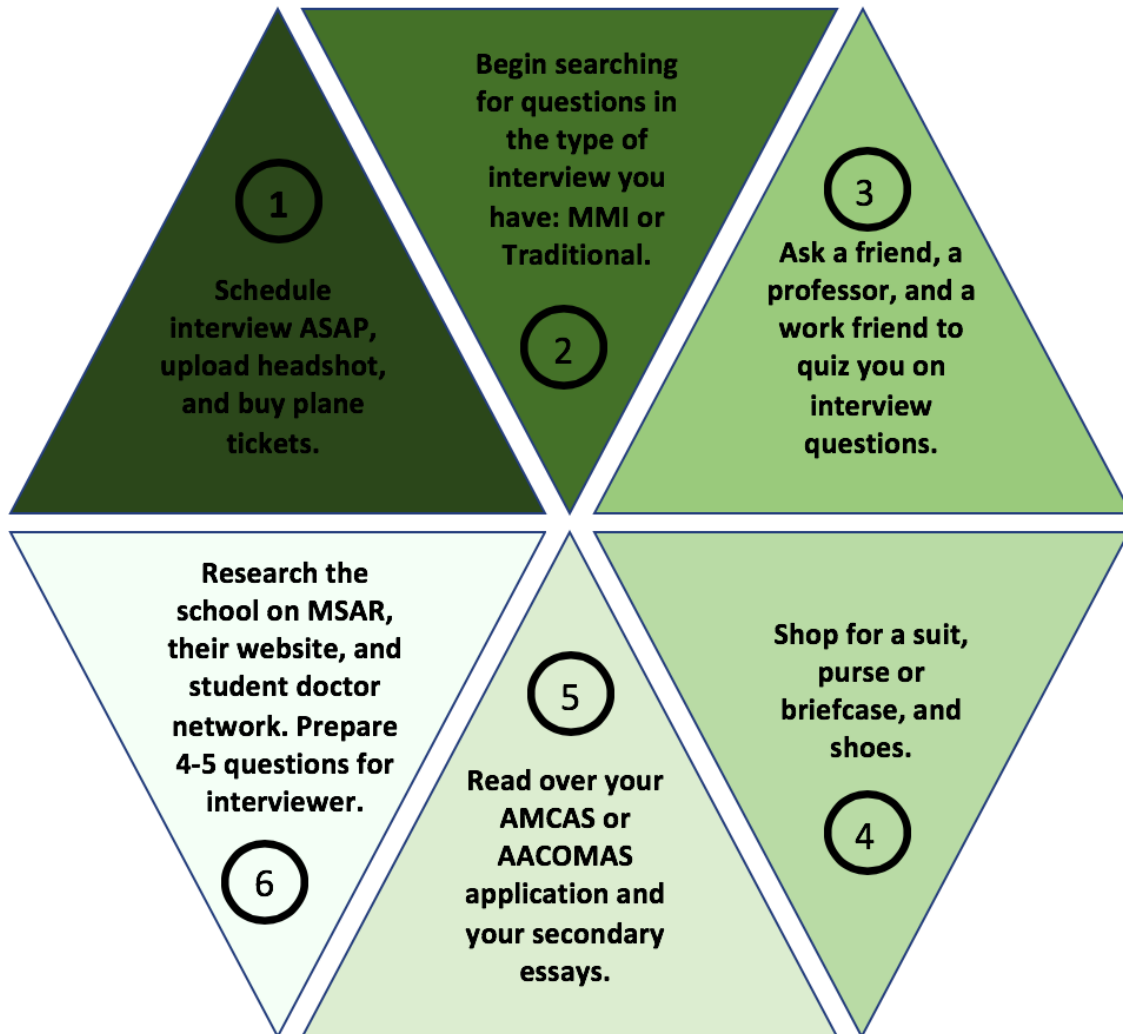


THE INTERVIEW

By @abisanatomy



After submitting your secondary application, schools will begin to evaluate if they want to send you an invitation to interview. You may receive interview notifications via email and they may come anytime August through February. Getting an interview is already a huge accomplishment, most schools only interview 3-8% of their applicants, so go in confident!

