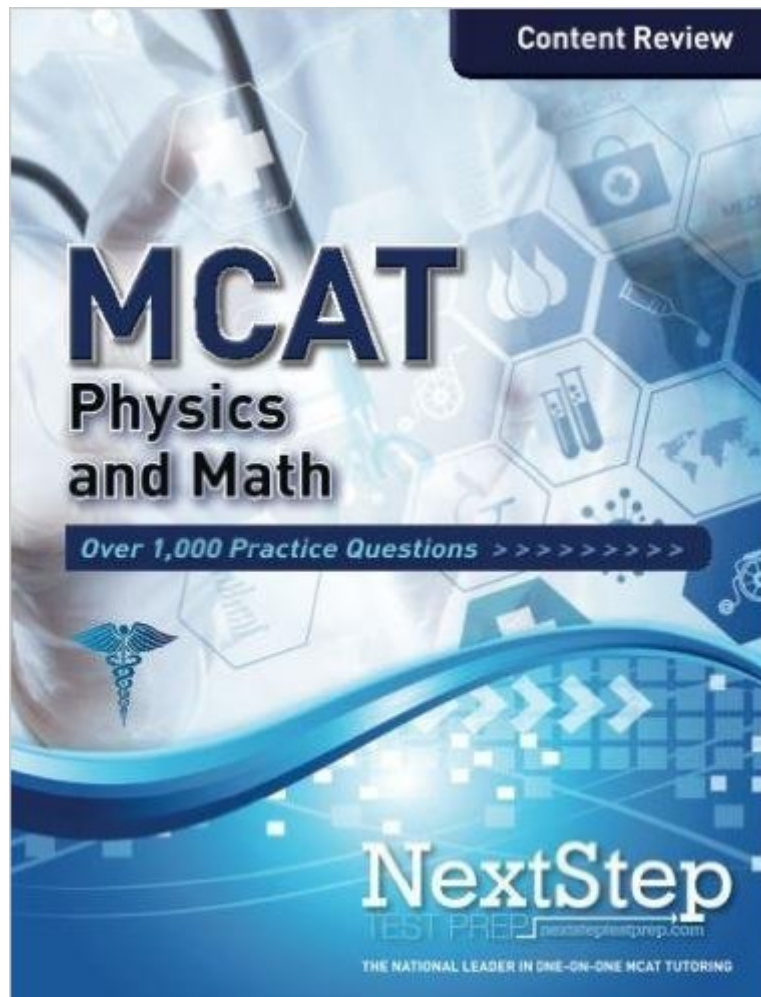


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# MCAT Physics And Math: Content Review For The Revised MCAT



## Synopsis

Revised for 2016! All of Next Step's books have gotten a full review and update. We have expanded the explanations for our content review books, meaning each volume now has over 1,000 review questions with full explanations of the underlying science. Our physics book now has expanded coverage of thermodynamics, light, and other key topics for the new format exam. **More Free Stuff!** We are now offering a free full-length exam in addition to the free diagnostic test described below. See the book insert for instructions on how to register for this free additional full length exam. Get the most thorough content review available for the revised MCAT. Next Step's Content Review books give you a focused review of the major science topics that will be on the exam, and then offer the most important resource you need when memorizing MCAT content: hundreds of practice questions to help you drill the content until you have it completely mastered. Understanding the huge volume of content on the MCAT is only the first step, however. For complete MCAT prep, the Next Step Content Review books are only the beginning. To bring your MCAT performance to the next level, you must build upon your content foundation with practice, practice, practice! Check out Next Step's Strategy and Practice books for the full, timed section practice that you'll need. Those who purchase a Next Step book also get free access to our online MCAT diagnostic test. See the URL at the front of the book for instructions on how to register. Finally, you can always check for free updates and free upgrades to our books here:

<http://nextstestprep.com/mcat-materials-change-log/>

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## Customer Reviews

This physics book has been extremely useful in prepping for the 2015 MCAT. There is a ton of indepth content based on what will be on the new test. I have taken a couple of practice tests already for the 2015 MCAT and this book definitely touched on many of the topics tested on those tests. I hope that this book has a good grasp on what the content of the new test will actually be. I am worried about being one of the first people to take the new test, but feel more confident after doing extensive content review with these books as well as my study group.

One of the most important parts of studying for the MCAT is actually doing practice passages. These passages accurately and efficiently present passages in a manner very similar to the AAMC MCAT test writers. When you work through these passages you are not just testing your basic science knowledge like in some prep books, but you are also work on real MCAT test taking skills and use reading comprehension to solve questions. This is a must buy for any serious MCAT user. What separates this book from other similar ones really is the attention to detail and ability to simulate real MCAT-like passages and questions.

