

Health Professions Interview Reminders

I. Pre-Interview Preparation

- a. Know yourself (your goals, strengths/weaknesses, motivations, etc.)
- b. Know *everything* you put in your application
- c. Prepare responses to common questions and PRACTICE!
 - i. Tell me about yourself
 - ii. Why do you want to be a doctor/dentist/etc.?
 - iii. Why our school? (Very important! You should expect this!)
 - iv. See common question lists
 - v. *Important: be sure that you provide full & detailed responses. Review the STAR technique.*
- d. Be well-informed about healthcare and factors affecting your intended profession:
 - i. Health-care reform/ political issues in healthcare
 - ii. How your practice is changing or may change in the future
 - iii. Advances in technology and biomedical research
 - iv. Ethical issues in healthcare
- e. Prepare questions for interviewers
 - i. Learn about the school before preparing questions
 - ii. Follow up on areas you have already researched, that you would like more info on
- f. Know the type of interview to expect: Traditional vs. MMI

II. Interview attire and appearance

- a. Suit and tie for men; suit for women (pants or skirt ok – watch hemline!)
- b. Mix and mingle events can be business casual (slacks, dress shirt, tie for men; skirt and sweater set for women) – when in doubt ask about dress code
- c. Accessories - keep it simple
- d. Manicured nails and well groomed hair
- e. No strongly scented lotions, skip perfume/cologne

III. Handling yourself during the interview

- a. Eye contact, smile! Avoid arrogance!
- b. Watch your body language and voice tone/tenor
- c. Be aware of nervous laughter or other telling ticks (wringing your hands, playing with hair)
- d. Show enthusiasm and familiarity with your intended profession

IV. Post Interview etiquette

- a. Hand written note (best) or e-mail of sincere thanks

Helpful Links for Health Professions Interviews

USF Division of Health Professions Advising Information:

- Interviewing website: <http://www.cas.usf.edu/healthprofessions/applying/interviewing/>
- AAMC Mission & Interview Questions Worksheet: https://www.aamc.org/students/download/175218/data/medical_school_interview.pdf
- Optimal Resume: <https://usf.optimalresume.com/>
- Mission Fit Webinar: <https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/435214/missionfit.html>

Healthcare Trends/ Political Information:

- National Healthcare Reform and recent issues: <https://www.healthcare.gov/>
- Latest on local healthcare policies in the state to which you are applying to medical school: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/>
- AMA: American Medical Association: <http://www.ama-assn.org/>
- AAMC: Association of American Medical Colleges: <https://www.aamc.org/>
- Don't forget local news such as CNN, BBC, New York Times, etc.

Interview Preparation Help:

- NAAHP: *Interviewing for Health Professions Schools* (\$8): <http://www.naahp.org> → Publications → Interviewing for Health Professions Schools → Order Form → Non-members order form.
- Preparing for the Interview: <https://www.aamc.org/students/aspiring/basics/280914/interview.html>
- Sample Questions:
 - http://www.colorado.edu/advising/sites/default/files/attached-files/Med_100%20intquest.pdf
 - <https://career.berkeley.edu/Medical/IntQues.stm>
 - <http://www.clarku.edu/departments/prehealth/applying/iquestions.cfm>
 - <http://www.clarku.edu/departments/prehealth/applying/impquestions.cfm>
 - http://www.medicine.usask.ca/pt/admission/Practice_MMI_QuestionsUofS.pdf

Resources:

- USF Suit-a-Bull: <http://www.usf.edu/career-services/students/suit-a-bull.aspx>
- Mock interview appointments: <http://www.cas.usf.edu/healthprofessions/advising/schedule/> (select "Health Professions Advising" as the area & then indicate "Mock Interview" as the reason. You will be asked to email healthprofadvise@usf.edu after scheduling for more information).