

Most common questions (i.e. these will be asked):

1. Tell me about yourself
2. Why do you want to be a doctor?
3. What experiences have most motivated you to pursue medicine?
4. What was the most stressful situation you ever faced? How did you handle it?
5. What is the one thing you want me to convey to the admission committee?
6. What was your most significant research project?
7. How do you imagine the balance of research and clinical work in your future? If you had to choose, which would you do?
8. Why choose medicine over some other career in health?
9. Where do you see yourself in 10 years?
10. Is there anything else you want me to know?
11. Do you have any questions for me?

Questions about your Education

1. Why did you choose your undergraduate major?
2. How have you tried to achieve breadth in your undergraduate curriculum?
3. How has your undergraduate research experience, if any, better prepared you for a medical career?
4. How have the jobs, volunteer opportunities, or extracurricular experiences that you have had better prepared you for the responsibilities of being a physician?
5. How do you envision using your medical education?

Questions about Your Character and Personality

6. What are your greatest strengths and weaknesses?
7. Tell me about a time when you had to compromise.
8. Tell me about a time when you made a mistake. What did you do and how did you correct it?
9. Tell me about a time when you collaborated on a successful project.
10. Give an example of how you demonstrated leadership
11. What travels have you taken and what exposure to other cultures have you had?
12. Thinking of examples from your recent past, how would you assess your empathy and compassion?
13. As a pre-med, what skills have you learned to help manage your time and relieve stress?
14. If you could be granted three wishes for making the world/society/ your community a better place, what would they be and why (or, If you were given a million dollars to achieve three goals, what would you work on and why)?
15. What do you do for fun?
16. What is "success" in your opinion? After 20 years as a physician, what kind of "success" would you hope to have achieved? Please explain
17. What qualities do you look for in a physician? Can you provide an example of a physician who embodies any of these ideals? How do they do this?
18. What kind of experiences have you had working with sick people? Have these experiences taught you anything that you didn't know beforehand?
19. Do you have any family members or role models who are physicians?

20. What family members, friends, or other individuals have been influential in your decision to pursue a medical career?
21. If you could invite four people from the past to dinner, who would they be, and why would you invite them? What would you talk about?
22. Does your academic record reflect any major challenges? If so, what are they and why did they occur?

Medicine-Related Questions

23. What got you interested initially in medicine?
24. What excites you about medicine in general?
25. What do you know about the current trends in our nation's healthcare system?
26. What do you believe to be some of the most pressing health issues today? Why?
27. What do you feel are the negative or restrictive aspects of medicine from a professional standpoint?
28. If you had to choose between clinical and academic medicine as a profession, which would you pick? What do you feel you might lose by being forced to choose?

Society Related Questions

29. What do you feel are the social responsibilities of a physician?
30. What do you consider an important/the most important social problem facing the United States today and why?
31. How do you think national health insurance affects physicians, patients, and society?
32. In what manner and to what degree do you stay in touch with current events?
33. What books, films, or other media come to mind as having been particularly important to your sciences/non-sciences education?
34. Can you think of any examples in our society when healthcare is a right? When is it a privilege? When is it not clear?

Questions about Ethics

35. Are you aware of any current controversies in the area of medical ethics? List and discuss some of these.
36. Have you personally encountered any moral dilemmas to date? Of what nature?
37. How do you feel about euthanasia or medically assisted suicide?
38. What different feelings and issues might you experience with a terminally ill patient, as opposed to other patients?
39. How would you feel about treating a patient who has tested positive for HIV?
40. What are some of the ethical issues that our society considers in regard to teenage pregnancy?
41. Assume there are limited resources available and you must make decisions in a major emergency with a wide assortment of patients from all ages, backgrounds, and degree of injury. Assume also that there is no "right answer" to this question, only considered and unconsidered responses. Who would you direct to receive the treatment first and why.

Questions about Diversity

42. If you are a minority candidate, how do you feel your background uniquely prepares you to be, and will influence your role as, a physician?
43. If you are a woman, how has your gender impacted your decision to pursue a medical career?
44. If you are not a minority, how might you best meet the needs of a multiethnic, multicultural patient population?
45. If you are economically disadvantaged or have limited financial means, how has this adversity shaped you?
46. To what extent do you feel that you owe a debt to your fellow man? To what extent do you owe a debt to those less fortunate than yourself? Please explain.

Questions about Medical School

47. What special qualities do you feel you possess that set you apart from other medical school candidates? What makes you unique or different as a medical school candidate?
48. Pick any specific medical school to which you are applying, and tell the interviewer about it. What makes this school particularly desirable to you?
49. What general and specific skills would you hope an ideal medical school experience would give you? How might your ideal school achieve that result?

Questions about Your Motivation

50. Discuss your decision to pursue medicine. When did you decide to become an MD, and why?
51. Why did you decide to choose medicine and not some other field where you can help others, such as nursing, physical therapy, pharmacology, psychology, education, or social work?
52. How have you tested your motivation to become an MD? Please explain.
53. What will you do if you are not accepted to medical school this year? Have you an alternative career plan?
54. Is there anything else we have not covered that you feel the interviewer should know about you or your interest in becoming a doctor?