

Medical Education 101

Dennis Paul Valenzeno, Ph.D.

Associate Dean, Medical & Premedical Programs


Director, WWAMI Biomedical Program

University of Alaska Anchorage

and

Assistant Dean, Alaska WWAMI

University of Washington School of Medicine



How do you
become a physician?

How are Physicians Educated?

Undergraduate Degree:

4-year college or university

wide variety of majors –often biology

major is seldom “pre-med”

must include prerequisite courses

Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)

How are Physicians Educated?

Medical School:

typically 4 years

allopathic (MD) or osteopathic (DO)

no medical specialization

USMLE – Step 1 and Step 2

“Match” for Residency

How are Physicians Educated?

Residency:

typically 3-7 years

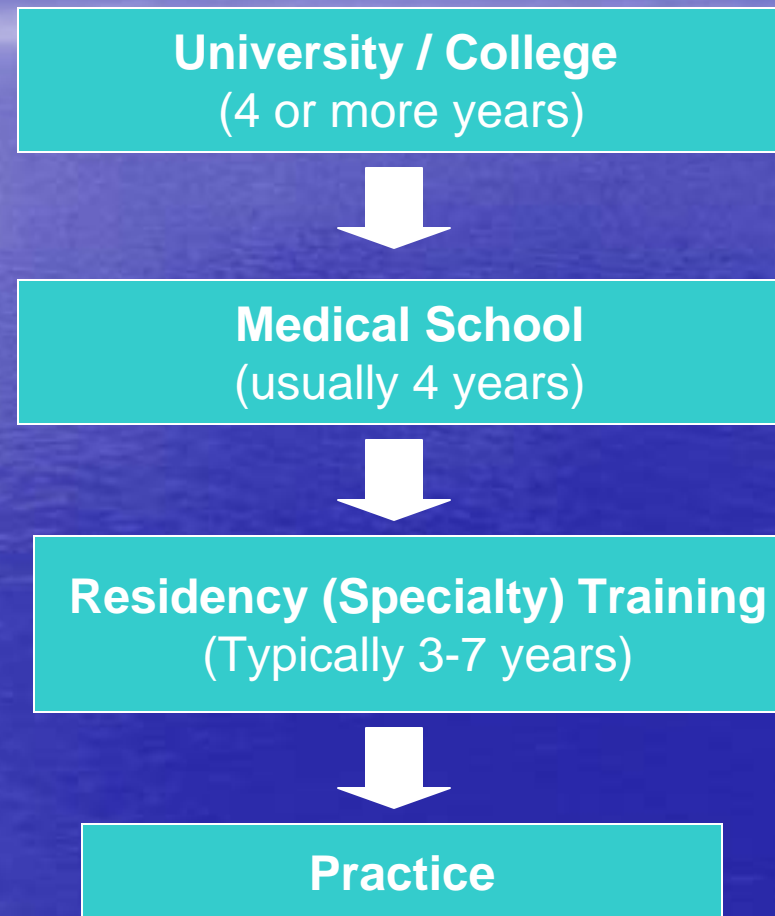
in medical specialty

can be allopathic, osteopathic or both

USMLE – Step 3

independent practice

Typical Medical Education Program



Q: Can I go to medical
school in Alaska?

A: Yes. Through Alaska WWAMI

WWAMI is Alaska's Medical School

What is WWAMI?

WWAMI is an enduring partnership among the states of :

