INTERVIEW GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

MASTER OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY – REGULAR PROGRAM

The personal interview constitutes the final phase of the student selection process and has a weighting of 50% in the recommendation of the final admission decision. The interview provides an opportunity to further assess your suitability for the Occupational Therapy program and for you to convince the interviewers that you are one of the best candidates!

The Interview Process

Please arrive at least 20 minutes prior to your scheduled interview time. When you arrive at the College of Rehabilitation Sciences (formerly the School of Medical Rehabilitation), 771 McDermot Avenue, Winnipeg, MB, please check in at the Interview Reception Desk found on the second floor (R230). Please note that we are located at the Bannatyne Campus of the University of Manitoba. The receptionist will note your arrival and check your identification. You will need photo ID for this purpose (i.e., driver’s license, passport, student card). You will be provided with room locations and directions to interviews, and will be asked to remain in the waiting area until it is time for your interview.

You will complete a total of three interviews. At the conclusion of your first and second interviews, you will be asked to wait outside the office in which your next interview is scheduled. At the end of the third interview, you will wait in the chair outside the office of your last interview until all interviews are completed. Each interview will start on the half-hour; you will therefore have some time in between interviews to wait. All interviews are within our department area so finding your way between interviews should not be a problem. There will be student volunteers to assist you should you require directions.

After the final interview, you will be escorted to the Orientation Area where you can relax a little, view the curriculum materials, and ask questions about the program. Leanne Leclair, Department Head for the Department of Occupational Therapy, will provide a short formal orientation session to provide you with information that you will require should you be offered a place in our program. Following the orientation session, there will be a tour of our facilities. Current MOT students will be available during the orientation session and tours in order to answer any questions you may have.

It is anticipated that the entire process, including the interviews, orientation and tour, will take approximately three hours.
The Interviews

You will have three separate one-to-one 20-minute interviews. Interviewers will ask you questions about yourself, the profession of Occupational Therapy, and the University of Manitoba MOT program.

The interviewers are drawn from Occupational Therapists registered to practice in Manitoba, faculty of the College of Rehabilitation Sciences, and students of the Occupational Therapy Department in the College of Rehabilitation Sciences.

Please Note: Interviewers do not have access to your academic record nor to any of the material that you sent in with your application form (i.e., resume, letter of introduction), therefore, it is correct for you to assume that they know nothing about you as you begin the interview process.

Each interview will consist of five standardized questions. Following these questions, if time permits, you may be asked other questions and you will have an opportunity to add any additional information that you feel will help the interviewer complete his/her assessment.

The interviewers cannot interpret the question for you; however, they can repeat questions if requested to do so. You will also be provided with a hard copy of the standardized questions to read during each interview. It is important that you listen/read carefully, interpret the questions to the best of your ability, and respond with complete yet concise answers. Be sure to include examples as requested or appropriate.

You should be aware that the interviewers might be taking notes throughout the interview as part of their assessment.

In order to maintain confidentiality and preserve fairness for all applicants, you are requested NOT to discuss the content or format of the interview with anyone. You will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement prior to the interviews.

Admission Decisions

The Selection Meeting for the Master of Occupational Therapy 2019-2020 academic session will be held Tuesday, May 14th, 2019 (subject to change). Following this meeting, the Selection Committee will make recommendations to the Faculty of Graduate Studies regarding successful program applicants. The Faculty of Graduate Studies reviews these recommendations and grants the final approval of applicants for admission to the MOT program. A formal letter of offer will be forwarded from the Faculty of Graduate Studies to successful applicants in the weeks following the selections meeting.
Up to fifty students are offered admission to the Master of Occupational Therapy program. Once the first fifty students are offered a place, an alternate list is created for remaining competitive students. Those applicants on the alternate list will be contacted in rank order of overall academic and interview score should positions become available.

The Department of Occupational Therapy will notify all applicants of their admissions status following the May selection meeting. Applicants can expect to receive one of the following letters via email:

- A letter indicating that he/she has been recommended to the Faculty of Graduate Studies as a successful applicant for a place in the MOT program, or
- A letter indicating that he/she has been recommended to the Faculty of Graduate Studies as a successful applicant for a place in the MOT program, conditional on successful completion of entrance requirements, or
- A letter indicating that he/she has been recommended to the Faculty of Graduate Studies to be placed on the alternate list for a place in the MOT program should a space become available, or
- A letter indicating that he/she has been recommended to the Faculty of Graduate Studies to be placed on the alternate list for a place in the MOT program should a space become available. Placement on the alternate list is conditional on applicant completing entrance requirements, or
- A letter of rejection.

Best of luck during the interview process,

Cara Brown,
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