

# Weigel Scholarship and Medical School Advice from Elks Scholars

**Application Due May 24, 2021**

**Email [scholarship@elks.org](mailto:scholarship@elks.org) for a  
copy of the Weigel Scholarship  
application.**

Below is a compilation of the top tips from the first Weigel Medical School Scholarship Panel. This advice offers some guidance as you complete your medical school and Weigel Scholarship applications. Check out our **20 for 20 interviews** with current Weigel recipients **Eric, Imaan,** and **Keoni** at **[enf.elks.org/20for20](https://enf.elks.org/20for20)**.



## **From the ENF and Judges:**

- Remember your audience when writing your Weigel Application. We want to hear about your involvement with other scholars, the ENF and the Elks, as well as your service experiences.
- Don't wait until the last minute to complete your application! Do it in small chunks over time.

## **From Eric Xia, Boston University Medical School:**

- Be genuine! There's no cookie-cutter resume that will get you into medical school. You have all had amazing experiences that make you who you are and add to the diversity of the medical field. Regardless of whether your story is standard or unique, be confident that these experiences have led you to where you are today. What's most important is answering the question, "Am I someone who I'd like to work with in the future?"
- Depth is often greater than breadth. Rather than listing off all the small research projects you've ever done, for instance, it may be better to talk about one or two that are most important to you. Really getting into your experience not only reflects who you are and what you value, but also shows that you genuinely cared about that endeavor, instead of it being something you did just to slap on a resume.
- Get involved with the Elks! It's a great way to learn more about underserved communities and volunteer—things that are of use in your journey to medical school. If you're unable to get involved in something like a service trip, be sure that your Weigel application aligns with the values of the Elks.

## **From Ellen Zhang, Harvard Medical School:**

- If you're considering taking a gap year, think carefully about how you want to spend that time and why.
- Weave a narrative together by looking back and reflecting on your experiences.
- I encourage students to "put their nickel down." If you have experiences that are relevant to a field you're interested in, don't be afraid to show it and tell your story.
- When considering what school to attend, looking through their curriculum and at how they structure their academic years is incredibly helpful—When is clinical year? How are classes set up? What is mandatory? How strong is their anatomy curriculum?
- Try to submit your AMCAS ASAP and work on those secondaries. Organize all the essays of all the schools you are writing so that you can put them into buckets. In this way, you can try to reuse essay ideas.