Things to consider while you prepare for your interview day
Scheduling
Confirm Day and Time (be mindful if the program is in a different time zone)
Receive virtual login information
Receive detailed interview schedule
Alert the interview coordinator to any accommodations that should be made for the interview day after receiving this email but no later than 48 hours prior to the day (ie. longer breaks at specific times)
Check email regularly for any updates from interview coordinator/Consider building a master schedule calendar with all of your interview dates – don't forget to include time zones!
You will need a quiet place with a good internet connection for the whole interview period
f available, book a room in a library or on campus
f at home:
Quiet place to interview
Clear your area of distractions
Pick your interview spot so there are no distractions on video (busy background, animals, kids)
Check lighting on your video
Make sure you are in a location where you can charge your laptop/other devices as needed
Plan not to eat during your interview
Eat before the interview
Prep snacks for any assigned breaks
Have water available
Tech Prep Check internet connection in the place(s) you will be interviewing from (do a web search for 'Internet
Speed Test')
Download Zoom interview software (desktop applications are preferred over web versions)
Practice with Zoom interview software to familiarize yourself with its features
Practice how to interview, where to look, where to position your camera for the best lighting and video mage
Pick a professional photo of yourself to use when your video is not on
Consider using earphones to minimize feedback (and charge beforehand if necessary); (Be aware that the
mic on wired earphones tend to rub against your shirt and may create a scratching noise)
Make sure you have list of what to do if technology fails (ask coordinator if not provided beforehand) and have it printed out if possible
Interview Day Considerations
Hang a sign on your door/let others know you are starting a virtual interview and should not be disturbed
Close all unnecessary screens and programs on your device (this helps the virtual platform run smoothly) Remember to mute all notifications on phone/computer
Programs prefer you do not use a virtual background. Please be mindful of what is displayed behind you in
the room
Make sure your name as listed in ERAS is displayed properly in the interview software
Dress in complete interview attire (head to toe)
When not speaking, mute yourself
Wake sure laptop is charged and plugged into an outlet
Have all forms of communication within easy reach, fully charged, and with backup battery (computers, phones, etc.)
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