

HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND PRELAW CENTER

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Questions To Ask Health Professions Programs

Below are some questions you might use as you research programs. If you cannot find the answers on the web or from other resources, feel free to contact the program itself and enquire. You will probably come up with other questions as you continue your research.

We suggest that you record the questions along with the answers you receive in an organized log that you keep for each program. Doing so will enable you to make side-by-side comparisons of programs. Always note the name and contact information of the person(s) who answered your questions.

- 1) I'm a (*freshman, sophomore, etc.*) student, and I'm very interested in this particular health profession. What advice do you have about how I should prepare for this career?
- 2) What are your program's greatest strengths compared to other such programs?
- 3) What is the class size and student-faculty ratio?
- 4) Are there special issues *transfer* students should be aware of when considering your program?
- 5) Do you have "rolling admissions" (i.e., the school starts to fill seats long before the deadline to apply)? By when do I need to apply in order to be competitive for admission?
- 6) What admissions test(s) do you require or accept? What is a *competitive* score range for admission. Are certain sections of the exam given greater weight than others?
- 7) All other things being equal, what is a *competitive* Grade Point Average range for admission to your program?
- 8) Is there an admissions interview? If so, how are your interviews conducted?
- 9) Is a personal statement required? If so, what do you look for in the statement?
- 10) Are letters of recommendation required or suggested when applying to your program? If so, what are your guidelines for the number/type of letters? From whom will you accept letters (e.g., faculty, AI's, professionals).
- 11) What types of extracurricular, shadowing, or clinical experiences do you think are most helpful in preparing for your program?
- 12) What does your program look for in an applicant?
- 13) Do you give preference to in-state residents? Typically how many students accepted are in-state and out-of-state?
- 14) What types of problems could prevent good students from being accepted into your program?
- 15) In what ways and how early in the program are students given opportunities for patient contact and clinical experience?
- 16) How diverse is the student body? Are there support services or organizations for students from underrepresented groups in the medical professions?
- 17) From where do most of your students come? How much geographical diversity is there in your classes?
- 18) Is someone available to help with budgeting/financial planning?
- 19) Are there any scholarships, honors programs, or other special opportunities available?
- 20) Is there anything else you think I ought to know about the admission process, about your program in general, or about the career in general?