Health Professional School
Interview Skills

Virnin Bonner, M.A., Academic Counselor
Lizette Ozog, M.Ed., Senior Academic Counselor

OFFICE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS ADVISING
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
Timeline

- Submit primary application (TMDSAS, AMCAS, ACOMAS, AADSAS, CASPA, OPTOMCAS, PTCAS, PHARMCAS OTCAS, VMCAS)
- Submit secondaries
- Send in letters of recommendation
- Interview
- Update letters
- Admission decision (admit, deny, waitlist)
- Next steps if needing to re-apply
Preparing for the Interview

- **Format of the Interview**
  - In-Person
  - Remote/Online

- **Location**
  - Travel Plans and Timing
  - Setting and Space

- **Attire**
  - Professional School = Professional Attire

- **Prepare for Questions & Prepare Question**
  - Reflect on your experiences and your application
  - Review schools websites, social media, and news updates
Activities and Experiences

- Review your application
  - Remember what you wrote
  - Expand, don’t repeat

- Make a list of any new activities
  - Think beyond clinical work
  - Transferrable skills

- Don’t tie every answer back to the profession (medicine, dentistry, PA, etc.)

- Practicing reflection
  - Journaling
  - Thinking about what you’ve learned from the experience. What has it taught you?
Reflection Practice

- Create a timeline of your life and highlight significant events
  - Significant events in your development
  - Events that caused personal growth or change

- Guided questions/prompts
  - What were your thoughts about the experience prior to it occurring?
  - Did you change your feelings/thoughts about it?
  - Are you more/less aware of it?
  - Did anything surprise you?
  - How do you feel?
  - Can you relate to/empathize with someone about this experience? How?
  - How will I utilize this learning in the future?
Reflection Practice

Activity!

Two minute reflection paper – What was the biggest lesson you’ve learned as a student this year?
1. Answer the prompt
2. What did you learn from the experience?
3. Use concrete examples (evidence!) to support your answer

- Practice, practice, practice!
  - Mock interviews with health professions advisors, friends, etc.

- Record yourself
During the Interview

- Answer the question asked
- Be yourself, not who you think they want you to be
- Consistency = Honesty = Trustworthy
- Don’t be intimidated.....try not to
- Exhibit emotions!
- Finish with positives
- Get back to your interviews with any updates ASAP
- Have your Post-Interview questions accessible
- Include a....
Post-Interview/update letters

▪ Thank you note

▪ Letter of interest
  ▪ Lets schools know of your continued interest
  ▪ What you liked about the program
  ▪ What you would contribute to the program if you were offered admission

▪ Letter of intent
  ▪ Outlines same points as above
  ▪ Should be sent to only your TOP CHOICE
  ▪ Expresses commitment to attend if offered a seat
  ▪ Outlines the specific reasons that program is best suited to your interests
Questions for the Interviewer

- Specific research inquiries
- Questions about the curriculum
- Student organizations/activities
- Student support services (mental health, academic support/tutoring, etc.)
- Service work in the community
- New programs/initiatives
- Describe the culture of the school
- Mentorship opportunities
- Follow-up on topics discussed during the interview
Questions?

Contact us!

HealthCareers@unt.edu

Or make an individual appointment to speak with an advisor!