

Interview Prep Questions

High Importance

Prepare for these questions with the expectation that you will see at least one or two of them on interview day.

1. Why do you want to be a doctor?
 - a. Try to find a nuanced way to answer the question. Avoid general statements such as “I would like to help people” or “I want to save lives” and instead focus on pairing your **passion about healthcare** with the **unique benefits** medical school can provide (detailed scientific knowledge, critical thinking, etc.). Also, think about what makes the job of a physician **different** from that of other healthcare professionals and incorporate that into your response to display your unique interest in medical school specifically. Do not talk about money or status.
2. Why do you want to attend X school?
 - a. Research the school prior and have 2-3 talking points about what makes that institution unique. Things to consider are research facilities (works best if you have some research on your resume), community clinical/volunteering opportunities, unique aspects of the curriculum, culture/mission of the school.
 - b. Do not talk about the status of the school/position on a ranking list
3. Be prepared to talk about some sort of challenging experience/a situation where you were faced with a dilemma.
 - a. Be able to work through the dynamics involved in the situation and how you handled it. Focus on your **thought process** throughout the situation and the **personality traits** that you demonstrated in your solution.
4. Similar to the previous question, be prepared to discuss a moral dilemma that you may have faced
 - a. This is a good opportunity to show how you work through ethically or morally difficult situations. Focus on the moral dilemma itself and how you specifically worked through it.
5. Be prepared to talk about a community service or volunteering experience that is on your resume.
6. Be prepared to discuss a research project that is on your resume.
 - a. It’s important to know the ins and outs of research that is on your resume. Be able to discuss the **project goals and outcomes**, and **what you learned** from the experience.
7. Be prepared to discuss a situation where you were required to work in a team
 - a. For this question, you should emphasize your **role in the team** and the things you contributed to help achieve the overall goal. You may be asked to elaborate on how you **communicated with your teammates** and ways you handled **inter-team conflict**.
8. What will you do if you do not get accepted into medical school this year?
 - a. Answer honestly, but if you are really committed to medical school then consider giving a few examples of what you may do in your gap year before reapplying the next year.
9. Do you have any questions for me?
 - a. The answer is yes. Ask questions at the end of your interview, it shows that you are engaged and thinking. Some good questions to ask at the end of an interview are:
 - i.* What motivated you to get into medicine?
 - ii.* What is your favorite part about X university?
 - iii.* Where do you see the field of medicine in 10 years?

Optional

Prepare for these questions with the expectation that they *might* be asked, but not guaranteed.

1. Medical school can be very grueling. There is lots of studying involved and the material can be difficult for many students. How do you know that you are prepared for it?
2. What are some of the most pressing challenges confronting the healthcare industry today?
3. What do you like to do for fun?
 - a. Remember, medical schools want people, not robots. Don't be afraid to show excitement over hobbies or interests that you have.