



How to Have a Successful Interview for a MCCCDC Paramedicine Education Program

Once you complete and submit the MCCCDC Paramedicine Program E-application, you will be contacted by the Paramedicine program you chose on the E-application for an oral interview. The oral interview helps the Paramedicine management team determine your eligibility for the program.

The oral interview is often conducted 60 to 90 days prior to the start of the Paramedicine program. The oral interview panel is typically composed of Paramedicine program faculty, the Program Director, and the Medical Director. They will ask you questions and score your responses. The oral interview is approximately 30 to 40 minutes.

To have a successful interview, you should be able to:

1. Discuss the roles and responsibilities of a Paramedic.
2. Discuss the professional attributes of a Paramedic, including
 - a. commitment
 - b. accountability
 - c. loyalty
 - d. empathy
 - e. ethics
 - f. patient advocacy
 - g. integrity
 - h. self-motivation
 - i. appearance
 - j. self-confidence
 - k. patient care
 - l. time management
 - m. self-discipline
 - n. teamwork and diplomacy
 - o. respect
 - p. leadership
 - q. stress management
3. Define effective communication.
4. Describe critical thinking and how it relates to the role of a Paramedic.
5. List the skills in a Paramedic's scope of practice

To have a successful interview, you should be prepared to answer these questions:

1. Why do you want to be a Paramedic?
2. How have you prepared to enter the Paramedic education program?
3. How will attending a Paramedic education program affect other commitments in your life?
4. What challenges do you expect as a Paramedic student?
5. How have you already prepared to be a successful Paramedic student?
6. How do you handle conflict with others?
7. What leadership qualities should a Paramedic possess?

Given a scenario, describe EMT-level assessment and standard of care for these types of adult and pediatric medical emergencies:

1. chest pain/acute coronary syndrome
2. difficulty in breathing
3. altered mental status
4. stroke
5. seizure
6. trauma

Things to consider for the interview:

1. Be rested, hydrated, and eat before the interview. This will ensure you have energy and will help keep you focused.
2. Know the exact location of the interview.
3. Arrive at least 15 minutes early to the interview. Manage your time accordingly.
4. *Dress to impress.* Business professional attire is considered appropriate. Do not over dress or under dress.
5. Check your hygiene.
6. Provide at least three (3) of your *current* resume or curriculum vitae (CV) to the oral interview panel.
7. Be prepared to answer at least ten (10) questions and respond up to two (2) medical emergency scenarios. Use the suggestions in this handout to prepare.
8. Listen carefully to each question.
9. Clarify a question, if needed.
10. Consider your response before you say it.
11. Provide supportive or explanatory statements with your responses
12. Speak loudly enough for all members of the oral interview panel to hear you.
13. Direct your responses to each member of the oral interview panel.

14. Make constant eye contact with the panel.
15. Use good posture.
16. At the end of the interview, you will be asked if you have any questions for the panel and if there is anything else you would like to add to your interview. Prepare any questions for the panel ahead of time and make a strong closing statement.
17. Thank the members of the panel when you exit the interview.

Things to avoid during the interview:

1. Arriving late.
2. Incomplete or rambling answers.
3. Name-dropping.
4. Use of unprofessional language.
5. Inappropriate humor.
6. Showing familiarity with a member of the oral interview panel.