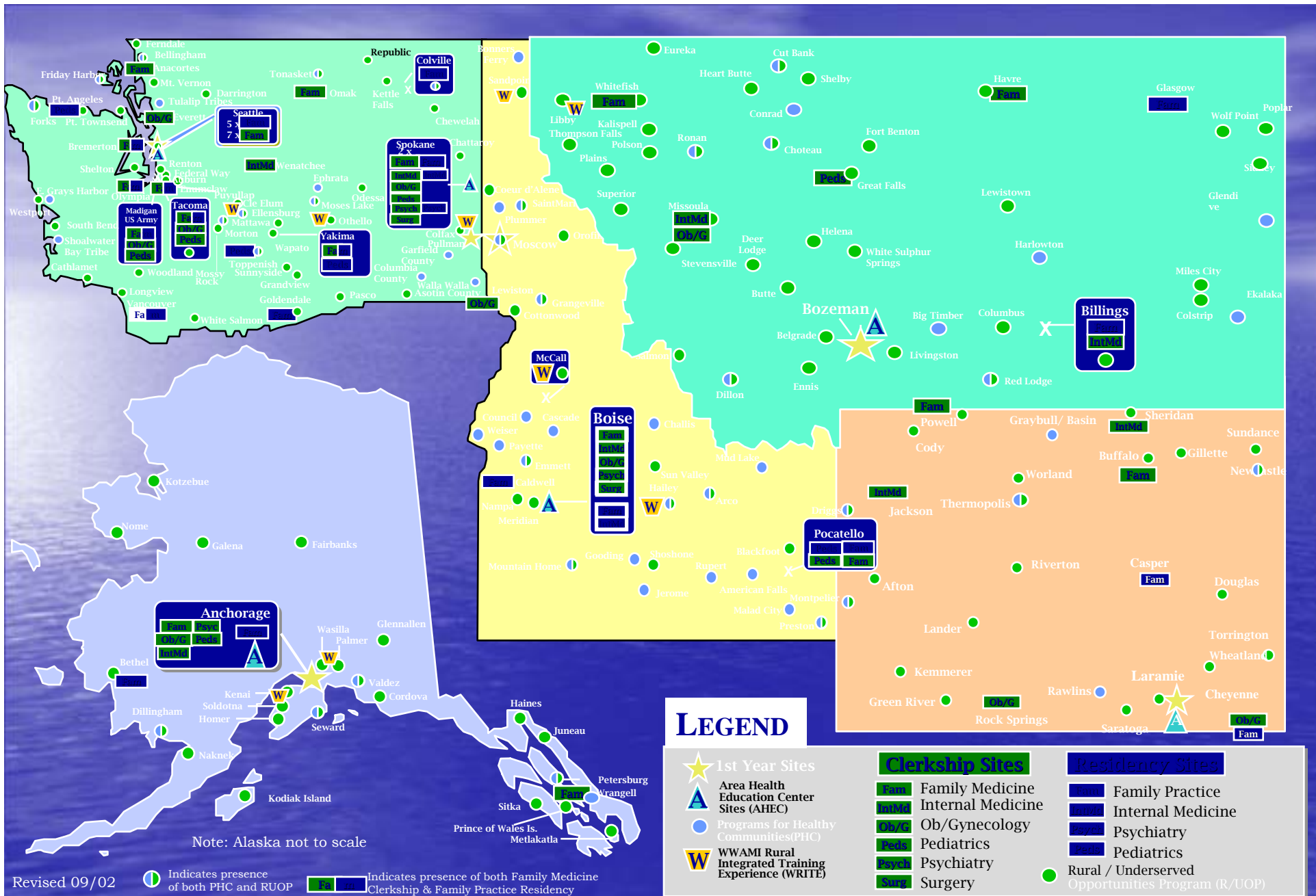
- **W**ashington
- **W**yoming
- **A**laska
- **M**ontana
- **I**daho

