175 pharmacy school interview questions
Punch Fear in the Face and Rock Your Interview
By Alex Barker PharmD
Thank you for investing in your success!

You set yourself up for winning on your pharmacy school interview day by preparing for these questions. I appreciate you taking time out of your busy day to read my emails or be apart of our active Facebook community.

Best Way to Use this List:

First
Review the questions on this list

Second
Print off the question list

Third
Write an answer to the questions.

Fourth
Practice

Pretend you are experiencing your interview day. Practice each answer by speaking it out loud. Don’t just *think* about your answer. You’ll sound a lot smarter in your head than when you start speaking, especially if you record yourself.

The **more you practice** this, the **more professional** your answers will sound vs. giving your answers with "um's" and "ah's" and awkward pauses.

There is a right and wrong way to answer each of these questions. Be sure to think through each question. [http://www.pharmacyschoolhq.org/interview-mastery-discounted/](http://www.pharmacyschoolhq.org/interview-mastery-discounted/)

The following is a list of common interview questions. I formatted the list so that you can print it off and fill in your answers, or feel free to copy and paste onto a Word document.

Be on the look out for my Interview Mastery Course. I combined all of my knowledge into one course where I teach how to increase your confidence during the interview. It’s not available now, but I will make it open soon to all.
Sample Pharmacy School Interview Questions

1. Tell me about yourself.

2. Tell me why you’re interested in pharmacy. Both, what inspired this interest and also what you’ve done to investigate the field and confirm your decision.

3. What experiences have you had in a retail or clinical setting?

4. What aspects of your life and experiences do you think make you a good candidate for pharmacy school?

5. From what you understand about pharmacy school, what do you think will be the biggest challenge for you?
6. What hesitations or reservations do you have about joining the pharmacy profession?

7. Tell me about an experience you’ve had working on a team. What role do you tend to play when working on a team?

8. Tell me about a mistake you’ve made.

9. How do you deal with stress?

10. What has been your most rewarding experience working with others?
11. What do you think is the most pressing issue in healthcare today?

12. Would your plans to become a pharmacist change if the U.S. moved to a universal healthcare system, similar to Canada?

13. When was a time you had to step up and become a leader?

14. What is the difference between Medicare and Medicaid?

15. Why did you choose your major? How has it prepared you for a career in pharmacy?
16. What was your favorite class and why?

17. Discuss a book that you’ve recently read for pleasure. Why did this book interest you?

18. How do you spend your free time?

19. What do you consider to be your strengths and your shortcomings?

20. There are 1,000 applicants as qualified as you, why should we select you for our class?
21. Do you have specific goals in pharmacy? Where do you see yourself in 5-10 years?

22. What will you do if you don’t get into pharmacy school?

23. Would you change your mind of becoming a pharmacist if the average salary dropped to $60,000 per year?

24. Tell us about a time you dealt with an angry customer or patient.

25. Where do you see the profession of pharmacy going?
26. Tell us about a time when you made a mistake and what you did to correct it.

27. What goals do you have for your years during pharmacy school?

28. What is your learning style?

29. How do you handle uncomfortable situations?

30. Tell us about your current study habits.

31. What qualities do you have that make you believe that you'll be a great pharmacist?
32. Is it ever a situation when it's okay to not tell the truth?

33. Give me an example of a time that you felt you went above and beyond the call of duty at work.

34. Have you ever been on a team where someone was not pulling their own weight? How did you handle it?

35. What is your greatest failure, and what did you learn from it?

36. If I were your supervisor and asked you to do something that you disagreed with, what would you do?
37. What was the most difficult period in your life, and how did you deal with it?

38. Tell me about a time where you had to deal with conflict on the job.

39. What's the most difficult decision you've made in the last two years and how did you come to that decision?

40. How do you want to improve yourself in the next year?

41. What techniques and tools do you use to keep yourself organized?

42. What are your lifelong dreams?
43. What is your personal mission statement?

44. What are 3 qualities your boss would say you have?

45. What are 3 qualities your friends would say you have?

46. What negative thing would your last boss say about you?

47. List five words that describe your character.

48. What is your biggest regret and why?

49. Who has made the biggest impact on your career and why?
50. What is your greatest achievement outside of work?

51. Would you say that you're a leader?

52. There's no right or wrong answer, but if you could be anywhere in the world right now, where would you be?

53. What gets you up in the morning?

54. Why should we accept you into the school of pharmacy?

55. In what ways do you think you'll contribute to our school?

56. Why pharmacy?
57. Who had the greatest influence on you and why?

58. In what kind of work environment are you most comfortable?

59. Why did you choose this school?

60. What did you take to prepare for pharmacy school?

61. What position do you prefer when working on a group project?

62. Describe your work ethic.

63. What qualities do you look for in a pharmacist?
64. What would you do if you do not get into the School of Pharmacy?

65. What do you consider to be the most important idea or suggestion you have made that was implemented?

66. Tell me about your most satisfying accomplishment as a student.

67. How do you measure your success?

68. What accomplishments gave you the most satisfaction?

69. What would you like to accomplish during the next five years?
70. Do you consider yourself successful?

71. How do you handle change?

72. What challenges do you anticipate to arise during pharmacy school?

73. Describe a time when you were a member of a team. What was your contribution?

74. Do you prefer to confront conflict or tactfully avoid it?

75. Have you ever lost your temper at work or school?

76. Tell me about a time when you had to deal with an irate person. How did you handle the situation?
77. Describe a time when you successfully resolved a conflict between yourself and one of your colleagues.

