

HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR INTERVIEW WITH THE HEALTH PREPROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE

1. Typically, **premedical, pre-dental, and pre-optometry** students interview with the Health Preprofessional Committee. (Physician Assistant programs, pharmacy schools, and veterinary schools, etc., do not prefer Committee letters.) Ideally, meet with your Health Professions Advisor regularly for at least one year before your interview.
2. Keep a complete record/spreadsheet of your activities and volunteer work, including timeframe and number of hours per week of involvement.
3. Distribute your **Request for Evaluation** (which includes a rank in class, checklist, and separate letter) forms, which are **on the respective online health professions pages** (premed, etc. here: <http://science.siu.edu/academics/prehealth.html>). The Committee requires at least three evaluations: **two** must be from professors at SIUC, and at least **one** from a physical science and **one** from a biological science professor. Three to five evaluations are recommended. Other examples of sources may include a non-science professor, an employer, a volunteer coordinator, or a health professional you have observed. Submit no more than six evaluations.
4. Complete your autobiographical information outline (including personal statement essay) and your list of required courses (handouts online: http://science.siu.edu/advisement/health_advisement/index.html).
5. Review current issues relevant to your chosen profession and your personal career choice philosophy. Select and research information about those professional schools to which you plan to apply.
6. Your overall GPA must be *approximately* 3.25 or above to be interviewed by the Committee. Consult with your Health Professions Advisor about when you should interview—which is typically the spring your admission test is taken.
7. For Spring Semester 2019, evaluations should be received by **February 8th, 2019**. Preprofessional interviews are **Spring Semester only**, February through April. **Please plan for this**, as evaluations typically take time for professors and other evaluators to prepare. Distribute your evaluation forms by the end of the fall semester before you plan to interview. (Evaluations with letters can be added after your interview as well for your application.)
8. Your **autobiographical information, list of courses AND Letters of Recommendation need to be turned in by February 8, 2019**. Your Letters of Recommendation need to be submitted to tammi@siu.edu (or by mail) and received no later than **Friday, February 8th, 2019**. **Please ensure to include the “Request for Evaluation” when asking your letter writers for a reference.**
9. **Process:** Three or four members of the Health Preprofessional Committee will interview you for 30 minutes. Soon thereafter, the Committee will meet as a quorum and evaluate you in three areas: 1) Academic record, 2) Personal attributes, 3) Time management and organization and 4) Medically related experiences. (Please stay in contact with your Health Professions Advisor about when the Committee is meeting after your interview and you are able to obtain valuable Committee feedback.)

The Health Preprofessional Committee Letter is written by the Health Preprofessional Advisor and reviewed by the Committee Co-Chair upon your request, i.e., AMCAS Letter Request form and AADSAS electronic request, etc. *The Committee Letter includes a summary of all the above areas, and your separate letters are appended to it.*

HEALTH PREPROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE 2018-2019

Wesley C. Calvert, Mathematics
Dawn Grisley, Physiology
Zhihua Du, Chemistry

Derek Fisher, Chemistry & Biochemistry
Valerie Rasp, Assistant Dean for Recruitment and Retention
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