MCAT Prep Picker + Weekly Checklist

From "Best MCAT Prep (November 2026)" on the StudySim blog. Prices change: confirm on each vendor page. StudySim is not a full MCAT course.

1. Pick your stack (circle rows that fit)

If you mostly need...	Start with	Why
Exam-true full-lengths and packs	AAMC Official Prep	Written by the test developers
Daily passages with deep explanations	UWorld QBank	3,000+ questions with visual rationales
A full course + many practice tests	Kaplan	On Demand or Live Online; 21 FLs listed
Visual self-paced or live classes	Blueprint	Self-Paced / Live / 515+ ladder
Heavy live hours + 515+ track	Princeton Review	LiveOnline 515+ with guarantee terms
A course under $400	Magoosh	12-month Premium about $399
Free content review	Khan Academy	Free MCAT course + passages
Fact retention	Anki	Spaced repetition you control
Extra quizzes from lecture PDFs	StudySim	Supports practice; not a full course

2. Weekly practice log

Week of	Content hours	QBank / passages	% correct	AAMC / FL?	Weak topics to Anki

3. Before you buy a course

- ☐ Took a diagnostic (AAMC sample or free FL) and wrote my baseline score: _____
- ☐ Budget for prep (not including exam fee): $_____
- ☐ Tried the free trial / free tier for my shortlist
- ☐ Confirmed AAMC Official Prep is in the plan for the final month
- ☐ Checked current list price on the vendor site (not a third-party blog)

4. Keep or switch? (after 3 weeks)

- ☐ Am I finishing the scheduled QBank blocks most days?
- ☐ Are explanations fixing my mistakes, or am I just collecting wrong answers?
- ☐ Is a live class earning its price with accountability I actually use?

StudySim is made by XYZAI, Inc. We make StudySim, which appears on this list and is not a full MCAT course. Official exam facts belong to the AAMC.