**Interview tips to remember:**

- **Arrange interviews or campus visits early in your senior year.** This strategy will help you to evaluate and perhaps redefine your interests. (If you are interested in medical school, you may want to visit the campus during your junior year.)
  - To arrange an interview, write a letter to the director of the program expressing your interest in the program. In your letter, state that you have plans to be in the area during a defined period of time and would appreciate the opportunity to meet and discuss the program.
  - You should follow-up with a phone call approximately two weeks after mailing your letter to inquire about the professor’s availability and, if agreeable, to confirm a campus visit.

- **Prepare for the interview.** Spend an adequate amount of time researching the university, the field of study, and the departmental faculty.
  - Read published articles from the faculty to develop an understanding of their research and the focus of the program. Be prepared to answer standard questions.
  - Prepare to discuss your interests, specifically demonstrating how the program will help you meet your academic and professional goals.
  - You should also be prepared to discuss the strengths that you would bring to the program, citing examples of your own research, independent study, and experiences.
  - It is also appropriate to inquire about scholarships or assistantships during your visit.

- **During your visit, try to arrange a meeting with current graduate students.**
  - In talking with the students, inquire as to their satisfaction with the program.
  - Ask about the academic challenges of the program and availability of the faculty outside of the classroom.
  - Try to assess the overall student perception of the program.

- **Always follow-up with thank-you letters.** Following the interview or campus visit, be sure to write a letter to the department chair and other faculty with whom you met expressing your continued interest in their program. Also, be sure to state your appreciation of their time.

**Questions You May Be Asked As a Graduate School Candidate**

- Tell me about yourself.
- Why did you choose your academic major?
- How would you describe the academic climate at Rollins?
- What are your short and long term career goals?
- Why are you interested in this field of study?
- What is your GPA? Is it reflective of your abilities?
- What contributions do you expect to make to this profession?
Questions You May Be Asked (Continued)

- What subjects did you enjoy most in college? The least? Why?
- Why did you choose to apply to this institution?
- What activities, aside from classroom studies, have you participated in?
- What are your strengths? Your weaknesses?
- What have you accomplished in the past that demonstrates your interests and commitment to this profession?
- What traits or characteristics do you think are important for success in this field?

Questions to Ask Your Interviewer

- What research is currently being conducted in this department?
- Are there opportunities for students to participate in research?
- What are the strengths of this program? What makes it unique?
- How would you describe the faculty-student relationship in this department?
- How flexible is the program? Would I be able to design my own program?
- How long has this program existed at the university?
- Would you describe the facilities: (library, computer labs, etc.) available to students?
- Are teaching and research assistantships available? If so, how are students selected? How many are available?
- Are internships or other practical experiences a part of the curriculum?
- What type of career assistance is provided to graduate students?
- What types of positions do graduates of this program obtain?