



# How to Interview and Prepare Fellowship Applications: Current Fellow Perspective

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# Disclosures

- ▶ No financial disclosures

# Start early

- ▶ Letters of recommendation
  - ▶ Give your letter writers plenty of time to write you a good letter
  - ▶ Writers may want an updated copy of your CV and your personal statement
- ▶ Personal statement
  - ▶ Hopefully the last one you'll EVER have to write
- ▶ Updated CV
- ▶ Track down 4 years worth of ABSITE scores
- ▶ Finalize and submit your application the day it opens

# Pre-interview

- ▶ Make an attempt to get to the pre-interview dinner
  - ▶ Really helps to see how the fellows/department is outside of work
- ▶ Ask TONS of questions
  - ▶ Fellows
    - ▶ What is it like to work with the attendings?
    - ▶ Do the attendings get along with each other?
  - ▶ Ancillary staff
    - ▶ Work environment, support, etc
  - ▶ Residents
  - ▶ Attendings

# Pre-interview

- ▶ IGNORE THE FELLOWS (sort of)
  - ▶ You will never work with them
  - ▶ If you get rubbed the wrong way, or don't like the fellows... IT DOESN'T MATTER
- ▶ Really get to know the attendings
  - ▶ More so than residency, fellowship is intimate
  - ▶ You will work with these people every day for TWO YEARS

# Interview day

- ▶ Give yourself plenty of time in the morning
  - ▶ Uber nightmares...
- ▶ Be prepared
  - ▶ Be able to talk about anything that is in your personal statement
  - ▶ Be able to talk about your research, or lack thereof
  - ▶ Be able to talk about any time off
  - ▶ Know something about your interviewer
  - ▶ Be yourself

# Interview day

- ▶ Be able to answer questions about your career goals
  - ▶ 5-10 year goals
  - ▶ Private practice vs. hybrid vs. academic vascular surgery
  - ▶ Where do you want to practice eventually?
  - ▶ What area of vascular surgery do you want to focus on?
  - ▶ What's your favorite operation? Least favorite?
  - ▶ How do you see yourself interacting with residents and medical students?
  - ▶ How well do you interact with nurses?
  - ▶ What do you do outside of work to keep yourself sane?

# Post-interview

- ▶ Keep a running list of the programs you like, in the order that you like them
- ▶ Rank programs while the memory is fresh
- ▶ If you really like a program, send thank you letters or emails
- ▶ It's ok to not rank a program
  - ▶ If you absolutely cannot see yourself at an institution for two years of your life... do not rank it
  - ▶ Fellowship is hard(er than residency)

# On match day....

- ▶ You will not get an email
  - ▶ Yay!! I matched!!
  - ▶ Sad face – guess I'm going to be a general surgeon
- ▶ Log-in to the NRMP website at 12pm
- ▶ REMEMBER YOUR PASSWORD
- ▶ REMEMBER YOUR PASSWORD
- ▶ REMEMBER YOUR PASSWORD



## All Returning Users

\* Required

Applicants and Staff from Institutions, Hospitals, Programs, or Schools. If you have already created a Username and Password for a current Match, enter them here.

*✘ Invalid Username or Password. Please try again.*

\* Username:

\* Password:  [I forgot my Username or Password](#)

Login ▶

# Summary

- ▶ Start early
- ▶ Be prepared
- ▶ Be yourself
- ▶ Don't forget your password