

Frequently Asked Interview Questions

Mock Interview Questions

Questions are broken into common themes. Variations of the same question are indented below numbered questions.

Theme 1: Share your story/'Getting to know you' questions

1. Tell me about yourself
 - How would you describe yourself?
 - How would your friends describe you?
 - What three words would your best friend use to describe you.
 - Share something interesting about you that is not on your ERAS personal statement or in your CV
 - What would be on page 275 of your autobiography?
 - Share a recent book you read or are currently reading.
 - If you were asked to give a Ted Talk what would it be?
 - If you could invite anyone (living or deceased) to dinner who would it be and why?
2. What was the most interesting case that you have been involved in?
 - Present an interesting case to us. It can be from any service.
 - Describe a particularly satisfying or meaningful experience during your medical training. Why was it meaningful?
 - What was your favorite course in medical school?
3. What is the greatest sacrifice you have already made to get to where you are?
4. If you could not be a physician, what career would you choose?
5. What is your most important accomplishment?
 - What is one event you are proudest of in your life?
 - What are your strengths and weaknesses?
 - What motivates you?
6. Why did you become a doctor?
7. What do you do in your spare time?
 - What are your intellectual pursuits outside of medicine?
8. Who would you want to meet or have dinner with, dead or alive?

Theme 2: Checking for concerns on application

1. Can you tell me about this deficiency on your record (if applicable)?
2. Share an obstacle that you overcame in medical school.
 - What was the most difficult situation you encountered in medical school?
3. If you could do medical school over again, what would you change?
4. Do you see any problems managing a professional and a personal life?
5. Are you prepared for the rigors of residency?
6. Share constructive criticism you received and how you dealt with it.
 - How well do you take criticism?
 - Tell me about a mistake you made in patient care and how you rectified it.
7. What worries or concerns you most about residency?

Theme 3: Commitment to specialty

1. Why did you choose this specialty?
2. What would have been another specialty you would have considered or applied for if not your current specialty?

Theme 4: How well informed about specialty choice

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1. What clinical experiences have you had in this specialty?
2. What will be the toughest aspect of this specialty for you?
3. Do you plan to do a fellowship?

Theme 5: How well will you ‘fit’ with their residency program

1. Why are you interested in our program?
 - Why should we choose you?
 - What do you think you can contribute to this program?
 - List three abilities you have that will make you valuable as a resident in this specialty.
 - What will you bring to our training program?
 - What are you looking for in a program?
2. What do you see yourself doing in the future?
 - What are your goals in residency? After residency?
3. What are the characteristics or traits in colleagues or coworkers you dislike the most?
 - Describe the best/worst attending with whom you have ever worked.
4. What leadership roles have you held?
 - How will you balance being a leader and being a team player during residency?
 - What does strong leadership mean to you?
5. Do you want to do research?
 - Tell us about your research experience.
6. Are you interested in academic or in clinical medicine?
7. Why does representation matter?
 - What does social justice in medicine mean to you?

Theme 6: Current events in specialty/Covid-19

1. What problems will our specialty face in the next 5-10 years?
2. How did you use your time during this Covid-19 pandemic? What did you accomplish?

Always asked: What questions do you have for me?