	General Biology II Lab
General Physics I	General Physics I Lab
General Physics II	General Physics II Lab

My school's courses aren't named like that. How can I tell what I've taken?

For each of the courses – general biology, general chemistry, general physics and organic chemistry – "completing" the prerequisites means having completed a year of each, both lecture and lab.

To know what courses to consider at your school, look at the school's information on what "premeds" should take. You should find a list of the expected courses specific to your institution.

Example: Princeton Univ: <https://hpa.princeton.edu/prehealth-prep/academic-preparation>. Note that they lay out the course numbers necessary for all of the above courses. Note that they also include math, English and biochemistry. These are important courses for medical schools but not relevant to what we use for determining eligibility.

Example of "half" the courses

Semester system (2 semesters = 1 year; 1 class = ½ year):

Gen Chem I & II with labs, Physics I & II with labs

$$(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}) + (\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}) = 4$$

4 completed out of 8 = exactly half = eligible

Gen Chem I & II with labs, Physics I & II with labs, Bio I with lab

5 completed out of 8 = more than half = not eligible

Gen Chem I & II with labs, Physics I & II with labs, Bio I with lab;
gen chem series completed more than 7 years ago

4 courses from gen chem not counted due to age
3 completed out of 8 = less than half = eligible

Trimester system (3 terms = 1 year; 1 class = 1/3 year):

Gen Chem I, II, III (no labs), Physics I, II, III with labs

$$(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3}) + (\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3}) = 3$$

3 completed out of 8 = less than half = eligible

Gen Chem I plus lab I, Biology I & II (no labs)

$$(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3}) + (\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3}) = < 1 \text{ sem chem, } < 1 \text{ sem chem lab, } 2/3 \text{ yr bio}$$

For med schools, you must have 1 yr of each course. Since 1/3 (1 trimester) + ½ (1 semester) < 1 year, students who have only 1 trimester of a course need 2 semesters to complete requirement. Thus Gen Chem is ignored and Bio I & II will still require another semester.

1 semester's worth completed = less than half = eligible

Still have questions about eligibility? postbac@jhu.edu