

Hawaii Pacific University Pre-Health Professions Program Committee Interview and Letter



What is a Committee Letter?

The Pre-Health Professions Program Committee Letter is formal letter of recommendation from the Committee on behalf of the University to recommend students to the Professional School of their choice. The admissions committees of medical and dental schools encourage students to obtain these formal letters of recommendation, as they serve as objective letters of evaluation of the student and aid the admissions committee in deciding if the applicant is a good candidate.

How do I request / receive a Committee Letter?

A Committee Letter will be awarded to a student in the Pre-Health Professions Program after a successful Committee Interview. You should make your interest known to the Pre-Health Professions Specialist (Dr. Allison Bachlet) as soon as possible in the application preparation process.

What is a Committee Interview?

The Pre-Health Professions Committee Interview is a formal interview that assesses the applicant's suitability for medical or dental school. Interviews are held each spring prior to the application cycle for medical and dental schools. In order to qualify for an interview, see the requirements below.

Requirements:

In order to qualify for a Pre-Health Committee Interview students must:

- have a cumulative GPA of 3.0
- have a minimum of 1 term (3 months / 75 hours) volunteer or intern experience in their chosen field
- have requested a committee interview in the fall of their application year (interview dates will be booked in the fall term for the coming spring cycle)

- have completed the "Student Self Evaluation and Assessment" form (provided by Dr. Allison Bachlet) and met all other deadlines as outlined in the application process
- score higher than the 50th percentile in the standardized test necessary for their chosen profession (MCAT, DAT, OAT, PCAT, GRE)
 - note - a committee interview *may* be granted before the student has taken his/ her respective standardized test, but the letter and package of support will NOT be submitted to the application center until a test score above the 50th percentile has been awarded.

Who is on the Committee?

The Pre-Health Professions Committee at Hawaii Pacific University is comprised of faculty, staff and professionals in the field of medicine and dentistry. Each interview is attended by at least three committee members, who are selected at random for the interview based on availability. The Committee is chaired by the Pre-Health Professions Specialist, Dr. Allison Bachlet.

What will the Interview be like?

The interview is approximately one hour in length. During this time, the student will be questioned about his / her choice of study, future plans and goals, and thoughts and opinions on health and health care. This interview should be treated as a serious job or graduate school entry interview. Be prepared. Dress appropriately. Be on time.

Preparation for the Interview:

- Once a student is granted an interview date and time, they must provide the Committee Chair (Dr. Allison Bachlet) AT LEAST ONE WEEK BEFORE THE INTERVIEW:
- un-official transcripts from HPU and all prior schools of higher education
 - a personal statement / essay describing his / her professional choice and desired path
 - an updated professional resume / curriculum vitae
 - note: failure to supply these documents one week before the interview may result in the cancellation or postponement of the interview

In order to prepare for the Committee Interview, students should review all their application materials and practice articulating why they have chosen their field of study.

For more information, contact the Pre-Health Professions Specialist,
Dr. Allison Bachlet at abachlet@hpu.edu