



Going to the next level: health professions programs

You've done your homework. Literally. Now you've reached the point when it is time to apply to the health professions programs of your choice.

Here are some tips to help as you prepare to apply. See the Healthcare Training Programs Comparison Grid to use as a tool for your notes about each college or university program that you are interested in applying to.

Preparing to Apply

-  Know the application deadlines. See the attached Health Professions Programs Comparison Grid to make your notes.
-  Have the appropriate GPA and entrance exam scores for your career.
-  Sharpen your written and verbal communication skills.
-  Develop a well-written personal statement and application.
-  Continue cultivating excellent faculty recommendations, as well as recommendations from people who know you well from other facets of your life (work, volunteer experiences, etc).
-  Sharpen your interviewing skills. Practice verbalizing what draws you to your career. What is your "elevator speech" (what you would say to someone about your education and career goals in the time it would take to ride the elevator?)

 Learn about the college or university that you are applying to. Colleges and universities have missions and values that you can talk about during an interview or in your application.

 Research current events (news) for your field. You can often find this kind of information on the professional association website.

Some Common Interview Questions

Tell me a little bit about yourself.

What are your strengths and why?

Describe a stressful event in your life, and tell me how you handled it?

Tell me what you know about the profession you are working towards (ex. doctor, nurse, pharmacist, etc)?

What do you know about our organization?

Tell me about your study habits.

Do you prefer to work on your own or in a group?

How do you prioritize competing events/activities?
Can you give me an example?

Describe to me your work ethic.

Why do you want to be a _____?

What kinds of extracurricular activities do you do that would enhance or support your educational goals?

Do you have any questions for me?