

HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF THE MIT PREHEALTH FAIR!

Attending a pre-health fair is a great way to learn more about the process of applying to medical school, individual schools' admission requirements, life as a medical school student, and resources to help you along the way. At the fair, you'll meet medical school admission counselors and deans, which provides a perfect opportunity to get answers to any of your questions about applying to medical school.

It's a good idea to bring your **resume**, something to **take notes** on, and also a **bag** to carry any items you pick up from schools. You'll also want to prepare your answer to "Why are you interested in medicine?" – practice your answer by viewing [>>> this video](#) of a medical school mock interview.

And check out the 5 Tips below to make for successful experience at the MIT Prehealth Fair!

1. Review and research the schools attending

Before the fair, view the Prehealth Fair's event page on [CareerBridge](#). This will help you identify which programs are of interest and the types of questions you'll ask.

2. Prepare a list of questions

There's many questions you may want to ask depending on whether you're:

o ***A Freshman, Sophomore, or upperclassmen planning to apply later:***

- What are some ways I can demonstrate my passion for medicine?
- How would you describe clinical experience and is this a requirement for admission?
- I've had a variety of experiences in - research, volunteering, clinical, or leadership (*mention 1 or 2 experiences or anything else*). Are there other areas I should develop that will help strengthen my application?

o ***Currently applying:***

- Does your school practice [Holistic Review](#) and how does this impact your decisions?
- What factors are most important in your admissions process?
- Are there any special programs or parts of your curriculum for which your school is noted?
- Are there opportunities for research? Is this within the curriculum or independent?

o ***Developing a list of schools to apply too:***

- How would you describe life as a medical student on your campus?
- Are there any special opportunities in your program's curriculum, like research, early clinical exposure, travel abroad, etc.?

o ***Deciding whether to pursue a MD or a MD-PhD:***

- What are some differences in a MD and MD-PhD's medical school experience?
- Is it better to explore multiple research opportunities or focus on one long-term research experience?

o ***Considering whether to take a Gap Year or Not:***

- Do you prefer applicants who've taken a gap year over "traditional" applicants?
- What type of experiences are best to engage in during a gap year: clinical, research, shadowing, postbac/special masters, etc.
- How does your school view industry work, both related and unrelated to healthcare?

3. Be prepared to answer questions

Admissions representatives may also ask a variety of questions, so it's a good idea to prepare for a few commonly asked questions:

- Are you considering medical school? How'd you become interested in pursuing medicine? For more tips on this questions, visit [here](#).
- Do you have any questions about our school? What interests you about our school?
- What's your major (and minor) and what made you choose this?
- Do you have an idea of when you'd like to matriculate?
- What research or extracurricular activities are you involved in?

4. Plan for the future

Ask the representatives for their card so you'll have a direct contact if you want to ask follow-up questions later. Use this opportunity to not only network with the representatives, but also collect materials for later review.

5. Come with a goal in mind!!!

Overall, it's important to determine what you'd like to achieve by attending the health professions school fair.

- Are you just interested in knowing more about the medical school experience?
- Would you like feedback on your progress thus far?
- Do you want a better sense of your current strengths and areas of improvement?