

Preparing for Midyear: Tips and Tricks

Residency Club
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UWHealth
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Questions

- At this point, what can 3rd years do at Midyear?
Are there benefits to going?
 - *Who here is considering attending midyear as DPH-3s?*
 - *What are your thoughts on the pros and cons?*



Interview Timeline

- **May - September:** Research and CV Preparation
- **October:** PPS*, Midyear, PhorCAS, and Match registration*
- **November – December:** Midyear and PPS
- **January - February:** Application and On-site Interviews



Questions

- What are the best ways to prepare as a 3rd year/4th year? (business cards, resume?)



Research

■ Helpful Links

- ASHP Online Residency Directory (www.ashp.org)
- ACCP Directory of Residencies and Fellowships (www.accp.com)
- APhA Directory of Pharmacy Practice Residencies with Emphasis in Community Care Pharmacy (www.pharmacist.com)
- PSW Wisconsin Residencies (<http://www.pswi.org/professional/residencies/>)



CV Update

- Helpful Tips

- Proofread!

- Peers, mentors, professors, pharmacists, non-pharmacists

- ASHP: <http://www.ashp.org/CVReview>

- UW Writing Center:

- <http://www.writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/index.html>

- Purdue OWL:

- <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/641/01/>



CV Update

- Helpful Tips
 - Place contents in table for best alignment
 - Avoid section hangover
 - Use page numbers and headers
 - Appropriate use of **BOLD** *Italics* and Underline
 - Font choice and size: Easy to read
 - Quality paper with classic colors



Purchase Attire

- Classic Colors: black, gray, navy
- Dress conservatively, business professional
- Women: slacks or skirts (with pantyhose)
- Men: no white socks



Midyear

■ Helpful Tips

- Portfolio to include: CV, business cards, notebook paper
- Quick fact guide for all programs of interest
- Standard and specific questions for program directors and residents
- Personalized itinerary
- List of resident names/directors/preceptors for programs
- Midyear is a continuous interview***



Be Prepared

- Be ready to discuss “your story”
 - Reason for pursuing residency
 - Reason for becoming a pharmacist
 - Reason for pursuing a specialty program (if applicable)
 - Reason for interest in site (be specific!)
- List of questions in portfolio
 - DO NOT ASK QUESTIONS FOUND ON WEBSITE
- Copies of CV (Hard and Electronic)
- Business Cards



Questions

- Who should we talk to and what questions should we ask?



Portfolio Questions

- Director/Preceptor Specific
 - What do you expect from a PGY1 resident?
 - What do you feel are the strengths of this program?
 - Review director/preceptor past publications/articles
 - Understand your interest area thoroughly
 - Ex. Infectious Disease Interest: Recent guideline updates
 - Ex. Hospital Administration Interest: Future of the profession



Portfolio Questions

- Resident Specific
 - What is your current PGY1 project?
 - If you went through the residency application process all over again, would you select this program?
 - What do you feel are the strengths of this program?
 - What are your top 3 goals for residency?
 - Has this program prepared you to take BCPS?



Typical Candidate Evaluation Criteria

- Prior pharmacy/other work experience
- Academic background/GPA
- Relevant rotations – inpatient, ambulatory, etc.
- Motivation/Initiative/Adaptability/Enthusiasm
- Personal style – maturity, appearance, confidence, teamwork potential, self-reliance, fit with department



Typical Candidate Evaluation Criteria

- Communication skills – verbal and written
- Leadership/Extracurricular activities
- Residency & career goals/residency program fit
- Presentations/Research
- Letters of recommendation
- Letter of interest
- Questions asked by candidate – number, insight, relevance



Questions

- What is the culture like at Midyear? Is there a lot of interaction with other students?



Questions

- What is the culture like at Midyear? Is there a lot of interaction with other students?
 - Networking
 - Professional
 - Big
 - Party



Questions

- When is the best time to go to the residency showcase as 3rd years without stepping on 4th years toes?



Questions

- Are there any differences between showcases from day-to-day? When is the best time to go?



Questions

- Is there any benefit to talking to in-state residency (i.e. Wisconsin) or should you focus on out-of-state?



Questions

- What activities are best to participate in?



Questions

- Is there anything special we should know about NO (2015) or Las Vegas (2016)?



Questions

- What are some ways to minimize costs for travel, hotel, food?



Questions

- If you do go as a 3rd year is there a point in going 4th year?



Summary

- Do your research prior to interviewing
- Be prepared, timely, and courteous
- Ask questions
- Follow-up with a thank you note
- Have fun!

