The MCAT2015 Exam has four test sections
(https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/mcat2015/testsections/)

Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems,

Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems,

Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior, and

Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills

The first 3 sections are organized around foundational concepts or "big ideas" in the sciences. They reflect current research about the most effective ways for students to learn and use science, emphasizing deep knowledge of the most important scientific concepts over knowledge simply of many discrete facts.

The MCAT2015 exam asks examinees to also combine your scientific knowledge from multiple disciplines with your scientific inquiry and reasoning skills. You will be asked to demonstrate four scientific inquiry and reasoning skills on the exam:

- Knowledge of scientific concepts and principles
- Scientific reasoning and problem solving
- Reasoning about the design and execution of research
- Data-based and statistical reasoning

Summary of MCAT Exam Sections

Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems
59 items, 95 minutes

This section asks you to combine your knowledge of foundational concepts in the biological and biochemical sciences with your scientific inquiry, reasoning, and research and statistics skills to solve problems that demonstrate readiness for medical school.

Understanding the processes unique to living organisms, such as growing and reproducing, maintaining a constant internal environment, acquiring materials and energy, sensing and responding to environmental changes, and adapting, is important to the study of medicine. You will be tested on your knowledge of how cells and organ systems within an organism act both independently and in concert to accomplish these processes, as well as your ability to reason about these processes at various levels of biological organization within a living system.

Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems
59 items, 95 minutes

This section asks you to combine your knowledge of foundational concepts in the chemical and physical sciences with your scientific inquiry, reasoning, and research and statistics skills to solve problems that demonstrate readiness for medical school.

Understanding the mechanical, physical, and biochemical functions of tissues, organs, and organ systems is important to the study of medicine. You will be tested on your knowledge of the basic chemical and physical
principles that underlie the mechanisms operating in the human body, and your ability to apply an understanding of these general principles to living systems.

**Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior**  
59 items, 95 minutes

This section tests your knowledge and use of the concepts in psychology, sociology, biology, research methods, and statistics that provide a solid foundation for learning in medical school about the behavioral and socio-cultural determinants of health and health outcomes.

Understanding the behavioral and socio-cultural determinants of health is important to the study of medicine. You will be tested on your knowledge of the ways in which psychological, social, and biological factors influence perceptions and reactions to the world; behavior, and behavior change; what people think about themselves and others; the cultural and social differences that influence well-being; and the relationships between social stratification, access to resources, and well-being.

**Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills**  
53 items, 90 minutes

This section asks you to critically analyze information from a wide range of social sciences and humanities disciplines. Specific knowledge of these disciplines is *not required* for this section; all of the information you will need appears in the passages provided. Among the areas from which content is drawn are ethics and philosophy, cultural studies, and population health.

How is the MCAT2015 exam scored?

You will receive five results from your MCAT exam: one for each of the four sections and one combined total score.

**Section Scores:** Each of the four sections—Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems; Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems; Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior; and Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills—is scored from a low of 118 to a high of 132, with a midpoint of 125. Test takers will receive scores for each of the four sections.

**Total Score:** Scores for the four sections are combined to create a total score. The total score ranges from 472 to 528. The midpoint is 500.

For example, if an examinee scored 128 on the Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems section; 125 on the Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems section; 129 on the Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior section; and 127 on the Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills section, the total score would be 509.