

## FAQs: Psychiatry

**Given Step 1 is now Pass/Fail, what advice would you give to a first-year medical student about what they can or should be doing early on to be competitive in your specialty?**

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**Would you ever take someone with a Step 1 failure?**

-No, unless in they rotated with us based on their performance and if we thought they would be a good fit

**What advice would you give about getting letters of recommendation in your specialty?**

-have them all be from psychiatrists (unless there is a very special reason not to)

**What is the value of doing audition rotations in your specialty?**

-The student can get to know the program the best this way. The program can see the student's performance. We are much more likely to take someone who has rotated with us and has performed well.

**To what extent does research, publications, or presentations affect one's ability to match in your specialty?**

-not necessarily

**Is a Step 2CK score needed before you will invite someone for an interview?**

-yes, but on occasion we will still invite if we will know the result before rank list is due

**What does the perfect applicant look like in your specialty?**

-good communication skills (very important), hard working, dependable, professional, interested in learning, team player

**Does a student need to Honor in your specialty to match?**

-not necessarily

**The students have significant elective time during their 3<sup>rd</sup> year for career exploration.**

**a. What electives would you recommend to a student who knows they are interested in your specialty?**

-possibly inpatient psychiatry, consult liaison psychiatry, child and adolescent, emergency psychiatry, etc

**b. What electives would you recommend to a student who is undecided but considering your specialty?**

- inpatient psychiatry, consult liaison psychiatry

**Is there anything else I haven't asked that you feel an applicant to your specialty ought to know?**

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