

FAMILY MEDICINE

Specialty: Family Medicine

Advisor for Specialty (if you had one): Dr. Christine Arenson

Did you use ERAS or SFMatch or Other: ERAS

Number of programs applied to: 12 Was this number sufficient? YES

Number of interviews attended for specialty: 8 Was this number sufficient? YES

Interview season: 10/2005 to 1/2006

Typical structure of interview day: Sit in on morning report. One-on-one interviews with faculty (inc. Program Director) and residents (usually a chief, sometimes an intern too). Lunch with residents. Hospital/community tours. Wrap-up with Program Director. *One night in hotel paid for, also dinner with residents night before or after interview.

Popular topics covered in the interviews: Why I chose to become a physician/ Why I chose Family Medicine. Describe my ideal Family Medicine program/ What was I looking for in a program. What personal qualities will help me the most as a Fam. Med. Physician. Be prepared to expand upon personal statement and what is in your CV - activities, volunteer work, hobbies, interests (They're really trying to get to know you.). Do you have any questions, do you have any questions, do you have any questions?! The interviews feel like conversations rather than interrogations for the most part.

Some difficult questions/unusual tasks (tying knots, etc.): No tasks, no questions to assess medical knowledge. When I brought up being Roman Catholic and pro-life and not planning on prescribing oral contraception, I was usually given a case scenario to work through: How would you handle it if a woman came to your office asking for OCPs or pregnant wanting an abortion?

How did you prepare for your interviews? Reviewed the program's website a couple of nights before the interview so I was familiar with the program basics and asked a couple of questions the day of the interview about things on the website that had peaked my interest.

Did you do an away rotation in your specialty field? No.

Additional comments/advice: Just try to relax and be yourself - mostly everyone is friendly and welcoming - they're really trying to recruit you. Try to wear comfortable shoes - those hospital tours are long!

May future applicants in your specialty contact you for advice? Email: sharon.canale@jefferson.edu

Specialty: Family Medicine or Internal Medicine - Primary Care

Advisor for Specialty (if you had one): None, although I sought input and advice from mentors throughout Jefferson and Affiliates, including in the Departments of Family and Community Medicine and Internal Medicine.

Did you use ERAS or SFMatch or Other: ERAS

Number of programs applied to: 24 Was this number sufficient (choose one)? Yes!

Number of interviews attended for specialty: 14 Was this number sufficient (choose one)? Yes

Interview season (month/year): 10/05 to 11/06

Typical structure of interview day:

1. Introduction and welcome to the hospital/residency from program director and other faculty.
2. Interview with Faculty (anywhere from 1 to 3 interviews)
3. Interview with Residents (anywhere from 0 to 2 interviews). Note these interviews were frequently conducted by the Chiefs.

Popular topics covered in the interviews:

1. Why have you chosen this specialty?
2. Special needs/concerns including what you are looking for in a residency program
3. What are your future plans (i.e., where do you see yourself in 5 years, 10 years, etc.)?
4. Describe a particular patient interaction.

Some difficult questions/unusual tasks (tying knots, etc.):

1. Do you think that (your) empathy may be a barrier in providing care?
2. Can you please explain XXXXXXXX on your resume/transcript/other?

How did you prepare for your interviews?

1. Research the program online and read all materials that they mail to you.
2. Review the research and special interests of the faculty (and residents) in the department.
3. Know your Personal Statement and Resume!
4. RELAX the night before the interview.
5. Wear clothes that are comfortable and that make you feel professional (look smart – be smart ☺)

Did you do an away rotation in your specialty field? No. It would be helpful if you are interested in the most competitive residency programs in the most competitive specialties if you are an otherwise “bubble” candidate to obtain an interview. However, what is probably most important is that an away rotation can provide you with insight into what the field is like in non-Jeff institutions which may help clarify your interest.

Additional comments/advice:

1. Select appropriate programs! Discuss what you are looking for with trusted mentors, friends, and colleagues and obtain recommendations as to which programs you should investigate.
2. Try to avoid getting caught up in the “Oh my g-d! Have you heard back from XXXX? Or, You haven’t done XXXX yet?!?” It will all work out OK!
3. Be yourself! Remember, you will be working with the people in any program for the next 3+ years; if you don’t vibe now, it may be a pretty good indicator that its not a good match for you regardless of the reputation of the program. Also, most people can pick up on dissembling by interviewees, if you try to put on any sort of act it will likely make for a poor interview. Finally, should you land that residency, you will find it awfully difficult –especially during the trials of intern year- to maintain that façade.
4. Programs are lucky to have you interviewing! You are a compassionate, intelligent, curious, and dedicated individual who will be working for low wages. Make sure that the residency program offers the atmosphere and training that you are looking for. If you have special needs/interests, do not hesitate to express them to the Program Directors.

May future applicants in your specialty contact you for advice? Yes; I’d be happy to field any questions.

Email: kevincscott@hotmail.com

Specialty: Family Medicine

Advisor for Specialty (if you had one): McManus, Harwood

Did you use ERAS or SFMatch or Other: ERAS

Number of programs applied to: 24 Was this number sufficient? Yes

Number of interviews attended for specialty: 13 Was this number sufficient? Yes

Interview season (month/year): 10/05 to 1/06

Typical structure of interview day: 2-4 Interviews usually at least one faculty member and resident.

Lunch. Tour.

Popular topics covered in the interviews: All casual conversation.

Some difficult questions/unusual tasks (tying knots, etc.): None, all interviews were very laid back.

How did you prepare for your interviews? Knew what was in my application.

Did you do an away rotation in your specialty field? No.

Additional comments/advice: I also did the couples match and interviewed at two Med-peds programs.

May future applicants in your specialty contact you for advice? YES Email: jdc005@jefferson.edu
