

Interview Process

Physical Therapy Program
School of Health Professions
Medical Sciences Campus
University of Puerto Rico
July 2014

Purpose of the Interview

The interview process gives the faculty of the Physical Therapy Program an opportunity to assess qualitative attributes that are relevant to becoming a physical therapist. Only the best applicants who fulfil the pre-requisites (GPA, specific index, courses, EXADEP) will be invited to participate in the interviews. Participation in the interview does not guarantee admission. A candidate who obtains less than 70% in the interview will not be admitted to the program. Attendance to the interview is mandatory.

The Interview Format

- Mini-interviews consist of multiple stations.
- A different case will be presented in each station; one station will be a writing station.
- You will have 8 minutes to discuss each case.

The Cases

- A case will be presented to you, which will give you the opportunity to apply general knowledge and life experiences to issues relevant to society and the healthcare system.

Topics of the Cases

Cases presented will be based on the following core values of the physical therapy profession:

- Accountability
- Compassion/Caring
- Excellence
- Integrity
- Social Responsibility

You are encouraged to visit the Professionalism and Core Values webpage from the American Physical Therapy Association for a full description of each core value:

<http://www.ptcas.org/Professionalism/>

Interview Grading

Your responses to each case will be graded on the following criteria:

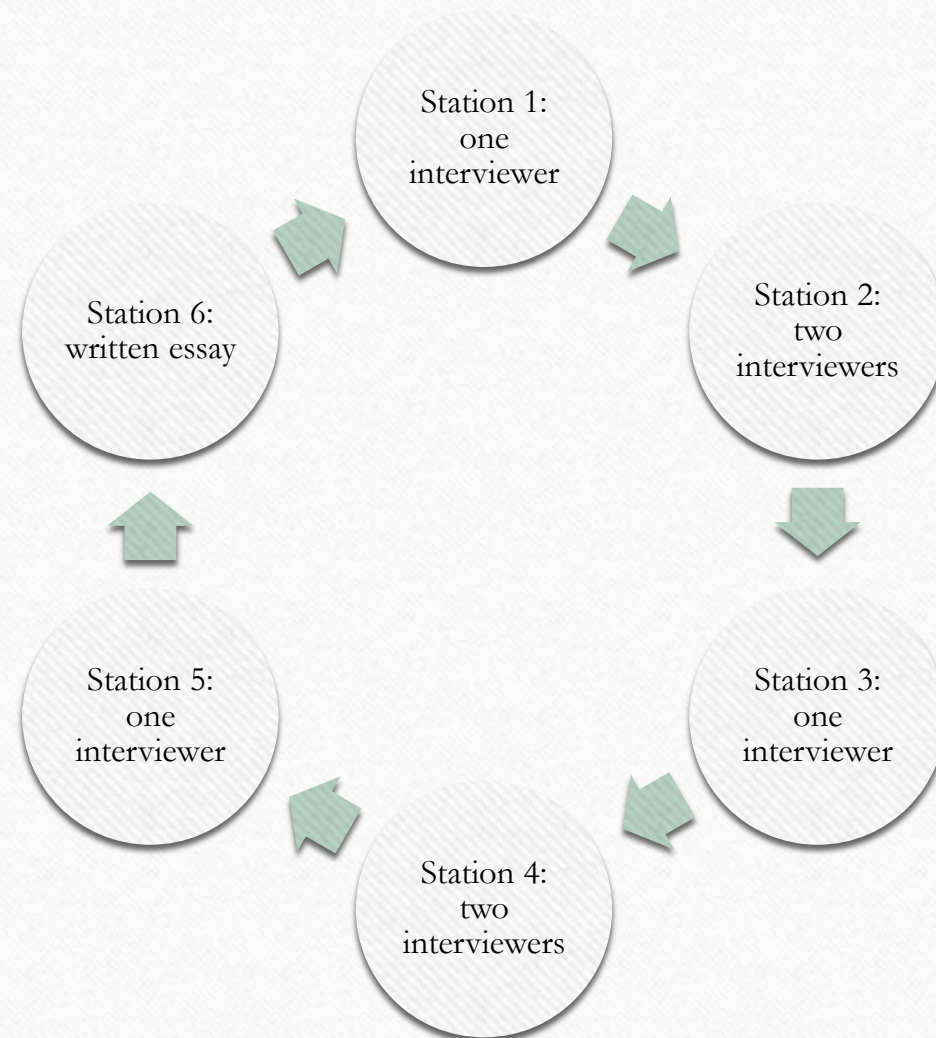
- Ability to understand and address the objectives of the scenario.
- Ethical decision making.
- Strength of the arguments presented.
- Communication skills displayed.
- Suitability for a career in physical therapy.

Interviewers

- Include academic and clinical faculty of the Physical Therapy Program, students, and faculty of other academic programs.
- Have been trained in the mini-interview process.
- Are only given your name; no other information such as your grades is given to them.
- May or may not ask questions to you.
- Will score your discussion of the case.

The Logistics of the Mini-Interview

- Six stations.
- Each station will be in a different room.
- Two minutes to read the case and 8 minutes to discuss it.
 - Total duration of the interview **process** is one hour.



Key Points

- You will have two minutes to read the case prior to enter the interview.
- A copy of the case will also be provided to you in the interview room.
- There is no right or wrong answer.
- All interview materials, including cases, are confidential.
- You will be asked to sign a confidential agreement. You are not allowed to discuss the cases with any person. No audiovisual recording, including photos, is allowed.

Practice Case

Three patients need to be provided with a liver transplant. The patients are: (1) a middle aged, reforming alcoholic; (2) a healthy 75 year old; and (3) a young cancer patient whose prognosis is as yet uncertain. Please discuss who you consider should be the recipient (Perkins et al., 2013).

Additional Information

- The exact time, date, and location of your interview will be provided in a written letter.
 - Rescheduling cannot be accommodated, regardless of the reason.
- The first interview room will be assigned randomly.
- Business attire is expected.
- If you require reasonable accommodation, please contact the Program Director or Associate Program Director at least a week prior to the Interview Day.

References

American Physical Therapy Association. Professionalism and Core Values. <http://www.ptcas.org/Professionalism/>

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Eva KW, Rosenfeld J, Reiter HI, Norman GR. An admissions OSCE: the multiple mini-interview. *Medical Education* 2004; 38: 314–326

Kelsch MP, Friesner DL. Evaluation of an interview process for admission into a school of pharmacy. *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education* 2012; 76 (2) Article 22.

Lemay JF, Lockyer JM, Collin VT, Brownell AKW. Assessment of non-cognitive traits through the admissions multiple mini-interview. *Medical Education* 2007; 41: 573–579.

Perkins A, Burton L, Dray B, Elcock K. Evaluation of a multiple-mini-interview protocol used as a selection tool for entry to an undergraduate nursing programme. *Nurse Education Today* 2013; 33: 465–469.

University of Manitoba, School of Medical Rehabilitation, Department of Physical Therapy Multiple Mini Interview. http://umanitoba.ca/medrehab/media/pt_mmi_presentation.pdf