78. If you were to be a drug, what drug would you be?

79. How would you like to be remembered?

80. What is the most interesting work assignment that you have received?

81. If you were stranded in an island, what three books would you want to have with you and why?

82. Describe the most exciting moment of your life?

83. Describe the scariest moment of your life.
84. Describe the most unusual moment of your life.

85. Imagine you found a lamp that gave you three wishes. What would they be?

86. If you could be any animal what would you be and why?

87. Tell me something you know a lot about.

88. Would you get out of your car in a highway to help an accident victim? Exactly what would you do?

89. What do you think of herbal/alternative medicine? Should people choose them over traditional medicine?

90. If you had to choose one other field besides pharmacy, what would it be?
91. All humans have unique characteristics and traits that set us apart. Yet all of us are created equal. Explain the contradiction.

92. What is your approach for dealing with constructive criticism?

93. Describe a situation where your work was justifiably criticized.

94. Has any of your professors ever assigned a grade lower than you deserved? If so, what did you do?

95. What kind of decisions are most difficult for you to make?

96. What is your approach to making important decisions?
97. Tell me about a time when you made an unpopular decision. How did you handle this situation?

107. Is your GPA an accurate reflection of your academic ability?

108. What subjects did you enjoy most in school and why?

109. What subjects did you enjoy the least in school and why?

110. If you had it to do over again, what changes would you make as a college student?

111. How do you propose to compensate for a lack of experience?
112. Are you involved in research?

113. What do you know about this School of Pharmacy?

114. How would your most recent supervisor describe your work habits?

115. If your supervisor were to have one complaint about you, what would it be and why?

116. What were the limitations of your most recent position?

117. What has disappointed you about college?
118. What do you think about the new recent Medicare changes?

119. Give examples of your ability to delegate.

120. If you were interviewing someone applying to this school, what would you look for?

121. Tell me about a time when your persistence paid off.

122. Tell me about the last book you read.

123. How would you describe your personality?
124. What is more important - money or work?

125. What has been your biggest educational/professional disappointment?

126. Tell me about the most fun you have had during school.

127. What do you spend your social/leisure time doing?

128. Tell me about a recurring problem at work that you were able to resolve.

129. Tell me an instance when you failed. What did you do to fix the problem?

130. What is your usual approach to solving problems?
131. Where do you turn when your usual problem-solving approaches are not successful?

132. What motivates you to put forth your greatest effort?

133. Tell me about a problem you had with a supervisor?

134. Tell me about a time you helped resolve a dispute between others.

135. What would you do if you saw a fellow student cheating on an exam?

136. Tell me about a time when you were satisfied with your performance.
137. Describe a time when you had to make an ethical decision.

138. Tell me what you are doing to improve your weaknesses.

139. What changes would you like to see made to the current health care delivery system?

140. You're in a group and you think the group is heading in the wrong direction, how would you voice your opinion? And can you give an example where you handled a similar situation?

141. How do you respond to deadlines?

142. How do you manage stress?
143. What do you do to avoid burnout?

144. How do you work under pressure?

145. What kinds of people frustrate you?

146. What kinds of people do you refuse to work with?

147. Describe the relationship that should exist between the supervisor and those reporting to her or him.

148. What are your thoughts on Medicare reform?
149. Do you feel that the government should be involved with mandating insurance? Subsidizing insurance?

150. Do you think that decreasing the salaries of physicians can solve our healthcare cost issues?

151. How do you organize your daily assignments and activities?

152. Give me examples of how you prioritized work assignments in your most recent position.

153. Give me an example of a time management skill that has increased your productivity at work.
154. In what respects does the position of a pharmacy student and your needs appear to be a good match?

155. Is there anything else I should ask?

156. What personal developments have you used to overcome any weakness?

157. Define "ethical"

158. Define "professionalism"

159. If a patient wanted a drug that conflicted with your beliefs/morals, what would you do?
160. Where do you feel the field of pharmacy going?

161. What challenges do you see in the field of pharmacy?

162. What current issues do you see influencing the future direction of pharmacy?

163. How have you shown compassion?

164. How do you routinely communicate with others?

165. Tell me about a time when you put someone else's interests before your own
166. What do you feel the role of the pharmacist in the community is?

167. What is a pharmacist?

168. What is pharmaceutical care?

169. Why aren't you applying to medical school?

170. Talk about the recent news regarding the pharmacy industry and what did you think about it?
171. Pretend you are a pharmacy technician and the pharmacist wants to dispense a very expensive medication that is expired to a patient, what do you do?

172. What do your friends say about you?

173. If you could cure a disease, which would it be and why?

174. What is the kindest thing you have ever done?

175. Describe the importance of understanding diversity as a pharmacist.