

Interviews – Those applicants for whom the secondary evaluation indicates the scholastic competency necessary to pursue successfully the course of study required of students in the School of Medicine are invited for interviews. Two Admission Committee members interview each applicant. All Admissions Committee members serve as interviewers. The purpose of the interviews is to assess the following non-cognitive variables independent of academic credentials.

Communication, listening and relational skills: speech; body language; eye contact; the ability to articulate ideas and opinions; clarity of expression; the ability to listen sufficiently well enough to ask questions; ability to relate personal experiences.

Motivation for medicine: the who, what, when, where, and why of an applicant's desire for medicine as a career; alternate career plans.

Critical thinking/problem solving/decision making: the ability to analyze a situation, consider the available facts, and derive a logical conclusion.

Honesty/integrity: consistent regard for highest standards of behavior.

Maturity: self-reliance, ability to make decisions and respond to circumstances or environment in an appropriate manner. The ability to control emotions, to find solutions to problems, to have a sense of responsibility; the probability that applicant can live and function away from home.

Accountability/Reliability: fulfilling implied contracts, persistence and determination in pursuing goals.

Altruism/compassion/empathy: commitment to service and the ability to draw satisfaction from working with others; placing others' interests above self; kindness, sympathy towards others; social interests.

Awareness of ethics/values: sense of right/wrong; ability to act in the best interest of others; respect others' autonomy, preserve dignity, recognize and avoid conflicts of interest.

Excellence: efforts to exceed ordinary expectations.

Self appraisal: recognize personal strengths/weaknesses; goals and commitment to self-improvement.

Respect for others: tolerance; the ability to relate to others in a nonjudgmental manner, appreciation for race/culture/gender differences.