Interview Questions

15 minutes have been allotted for each interview. Approximately 10-12 minutes should be allocated for the student to talk and 3-5 minutes for you to critique the student’s interview. Prior to starting your next interview, please complete an interview evaluation form on each student. The evaluations will be collected at the end of the Mock Interview session and will be given to the student at the end of the camp.

To start your conversation with the student, you might consider asking question #1 and then ask 2 or 3 additional questions from the list below (please feel free to ask a question that is not on the list). After asking question #1, please ask different questions from one student to the next. It is likely that the students will leave the interview and tell the next set of students what questions are being asked. Changing questions will keep the students on their toes. (: Please state what school & program you are applying to?

1. Tell us about yourself.
2. How do you feel your undergraduate studies have prepared for graduate school and our program? (One would hope that the student will tell you about his/her research. If the student doesn’t, you might ask a question like “Have you had any research experience?”)
3. What led you to this field of study?
4. What are your long-term career goals? What led you to this field of study?
5. What attracted you to our program and why do you want to study here?
6. Why should we select you for this program?
7. What skills and personal characteristics make you a good candidate for our graduate program?
8. What do you hope to gain from this graduate program?
9. In what ways do you envision contributing to this field overall?
10. What do you want to be doing in 10 years?
11. Describe your past work and volunteer experiences and how will they help you in graduate school.
12. What problems do you expect to face while attending graduate school and how will you handle these?
13. What do you plan to do if you aren’t accepted into a graduate program?
14. What other programs are you applying to and why? How does our program compare?
15. How do you handle stress?
16. Do you have any questions for us?