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Decision Making Assignment

(use as much space as needed in each box for your answers & discussion)

Decision/Problem Identification (6 pts):

The decision I wanted to make was what medical school I wanted to apply to in the summer 2024. The decision of what type of medical school I choose is very important since my career and finances depend on it.

Options/Alternatives (10 pts):

I was trying to choose between 5 schools: FIU College of Medicine, Loma Linda University School of Medicine, Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine, UC San Diego, School of Medicine, and University of Arizona College of Medicine, Phoenix. The initial choice was based on how far is it from my home state (so I can be closer to my family) and climate.

Factors (10 pts):

Some of the factors I considered were: in or out of state (I would be considered in state in California and Oregon), median GPA and median MCAT (to see where I would fit it with my academic result), cost of attendance, housing availability, and if the degrees are combined.

Weights/Importance (10 pts):

The most important factors for me were in/out state status and cost of attendance. If I get a chance to get into California or Oregon schools, that would be more familiar and settled for me because I have lived in both states. Cost of attendance is a major factor as well because I am going to minimize my debt and expenses while attending. Housing availability is a next point to consider because it would be more convenient to live on campus. Combined degrees are important for finding a job after graduation. Median MCAT and GPA are least important due to application being personalized and there are other achievements that medical school admissions take into account.

Analysis results (10 pts):

After checking AAMC website for the information about medical schools of my choice, I came up with following results:

1. Loma Linda University School of Medicine would be a priority choice for me. I will be considered as an in-state student which reduces the cost of attendance, and I am also familiar with that area since I used to live in southern California. They also have combined degrees. Median GPA is 3.8 and MCAT is 512 which is doable for me. Cost of attendance is high but with in-state tuition and financial aid it would be possible to afford. On-campus housing is available.
2. Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine would be the second choice. I will be considered as an in-state student because my parents live there which reduces the cost of attendance. I am also familiar with an area since I lived there before I moved to California and often come to visit my family. They also have combined degrees. Median GPA is 3.78 and MCAT is 512 which is doable for me. Cost of attendance is roughly the same as Loma Linda. With

in-state tuition and financial aid it would be possible to afford. I would be able to stay with my family and save money on housing.

3. UC San Diego, School of Medicine would be the third option. will be considered as an in-state student which reduces the cost of attendance, and I am also familiar with that area since I used to live in San Diego. They also have combined degrees. Median GPA is 3.87 and the MCAT is 516 which is pretty high. Cost of attendance is high but with in-state tuition and financial aid it would be possible to afford. On-campus housing is available.
4. FIU College of Medicine would be the fourth option. I will be considered as an out-state student which increases the cost of attendance significantly. They also have combined degrees. Median GPA is 3.83 and MCAT is 511 which is doable for me. Cost of attendance is high. On-campus housing is available.
5. Arizona College of Medicine would be the fifth choice. I will be considered as an out-state student which increases the cost of attendance significantly. They also have combined degrees. Median GPA is 3.84 and MCAT is 511 which is doable for me. Cost of attendance is high. On-campus housing is available.

Decision (4 pts):

After evaluating all the options, I decided to prioritize my application to Loma Linda University School of Medicine since it satisfies all the factors I was considering . Loma Linda University School of Medicine got the highest score on the Decision Matrix Analysis Worksheet which also supports my decision.



Decision Matrix Analysis Worksheet

• For information on decision matrix analysis, visit www.mindtools.com/rs/GridAnalysis.

Factors:	In state/out state	Median GPA	Median MCAT	Cost	Housing	Combined degrees	Total
Weights:	5	3	3	5	4	4	
FIU College of Medicine	1 (1x5=5)	4 (3x4=12)	5 (5x3=15)	5 (5x5=25)	5 (5x4=20)	5 (5x4=20)	97
Loma Linda University School of Medicine	5 (5x5=25)	3 (3x3=9)	5 (5x4=20)	3 (5x3=15)	5 (5x4=20)	5 (5x4=20)	109
Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine	5 (5x5=25)	5 (3x5=15)	4 (4x3=12)	3 (5x3=15)	5 (5x4=20)	5 (5x4=20)	107
UC San Diego, School of Medicine	5 (5x5=25)	3 (3x3=9)	3 (3x3=9)	3 (5x3=15)	5 (5x4=20)	5 (5x4=20)	98
University of Arizona, Phoenix	1 (1x5=5)	3 (3x3=9)	3 (3x3=9)	2 (5x2=10)	5 (5x4=20)	5 (5x4=20)	73