



Interpersonal Competencies

COMPETENCY

Interpersonal competencies, the skills dealing with how a person interacts with others, are crucial to the profession of a care giver.

Certainly, medical, dental and veterinary schools recognize this fact and evaluate their applicants with an eye toward identifying those with substantial behavioral evidence of such skills.

Conversely, the lack of interpersonal competencies can be a huge concern for a professional school admissions committee.

BEHAVIORS

Service Orientation: a predisposition to be helpful, considerate, and cooperative; in short, a concern for others.

Social Skills: both verbal and nonverbal communication and interaction with others.

Cultural Competence: understanding, accepting, and interacting with people of different cultures, belief systems, and socioeconomic backgrounds other than your own.

Teamwork: cooperative or coordinated effort with others acting together in the interest of a common cause.

APPLICATION

Think about how you might give evidence in your application that you are, indeed, competent in these areas.

How have you demonstrated these qualities through your activities, work, and/or research?

How will you communicate these in your application and personal statement?

Talk to your pre-health advisor to help you determine how you can highlight your interpersonal competencies on your application.