

The Interview for Graduate/Medical/Professional Schools

A. HOW TO PREPARE

- Review your application before the interview.
- Be knowledgeable about the scientific content of your previous research experiences. But,
 - Avoid making prepared speeches.
 - Read about science/medicine in the news.
 - Have positive expectations about the interview...you have already made the first cut, and the school wants to know more about you.

B. WHAT TO WEAR

- Wear comfortable clothes that give you confidence.
- Dress to be respectful of the situation.
- What you wear should not distract from what you say.
- Keep your interview clothes in carry-on luggage.

C. WHAT TO DO

- Practice your handshake.
- Make good eye contact.
- Stand when you are being introduced.
- Avoid “couch potato” postures.
- Avoid the use of slang or excessive use of distracting phrases (e.g. “like,” “you know,” etc.).
- Refrain from distracting the interviewer (e.g. chewing gum, scratching yourself, tugging on jewelry, etc.).

*An interview is a “conversation with a purpose.”
Be ready to participate.*