Sample Interview Questions

Tell me about yourself.

Why do you wish to join our residency program?

What are your strengths and weaknesses?

Where do you see yourself in ten years, after your residency?

Tell me about your research experience.

What made you choose this residency specialty (Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Surgery, Family practice, OB/GYN, Anesthesiology etc.)?

If you were asked to describe yourself in 3 words, what would they be?

In your Curriculum Vitae (CV), there is a gap of 1 year. Why?

How many residency interviews have you completed so far?

What do you do in your spare time?

What are your interests?

Are you applying to any other residency specialty?

How do you handle adversity?

Why are your USMLE scores low?

Have you taken/passed USMLE Step 2 CS?

What is your most memorable patient encounter?

Which residency programs have you interviewed at?

Tell me about an interesting case you have seen.

Interview Questions to ask the Residency Program

Remember that interviews are meant to be an exchange of ideas between yourself, and the residency program. We have included a list of relevant questions that you can ask the residency program. We have also created a separate list of interview questions to ask the residents and fellows you will be meeting.
Ask for a copy of the residency program's teaching, conference & call schedules.
Which fellowships do your residents usually apply to? Get into?
Which fellowships are particularly strong in your program?
What qualities are you looking for in a Residency / Fellowship applicant?
How many hospitals participate in your residency program?
What residency research opportunities do you offer?
What opportunities/training experiences are there to teach medical students during residency?
How do you get feedback from the Residents?
Do you have a dedicated (PGY-4) Chief Resident?
Do you encourage your Residents / Fellows to attend medical conferences?
What are your current ongoing residency research projects?
How much dedicated residency research time is offered?

Residency Interviews - Questions to ask Residents & Fellows ONLY

Salary and benefits offered by the residency program.
Vacation time and sick leave.
How is the teaching in your residency program?
Maternity/parental leave during residency.
Is Spanish language training offered?
Residency mix and proportion of American and foreign medical graduates (FMG)?
What fun activities are there nearby?
What type/how much Specialty Board Review is offered?
What is the Board pass rate?
Typical residency work hours.
Residency Call schedule.
How good is the security for the hospital and residency call room areas?
Any difficulty in getting a fellowship from this residency program?
Last year, how many Residents failed to get a fellowship?
What type of Scut work do residents do?
In last year's ERAS / NRMP match, did you have any unfilled residency spots?
Which areas of the city do Residents usually live?
What is the average rent for a two-bedroom apartment?
What is the pass percentage of your residency program in the medical specialty board exams?
Is there a 24 hr phlebotomy team in the hospital?
Do you get opportunities to moonlight?
What are the strengths and weaknesses of the residency program?
Do the Residents socialize and get together?
What is the makeup of the patient population? (hispanic, African American, White etc)
Have any Residents left the residency program? If yes, why?
Is your program open to accepting foreign medical graduates (FMG)?
What was the average USMLE scores of matched applicants last year?