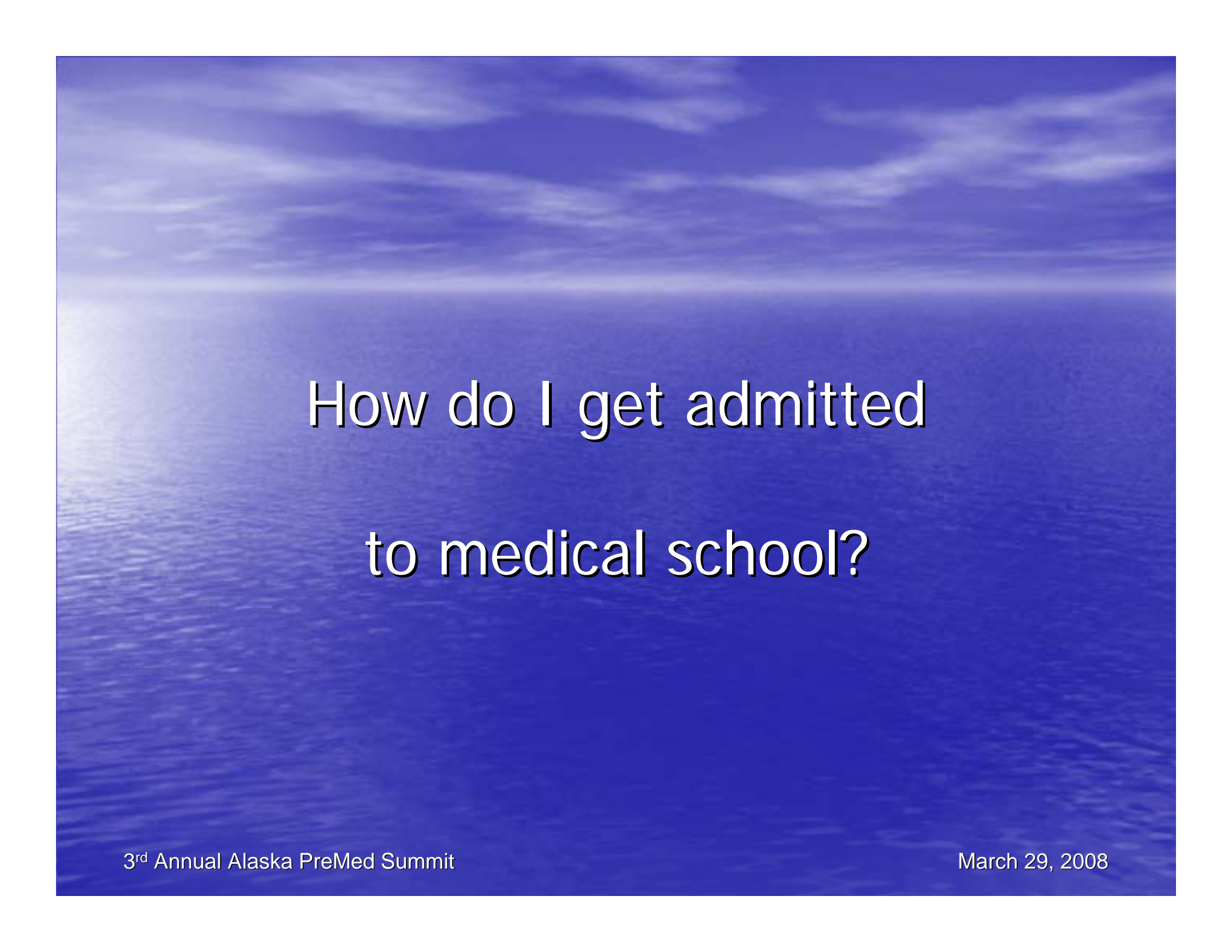
What is WWAMI?

- WWAMI is Alaska's Medical School
- It is a 35 year old partnership of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho with the University of Washington School of Medicine
- Its purpose is to provide high quality, cost-effective medical education, with a focus on the workforce needs of the region.

Medical School in Alaska WWAMI

First Year	Second Year	Third Year	Fourth Year
Basic Science Courses taught in Alaska at UAA	Organ Based System Courses taught in Seattle at UWSoM	Required Clerkships: Can be taken in any WWAMI state or via the Alaska Track	Required and Elective Clerkships: Can be taken in any WWAMI state, internationally or all in Alaska





