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Interview Question Bank

Traditional questions and multiple mini interview stations - with flexible frameworks, scoring signals, and mistakes to avoid.



Practice structure, not scripts

Interviewers use varied formats to assess many of the same qualities: communication, empathy, ethical responsibility, teamwork, growth, critical thinking, and fit. The wording changes. Your reasoning and evidence must travel.

Traditional: THESIS - EVIDENCE - REFLECTION

Answer the question in one sentence. Give one specific example. Close with what you learned, changed, or will carry forward.

Behavioral: STAR-R

Situation and task should be brief. Spend most of the answer on your actions, the result, and an honest reflection.

Ethics: FACTS - STAKEHOLDERS - PRINCIPLES - ACTION

Clarify uncertainty, weigh autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence, and justice, then choose a proportionate next step.

Role-play: ACKNOWLEDGE - ASK - LISTEN - PLAN

Name emotion without assuming, invite the person's view, summarize, and agree on a concrete next step.

A USEFUL ANSWER IS NOT A MEMORIZED ANSWER

Build a story inventory of 8-10 experiences. Reuse experiences when appropriate, but change the lens. Practice aloud until the structure feels natural, then vary the wording.

TIMING TARGETS

Traditional: 60-90 seconds for a first response, then deepen with follow-ups.

Behavioral: 90-120 seconds.

MMI: use reading time to map the problem; speak in a structured way, then engage the interviewer.

SELF-SCORE AFTER EVERY ANSWER

Did I answer the actual question? Did I use a specific example? Did my action become clear? Did I recognize another perspective? Did I reflect rather than merely report?

Important: These are commonly reported question types and synthesized practice prompts, not leaked interview content. No prompt is represented as belonging to a specific school. Policies and interview formats change; verify each school's current instructions.

Motivation & identity

ANSWER FRAMEWORK

Open with a clear thesis, prove it with one or two specific experiences, then connect the lesson to the work of a physician. Keep your identity broader than medicine and let your values link the pieces.

INTERVIEWERS SCORE

Authenticity; mature motivation; self-awareness; clear communication; evidence that you understand the path.

COMMON MISSES

Reciting the personal statement; a childhood-origin story with no recent evidence; prestige or job-security answers; trying to sound inspirational.

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. Why medicine?
3. When did medicine become a serious goal for you?
4. Which experience most confirmed that medicine fits you?
5. Why become a physician rather than another health professional?
6. What part of a physician's work most energizes you?
7. What part of medicine gives you pause?
8. Which value most strongly guides your career choice?
9. Who has influenced your decision to pursue medicine?
10. How has your background shaped the physician you hope to become?
11. What would your closest friend say drives you?
12. What are three words that describe you, and what supports each one?
13. What do you want patients to remember about you?
14. If medicine were unavailable, what work would you pursue and why?
15. What misconception might someone have after reading your application?

Drill: Choose three prompts. Answer each once in 90 seconds, then again in 60 seconds without losing the thesis, evidence, or reflection.

Your application & experiences

ANSWER FRAMEWORK

Name the setting and your role, describe what you actually did, and end with a concrete insight that changed your behavior. Distinguish observation from contribution; never overstate clinical responsibility.

INTERVIEWERS SCORE

Depth of reflection; ownership; continuity; ethical boundaries; ability to connect experience with future practice.

COMMON MISSES

Listing activities; exaggerating impact; centering yourself in another person's hardship; repeating the activity description without a lesson.

16. Walk me through the arc of your application.
17. Which activity has been most meaningful to you?
18. What did you learn from clinical exposure that you could not learn in class?
19. Describe a patient interaction that stayed with you.
20. What did shadowing teach you about the realities of practice?
21. What was your specific contribution to your research project?
22. Explain your research to a non-scientist.
23. What did a negative or inconclusive research result teach you?
24. How has service changed your understanding of a community?
25. Which commitment best demonstrates reliability over time?
26. Tell me about an activity you nearly left and why you stayed or left.
27. What have you learned from working with people unlike you?
28. Which experience would you pursue even if it were absent from your application?
29. Is there a gap, transition, or academic concern you want to contextualize?
30. What important part of you is missing from your written application?

Drill: Choose three prompts. Answer each once in 90 seconds, then again in 60 seconds without losing the thesis, evidence, or reflection.

FREE PREVIEW · WHAT'S INSIDE THE FULL GUIDE

Interview Question Bank

You've read the opening pages. Here is everything else the guide covers:

- 165 traditional and MMI questions
- Eight traditional categories, fully covered
- MMI stations with scoring signals
- Flexible answer frameworks — never scripts
- Common misses for every question type
- Timing targets and self-scoring after each answer
- Operating manual for structured practice

Get the full guide — \$19