



The Interview Process

Application Process

The interviews are one of the final steps in the application process where admissions committees determine whether they will extend an offer of admission.

When you are offered an interview, an **admissions committee is expressing interest in learning about who you are** and how well you can fit into the schools' missions. You should make sure to provide the same care and attention to the interviews as you did in your application. You should **always be professional and courteous** when you contact a school for any purpose.

We've developed this series to help you learn more about the interviews, expectations of applicants, and what you can do to leave the best impression of who you are and what you offer as a candidate.

Interview Formats

There are several different formats for interviews: panel, one-on-one, and multiple mini interview (MMI) are most commonly used.

Panel interviews will consist of more than one interviewer at a time. **One-on-one interviews** are the most commonly used interview formats where there is only one interviewer and one applicant. **Multiple mini interviews (MMIs)** are short interview sessions in a timed circuit of about 6-10 stations dealing with different scenarios.

In addition, schools also vary in the amount of information available to your interviewers. Some schools may provide interviewers with your entire application, only select information (e.g. no GPA or MCAT scores), or may not provide anything from your application at all. Be prepared to talk about your application at varying levels.

Expectations

There is a level of decorum and formality during the interviews that applicants need to recognize and follow.

If a situation arises where you need to **cancel or reschedule** your interview, submit your request in writing at **least two weeks before** the interview date and follow up with a phone call. Do not demand that your interview be rescheduled as these spots are extremely limited and are often not flexible.

Considerable time, resources, and effort are put forth for interview day. Lack of notification is inconsiderate and unprofessional.

Applicants who are no-shows or provide last minute cancellations are shared among the schools.

Therefore, be considerate and cancel your interview with the school well in advance so they can extend the interview spot to

Sources: Sanker, R. Diaz, L. E., White, B. A. A. (2014). *Guide to becoming a physician*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing Company. Health Professions Office. (2016). *The med school interview: A how-to guide to doing the best in your interview*. The University of Texas at Austin.