Prepping for Interviews

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Secondaries!

-Sent after screen (metrics) usually in July
-Vary in length and style
-Cost between $75-150
-Each come with unique username and password
-Ideally, should be turned in within two weeks.
Secondary Top Three Questions

1. How do you bring diversity to our school?
2. Tell us about any adversity you’ve overcome.
3. Why us?

May also ask:
Is there anything else you want to tell us?
Interview Formats

- Traditional
  - Behavioral Interview Questions
- MMI
  - Situational Judgement Tests
- Panel Interviews
Interview Format

“Open”

Interviewer has thoroughly read your application, will likely pull questions from your primary and ask you to elaborate during the interview.

“Closed”

Interviewer has no background of you; in this setting, they are likely in having a conversation and seeing who you are as a person.
Interview Prep

- **Think** of a lot of examples/evidence from your past to demonstrate your competencies/attributes.
- **Practice** telling your stories and answering questions out loud. Record self and listen. Ask friends and family to listen to your responses.
- **Learn** everything you can about the school via social media, website and current students. Read about current events in medicine and ethical issues.
- **Create** a list of school-specific, appropriate questions to ask YOUR interviewer.
Every question has a purpose, but oftentimes you can control where the interview goes.
Tell Me About Yourself
Why do you want to be a Doctor?
Why UC Davis School of Medicine?
Scheduling the Interview

• If given a choice of interview days via phone/ e-mail, check for:
  • Most affordable flight costs
  • A non-conflicting time with exams
• Once interview is scheduled, ask about Student Hosts.
College Student Friendly Tips

• Check the weather and current events (this current cycle, many interviews were postponed months after due to the hurricanes in Florida)
• Pack and plan accordingly! An interview in Glendale, Arizona in September vs an interview in Boston, MA in December
• Make a trip out of it! Spend a couple of days exploring your potential new home, see if you can imagine yourself living there
Get a Portfolio and a Suit!