

## SUNY Upstate Medical University College of Medicine Interview Questions

**Everyone lead off with: Tell me a little about yourself-** This will hopefully relax the applicant and make them feel a bit more comfortable before diving into the questions.

### **QUESTIONS FOR YOUR FIRST APPLICANT**

**A question to assess their *understanding of medicine*.....** (Pick One)

- What challenges are facing the medical profession at the moment?
- What do you think you will like most and least about medicine?

**A question about *clinical experiences*...**

-Tell me about your clinical experiences.

- What did you observe during your clinical experiences that made a negative impression on you or left you thinking that you might do something different if you were the physician? What did you observe that made a positive impression on you?

**A question to assess "*fit*"/*what/how much they know about Upstate*...**

- How are you a match for our medical school?
- What specifically about Upstate made you decide to apply here?

**A question to assess their *conscientiousness*...**

- As a future physician, you will be required to establish good working relationships with people from all walks of life. Talk about what you think will be your strengths and challenges in establishing these relationships with your future clients.
- What drives you to succeed both personally & professionally?

**A question to assess their *professionalism*...**

- Describe an ethical issue that you faced during your college experience and your response. How did you determine the proper response to the situation?

**A question to assess their *cultural competence*...**

- Tell me about your experiences in working with others that were different from you.

**Is there anything that we haven't discussed that you would like me to share with the admissions committee?**

### **QUESTIONS FOR YOUR SECOND APPLICANT**

**Everyone lead off with: Tell me a little about yourself.**

This will hopefully relax the applicant and make them feel a bit more comfortable before diving into the questions.

**A question to assess their *understanding of medicine*...** (Pick One)

- How would you go about improving access to healthcare in this country?
- Besides COVID-19, what do you see as the biggest challenge facing the field of medicine today?

**A question about *volunteer/research experiences*?**

-Describe your volunteer or research activities and how they impacted your perspective on the role that you will play as a physician.

**A question to give them the opportunity to address *possible weakness/red flag*?**

- Are there any deficiencies in your application you would like to address?
- Is there anything about your application you would like to clarify for me?

**A question to assess their *resilience*...**(Pick One)

- Describe a time when you were forced to make an unpopular decision. Are you proud of the way you handled it? What did you learn from it? What would you do differently?
- Cite an example of a time when you received harsh criticism for something that you did or said. How did you respond? What did you learn from the experience?

**A question to assess their *professionalism*...**

- Other than a love for science and humanity, what do you feel are the most important qualities in being a good doctor?

**Is there anything that we haven't discussed that you would like to share with myself and the admissions committee?**