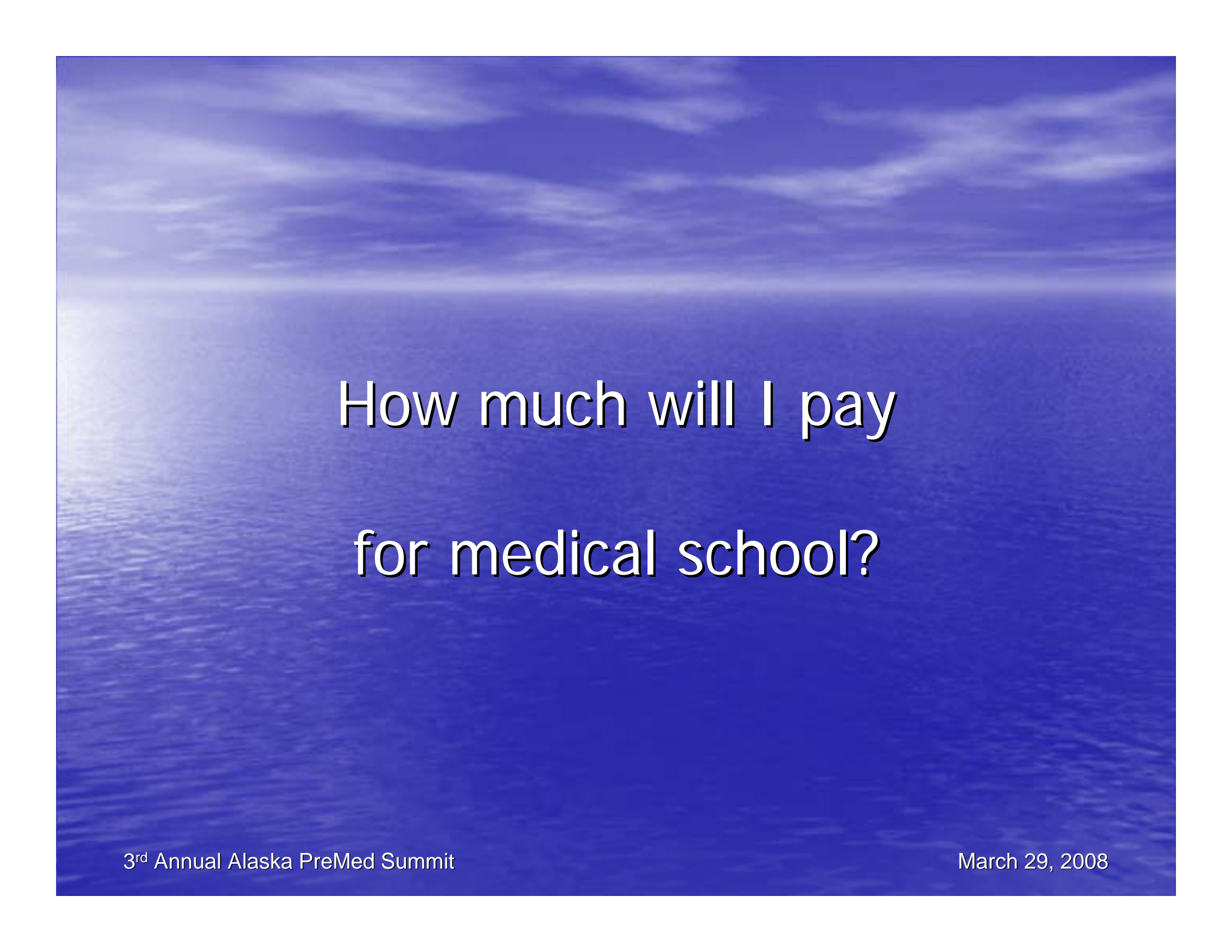
How do I get admitted to medical school?

Admission to Alaska WWAMI

- Application: AMCAS (American Medical College Admissions Test)
- College Grades & Pre-requisite courses
- MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test) Scores
- Letters of Recommendation
- Eligibility Certification
- Secondary Application
- Interview
- Decision

Getting in to Alaska WWAMI

Entry Year	Applications Received	Entering Students	College GPA	MCAT Score
2006	78	10	3.6	10.3 V 10.2 PS 10.7 BS Q
2007	83	20	3.6	10.5 V 9.8 PS 10.7 BS Q



How much will I pay
for medical school?

Cost of WWAMI for 2007-2008

- Tuition-resident 17,425
- Health-Fee 475
- Books & Supplies 2,298
- Room and Board 11,742
- Personal 2,265
- Transportation 1,443
- **TOTAL** **35,648**
- First year 35,648
- Second year 35,485
- Third year 16,735
- Fourth year 45,655
- **TOTAL** **163,523**

Questions?



Enjoy the Alaska PreMed Summit!

3rd Annual Alaska PreMed Summit

March 29, 2008