

# *Sample Medical School Questions*

*Compiled by Greg Nielsen, WSU Career Services*

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## *1. Personal*

What are your hobbies?

What are some things that bother you in a work setting?

What do you like to do in your spare time.

Tell me about your family.

How do you plan to support yourself through medical school?

Questions about personal relationships, religious beliefs, etc (may be asked but not legal).

Describe a situation where your work was criticized. What was your immediate reaction? Reflecting back now, what do you make of it now?

How do you cope with grief?

Are you a friendly person?

What do you have to offer that others don't have?

How will your weaknesses play a role in medicine?

Have you ever lived in a large city before?

How do you deal with adversity?

Tell me about your family life.

What is your preferred way of learning and how do you learn best?

Tell me about your study habits.

Tell me about your letters of recommendation.

What is the biggest thing you have overcome in your life?

## *2. Motivation/Commitment*

What is your choice of speciality? Why?

What have you done that shows initiative? What did you learn from that experience?

What leadership positions have you held in school?

Have you ever thought of medical school? If so, why did you choose (dental, PA, chiropractic) school?

Why did you choose to apply to medical (dental, vet, etc.) school?

Have you been accepted to other schools yet?

What did you dislike most about undergraduate school?

I heard you were only going into medicine for the money.

### ***3. Education/Experience***

Be prepared for specific questions regarding your application materials.

What science class did you dislike the most?

What classes did you struggle with during school?

What have you done to prepare yourself to be a doctor (dentist, PA, etc.).

Why should we accept you over the other applicants who have applied to our program?

What was your favorite subject in school. Why?

What kinds of direct patient care experiences do you have?

Be prepared to discuss weaknesses in your academic transcripts and MCAT scores.

What experiences have you had with the medical (dental, etc.) profession?

What was your favorite science class? Why?

What types of volunteer work have you had?

Have you had any practical experiences in medicine (dentistry, etc.).

Have you shadowed any PA's (physicians, dentist, etc.)?

What was your favorite science class?

What does a PA (chiropractor, podiatrist, etc) do?

What experiences have you had working with people?

### ***4. Knowledge of Program***

What do you know about our school?

What makes (the program you are applying to) unique?

Are you a good fit for our program? Explain.

Are you a strong candidate for our program?

### ***5. Goals/Plans/Realistic Outlook***

How will you deal with the stress of school and this profession?

How do you plan to pay for medical (dental, PA, etc.) school and living expenses?

Where do you plan to practice after you graduate?

What do you think you will struggle with during medical school?

Where would you like to practice? Rural or inner city areas?

## *6. Exposure to Your Field/Current Events*

What politicians are currently impacting medicine? Do you agree with the decisions they are making?

Given a specific medical scenario: How would you treat the patient?

What are some current controversial areas in medicine. Select one then give your opinion on it and defend that opinion.

What is your opinion of National Health Insurance?

Do you see any negatives in the (medical) profession?

What do you think about (patient rights, medical costs, HMO's, euthanasia, Phenphen, confidentiality, etc)?

Pick and discuss one issue that you feel is of primary concern in healthcare.

Give me a list of three political issues that you feel are of great importance in the healthcare field right now.

What sorts of ethical problems can you see coming up in the medical (dental, veterinary, etc.) profession?

Are any of your relatives physicians (dentists, etc)? If so, where did they go to school?

What makes a good physician (dentist, PA, vet, etc.)?

Why is medicine such an important field?

## *7. Breadth/Diversity*

Tell me three good things about others interviewing in your group.

Tell me about your L.D.S. mission.

How do you plan on dealing with the heterogeneous population here coming from such a homogeneous population in both race and religion?

## *8. Behavior-Based*

Say you were a doctor and your patient is terminal. The patient looks at you with hope and asks if he will make it. What do you tell him?

How might you calm a nervous patient?

What if you had a patient that did not pay.

A few schools have skill/coordination tests (e.g. chalk-carving or clay modeling for dental schools). They may tell you about them and how to practice ahead of time.

On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your ability with your hands? Why? (Typical of dental interviews).

What would you do if a doctor gave you orders that you know will harm the patient?

Pretend that you're the doctor. You see a patient who gives you some grief and complaints. At the end of treatment he asks you if he was a good patient. What do you say?

Your supervising physician comes into work drunk. How would you handle the situation?

Imagine you are a physician (PA, dentist, etc). You are working with a patient who is refusing a treatment that you believe is necessary. What would you do?

Imagine you are a physician (PA, dentist, etc). How would you handle the following situation. . .

Please give me an example of you you would handle a stressful situation?

How would you deal with a patient who was treating you badly (assume other patients in the office can overhear)?

Tell me about the last time you felt anger on the job.

Be prepared to and unusual questions or difficult ones for which you do not know the answer.

