

So you want to be a doctor?
Powerplays and Pitfalls of the
Med School Interview

John Zic, M.D.

Associate Dean of Admissions



Vanderbilt University School of Medicine



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Powerplays

What to do to score a winning med school interview

1. Put things in perspective
2. Prepare
3. Perform with humility and honesty



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Powerplays

1. Put things in perspective

- The interview is only one component of the admission process
- Being invited for an interview means that they are interested in you
- Med school faculty come in all shapes and sizes (of personalities)



Powerplays

2. Prepare

- Know the who, what, when, where, why of everything on your AMCAS application
- Consider making a time line of activities to identify gaps
- Go to the school website and learn

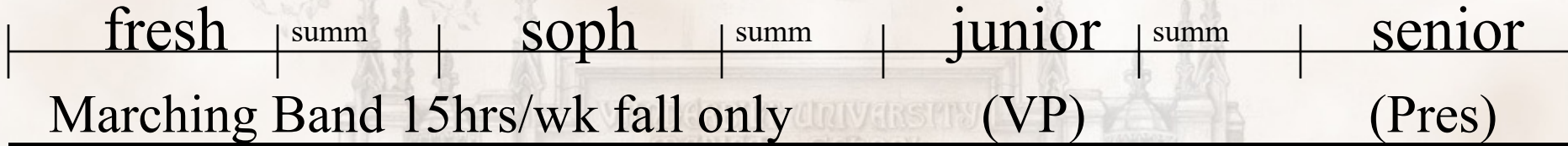


Undergraduate Timeline

name: Paul Johnson

college: MU Chem gpa: 3.6

mcats: 9/12/11/R



Vol tutor

Grade school

3hrs/wk

Res.VU

Dr. Smith

40hrs/wk

Res.VU

Dr. Smith

40hrs/wk

Vol ER

4hrs/wk

Vol homeless shelter

12 hrs/month

Student

Coordinator



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Powerplays

3. Perform with humility and honesty

- Perform - polite, engaged, articulate, good eye contact, unrehearsed answers
- Humility - You will score points!
- Honesty - Expected



Pitfalls

What to avoid during a med school interview

1. Annoying mannerisms
2. Arrogance



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Pitfalls

1. Annoying mannerisms

- Excessive hand movement
- “*Like*, I thought I was”
- Staring at the ground while speaking
- Loud laughing



Pitfalls

2. Arrogance

- There are already too many arrogant physicians
- Let your transcripts and letters of recommendation do the bragging



Final Thoughts

- Be yourself
- Be humble
- Be honest

Good luck in your quest!



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