After receiving an interview notification make sure you book your flights soon because they will just get more expensive! (I recommend checking Skiplagged.com for cheap flights.) Additionally, make sure you book a place to stay (Airbnb is a great option) and check out transportation options. A lot of schools have student host programs and if they do, DO NOT DELAY emailing them! They usually have limited students who can host but it is honestly such a great experience. I got to stay with students during one interview and they gave me great tips and I loved it.

Your next question will probably be how to get prepared? Well there are a lot of resources and paid platforms where you can practice, personally I believe if you are comfortable with talking to people then you can do great interview prep all by yourself!

I believe the best way to prepare for an interview is to be fully dressed in your suit and simulating the actual experience. So, step 1: Buy a suit.

FEMALES: JC Penny's, Macy's, Ann Taylor, Banana Republic, and Express are all great options for finding a suit. Sadly for girls there is no official suit store (which we should make one) but I found my suit for a great price at JC Penny's. You should buy a suit in black, navy, or grey. It is definitely best to stick with professional neutrals for your suit color. You should have the suit jacket and either a skirt or pants to match. It is not professional to wear a cardigan or just a blouse. Remember that boys will be wearing a suit jacket and a tie and you want to look equally as professional. Your blouse can be any color, I wore a blue striped shirt and pearl necklace! Makeup is always professional but remember to keep it neutral and not the focus of attention (no red lipstick.) Carry a black purse if you want to have a place to keep deodorant, lipstick, or your notebook.

*This is not a time to show your style or your personality through dress. You should dress professionally. You want to be remembered for what you said and who you are, not as "The girl in the fuchsia skirt."



MALES: You should find a nice suit (Get it tailored if it isn't already. It is pretty obvious between those who have a suit that fits and those who don't.) The suit should be black, navy, or grey. You can wear any colored shirt but white, blue, and green are great options! You should wear a tie (plain, no patterns). Make sure your appearance is clean and your hair is styled. If you want to carry a notebook or a copy of your research then a shoulder bag or briefcase would be appropriate to carry.



After you have your look down, then ask a few friends or professor to do a mock interview with you. You need to have answers prepared for the common interview questions, and you should also practice doing an MMI style question.

Great places to find practice interview questions:

Traditional Style:

The Princeton Review:

<https://www.princetonreview.com/med-school-advice/medical-school-interview-questions>

YouTube:

Medical School Interviews. There are a lot of great listens!

Mostly importantly you should have an answer to “Tell me about yourself” and “Why do you want to come to our school?” These were asked in every traditional interview.

MMI Style:

BEMO Counseling

<https://bemoacademicconsulting.com/blog/files/sample-mmi-practice-questions>

These questions were great practice!^

When you show up for your interview, remember that you are being watched the whole day. Interact with the other interviewers, be friendly with all of the staff, smile a lot! If a faculty member tries to give advice just listen and thank them. I heard an interviewer tell a faculty member that they weren't worried about the interview... don't say that it sounds very arrogant. Remember that your interview is now the most important part of your application decision. Be yourself, but be the very best and professional version of yourself. Remember, these people are very normal and are looking for people who they would like to be around at school. If you are friendly and happy then you will impress them!

Post-interview is stressful. If the school told you on interview day that they are open to updates, then UPDATE them. This is a good question to ask on interview day to know their thoughts on updates. You want to show them that you really care about going to their school. I knew a girl who sent an update letter every month until March when she got an acceptance. If the school doesn't accept updates, then don't worry about anything other than relaxing and waiting. October 15th is the first day that you can hear back from Medical School's about being accepted, but you can wait all the way through March 15th. In March you will learn if you are accepted, rejected, or waitlisted.

Good Luck!