

ST. OLAF COLLEGE

HEALTH PROFESSIONS COMMITTEE

PRACTICE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

DISCLAIMER: This document is meant to serve as a tool to help you become best prepared to articulate your reasons for wanting to enter the healthcare field during your HPC interview. However, please note that this is not a complete list of possible interview questions you may be asked during your interview. For more individualized help preparing for the HPC interview, call the Center for Experiential Learning to schedule a practice interview. x3268

1. What prompted or motivated you to want to enter the _____ field? Beyond wanting to “help people,” articulate what motivates you to do this work. (Why do you want to be a _____?)
2. Why have you chosen a career in medicine rather than other careers in healthcare?
3. What exposure have you had to the medical profession? Discuss your clinical and/or volunteer work. How did you get involved in these experiences?
4. If you could cure any disease, which would you choose and why?
5. Which was your favorite undergraduate class and why?
6. Why do you think you would make a good physician? What strengths will you bring to this career field?
7. Tell me about one of your research papers/projects, how you identified your question, and how you set up and carried out your research.
8. What’s your greatest weakness?
9. Describe your greatest accomplishment.
10. Tell me about a time you failed to achieve a goal.
11. Tell me about a time when you were faced with multiple, conflicting priorities. How did you prioritize and organize?
12. What do you see as the biggest problem in healthcare?
13. How can the government improve healthcare?
14. What do you feel about animal research? (i.e. pharmaceuticals)
15. How do you handle stress? Who do you rely on for emotional support?
16. What are your favorite hobbies? How have you maintained involvement during busy course schedules?
17. Do you think grades are a good indication of whether a student will do well in medical school? Explain.
18. What do you think the hardest thing about medical school will be? How will you stay motivated?
19. If you’re not accepted into a graduate program at this point, what will you do to better prepare for a later round of applications?