Commonly Asked Questions
In a Medical School Interview
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Types of Questions That Will Most Likely Be Asked:

- General questions (you, your family, etc.)
- Behavioral questions
- Questions about a career in medicine
- School or program-specific questions
- Leadership questions
- Ethical questions
- Questions about current topics in medicines (are you reading books, newspapers, watching the news, etc.)

Examples:

Please tell me about yourself.

Tell me about your family. How do they feel about your decision to apply to medical school?

How did you choose your undergraduate school? How has your experience been?

What was your worst college course and why?

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Why do you want to be a physician? When did the interest in the profession come about? Was there a defining moment?

What steps have you taken to acquaint yourself with what an MD does?

What do you think that you will like most about a career in medicine? The least?

What do you see your self doing in the future, (e.g. ten years from now)?

How have you spent the summers in between your collegiate years?

Describe your style of communicating and interacting with others. Give an example of a situation in which you had to use effective interpersonal skills.

How well do you work in group situations? If there were a conflict in the group, (e.g. how to reach the group’s goal, how would you react to that conflict)?

Have you had any leadership roles?
How do you handle stress? Can you give me an example of a stressful situation you faced and how you reacted to it?

What do you consider to be your best qualities?

What are some of your weaknesses?

We have 1,000 applicants (actually for WUSM it’s over 4,000) for our school and, on paper, they are all as qualified as you. We can only admit 100 of our applicants. Why should we admit you?

If I got on the phone now and called one of your references and asked for a candid assessment, what do you think they would say about you?

Tell me about a time that you failed. How did you handle it?

How do you feel about euthanasia?

What impact do you want to have on the medical profession?

What experience have you had working with diverse populations?

Do you keep up with current events? How? Newspapers/Television, etc.? One topic which is often in the news is the issue of the lack of adequate health care coverage for the poor. What are your thoughts on a possible solution?

What do you think are some of greatest strengths of our nation’s current health care system? Weaknesses?

From what you have learned about medical school, what parts of the program do you think will be the most difficult for you?

What do you think are some of the biggest challenges facing the medical profession today?

If there were an accident on the highway, would you stop and help the victims, knowing that your actions could result in a malpractice claim being brought against you?

Tell me about a time when you were criticized unfairly. How did you react?

What do you know about our particular medical school? What is it about THIS school that you find attractive?

If you are not accepted to medical school, what will you do then?

What else do you want us to know about you before you leave today?

Before you leave, do you have any questions for me?