

## CRIP Is Nearly Here—Are You Ready?

### About Residency Interviews

The purpose of residency interviews is to match you with a learning environment that gives you the best opportunity to succeed. While not exactly a written examination, the interview is not one you can afford to fail. No two interviews are exactly alike though many follow similar formats. As part of the interview experience, most programs offer some background on their programs and a question and answer opportunity which is something you want to prepare for ahead of time.

### CRIP Interview Process

- Programs can start interviews as early as 8 am and go into the evening.
- Most programs provide advance information on the interview format so you're prepared when you arrive. For example, some programs have a digital component to their interview process and some include members of the interview committee by video/teleconferencing (i.e. Skype, Go To Meeting, etc.).
- If a program plans callbacks (2nd interviews) and socials, they show on your schedule when an interview is confirmed.

### Types of Questions You May Encounter

- Basic Knowledge and Concepts
- Ethical Situations
- Sample Cases
- Experiences from Clerkships or Classes
- Social Questions
- Reading X-Rays, Suturing, Manual Dexterity

### Tips on Interviewing

- Go into interviews with the hope of finding a match you not only can live with but one you want to live with.
- Prepare by analyzing your background and organizing your thoughts about your goals and qualifications.
- Be prepared to talk about anything and everything on your curriculum vitae and CASPR application including extracurricular activities, research project work, personal statement, work experiences.
- Provide a total picture of who you are--where you're from, when your interest in podiatry began, perhaps your hobbies.
- Be prepared to candidly discuss any glitches in your academic record or perceived weaknesses in your application. Brainstorm the kinds of questions you most worry about and then prepare and rehearse answers.
- Ask the interviewer to repeat a question if necessary to help you understand what he or she is looking for.
- Have some questions of your own. Ask about aspects of the program you may be less knowledgeable about but avoid asking questions that are too casual or informal.
- Participate in practice interviews. Find someone experienced in residency interviews and practice with them. Once you get an idea of what the interview is like, rehearse with friends. Practicing what you want to say during an interview may help you to be less nervous but avoid the trap of repetition and never memorize answers.

### PLAN TO ATTEND ONE OF THE CRIP ORIENTATIONS

Wednesday, 1/11 and Saturday 1/14 at 7pm in Frisco 1

You'll get an overview of CRIP—interview and social locations, callbacks, and FAQs and a brief explanation of Ranking, the Match and the MP II process. It's also a chance to get answers to any questions you have.

### After the Interviews

The "Ranking" tab will open on Wednesday January 18 at 11 am Eastern and close on Thursday, January 26 at 3 pm Eastern for both programs and applicants. You will fill out a ranking list of your residency program preferences. Choose who you want to spend three years with in that order. The following factors can help you prioritize your top-choice programs:

- Your ability to compete. How well do you match the program's selection criteria?
- Your preferred location. Keep in mind that inner city areas, remote locations, and rural areas are often underserved so the odds of acceptance might be in your favor.
- Your personal circumstances. Do you have other considerations such as children, family ties, finances, etc.?

Program directors also rank their applicants in order of preference (the residency interview and/or clerkship rotation are usually the deciding factors, however those that have visited and expressed interest in the program are also taken into account).

The match is run in March and the algorithm tries to match you with an open position with the program that is highest on your Ranking list. It works to the applicant's advantage because it will look at all programs ranked to make sure there is a match. Any unmatched applicants have the opportunity to vie for unfilled positions in a process called Match Phase II or MP II.