



# THE STUDENT NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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## **Student National Medical Association Partners with Blueprint MCAT Prep to Increase Accessibility to MCAT Prep Courses**

Student National Medical Association (SNMA) and Blueprint MCAT Prep are excited to announce a partnership to improve the inclusion of minorities in medicine and diversity in the medical field by increasing access to MCAT prep.

SNMA is committed to serving underrepresented minorities in medicine. Although one-fourth of the nation's population is BIPOC, less than 10% of its physicians reflect that community. The global COVID-19 pandemic cast a spotlight on the disparities in healthcare, largely affecting people of color. The need to elevate students of color and empower them to make a difference in their communities and reshape the healthcare system has never been more necessary. However, less than half of medical school applicants receive at least one acceptance to medical school. With limited medical school seats available, oftentimes an MCAT score can either pave a student's path to medical school or become another obstacle.

To help minority students succeed, Blueprint MCAT (a leader in MCAT prep) will donate up to 100 free MCAT prep courses every year to select MAPS members. Additionally, all Associate members of the SNMA will gain access to discounts on Blueprint MCAT prep in order to make the process more affordable. Blueprint will also provide free resources to members that will serve to improve their knowledge and preparedness for the MCAT including: a free full-length exam, an MCAT Question of the Day, and several exclusive webinars on MCAT strategy.

"We are very excited to partner with the SNMA to help the organization achieve its mission to increase diversity in medical school," said Matt Riley, Blueprint CEO. "Applying to medical school is an incredibly competitive process and there are structural barriers for some students. We believe we can help level the playing field by ensuring more minority students excel on the MCAT. To properly address the racial disparities in our healthcare system, it's crucial that we build a more diverse pipeline of medical students."

"Our premedical members are a vital part of our organization and their success is critical to the fulfillment of our mission. We are excited about the opportunity to invest in their success through this partnership with Blueprint", said Brittanie Hazzard-Bigby, Chairperson of the Board at SNMA.

Blueprint and SNMA have already worked together for many years through local campus partnerships, and at national meetings to offer free events and resources to students. This national partnership seeks to expand on these offerings and provide even more support to MAPS members in becoming physicians.

To learn more about future online events and how to qualify for the Blueprint MCAT prep scholarships or discounts, students can go to [snma.org](http://snma.org) for more information. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the contacts below:

Blueprint: [info@blueprintprep.com](mailto:info@blueprintprep.com)

SNMA: [premedical@snma.org](mailto:premedical@snma.org)

#### About SNMA

SNMA is a student-governed organization with more than 6,000 members nationwide. Founded in 1964, the Student National Medical Association has been committed to supporting current and future underrepresented minority medical students, addressing the needs of underserved communities, and increasing the number of clinically excellent, culturally competent and socially conscious physicians.

#### About Blueprint MCAT Prep (formerly Next Step Test Prep)

Blueprint MCAT, formerly known as Next Step Test Prep, was formed as a small tutoring company in 2009. In 2015, (then) Next Step reacted quickly to radical changes to the test and created the first representative online MCAT testing platform. Next Step's partnership with Blueprint allowed the company to retain its content expertise while creating a state-of-the-art learning platform that promotes engaging learning via the latest in technology, analytics and video production to all students.