Wow, what a thick book. I would have to say it is certainly a comprehensive book but I think some of it needs to be pruned out. I appreciate how momentum and gravity laws help me understand the physics better, which I guess is the point, but the AAMC has said they won't be directly tested. Some other books have it too, others don't. Only time will tell I guess who is right. Can't beat the 30+ passages though, and the 300+ practice questions!

Out of all the Content Review books published by NextStep, I must say that the Physics and Math book is the worst in the lot. The Math review is fine, but it's the Physics content that's alarming. Rather than ramble on and on, I'm just going to belt out some bullet points that really need to be addressed for when Mr. Schnedeker publishes a revised edition (which really MUST occur):1. Unlike the other Content Review books, this one has absolutely no section review exams (just end of chapter problems and a final review at the very end).2. Speaking of the end-of-chapter problems, they are exceptionally difficult if you don't know future material. In other words, the book has problems in an early chapter(s) that you need to know material from in later chapter(s) in order to get the correct answer. This is exceptionally frustrating, so it appears as if this book assumes that

you have already taken your College Physics classes and already know all the material. If you don't know any physics whatsoever, please do NOT use this book without taking your physics courses! You'll be pulling your hair out otherwise.

3. Regarding the IN-chapter problems, I find some of them to be exceedingly difficult (and more than what the MCAT expects you to know). In fact, some of these problems are more difficult than the ones encountered in my physics course so far! Why that is, I have no idea.

4. I haven't completed the book yet, but I've found a few typos: p. 94 (should be 5.1 m/s); second graph on p. 455 is drawn incorrectly (the graph should start at the origin....  $PV=nRT$  is a form of  $y=mx$ ...there is no y-intercept, so the graph should begin from the origin). That's about it for now, and I'm sure that there will be more typos as I continue to work through this dense book (note: I have the updated version of this book, after the printing error calamity....apparently, the staff did not make a thorough review to catch all these typos).

5. THIS IS PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT POINT: THE PHYSICS REVIEW MATERIAL IS NOT FAITHFUL TO THE AAMC TOPIC OUTLINE!!! You don't know how much this frustrates me! To give you some examples: There's a whole chapter on Momentum (Chapter 7). I appreciate the authors telling us that we don't need to know Momentum for the MCAT, but why bother even writing a chapter on it? LEAVE IT OUT! The less material you need to know, the better. Here are some other included topics that are absolutely not necessary to know for the MCAT: In Ch. 4: no need to know the Law of Gravitation (it's not on the AAMC MCAT topic outline) Ch. 6 - get rid of that air resistance section! Ch. 5 - get rid of circular motion! Ch. 9 (Fluids) is also rather frustrating....The continuity equation is not clearly defined (should be  $A_1V_1 = A_2V_2$ ); the authors went into the formula for surface tension, whereas Kaplan's prep book didn't (so who's correct here??); where's the information about the Venturi effect and pitot tubes???; and how about Pascal's Principle? The Principle is stated in the chapter, but it isn't explicitly shown with a hydraulics example. And perhaps the MOST glaring omission of all is that there's nothing on THERMODYNAMICS!!! WHY? The AAMC outline explicitly states that you must know Thermodynamics from both a General Chemistry and Physics perspective. It's covered rather well in the Gen Chem book, but you definitely should know it from a Physics perspective also. (NOTE: Kaplan, NextStep's famous competitor, has Thermodynamics in their Physics book). So those are the major points I wanted to address regarding this particular Content Review book. After seriously thinking a lot harder about my 2015 MCAT preparation strategy, I have come to the conclusion that nobody should purchase NextStep's strategy and practice series for the science-based sections (and, by extension, do not buy their online MCAT tests!). Their CARS and Psych/Soc question books seem ok, but not the basic sciences. I came to this conclusion after assessing the in-chapter, end-of-chapter, and exam questions in each of the content review books.

There are definitely some questions in all the science books that pertain to topics that you don't need to know for the MCAT. Because of that fact, I would make the highly probable assumption that the Strategy & Practice books contain similar extraneous topic questions. Therefore, I would only recommend the Psych/Soc and CARS Strategy & Practice books. If you want question books for the basic sciences (bio, biochem, physics, gen chem, and orgo), go with Sterling or Kaplan's materials. And as for MCAT practice tests, you gotta go with the AAMC itself. I'm taking the MCAT in Dec. of this year, so I'll have a few of those AAMC tests under my belt by then. My apologies and sympathy go out to those people who are taking the new MCAT within the first 3 months of its administration! So, to sum it all up, the Physics and Math Content Review book is a fine supplement to your College Physics courses, but its intended purpose is to school you on MCAT Physics, which it does rather poorly. All of this stems from the fact that the authors did not pay attention to the AAMC MCAT topic outline.

There are over 1000 practice problems and an extensive final exam with this book. Highly recommend.

This book is a copy of The MCAT Physics Book by Garrett Biehle, not sure if that is allowed or if the author is the same but the figures and content and even the questions seem to be the same in some respect.

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