•Respond to the interview invitations IMMEDIATELY. Even waiting 1 hour (which can happen quickly if you are excited and letting family and friends know) can delay getting an interview spot by months. This is especially true with interview invitations sent in the fall as many take a break from interviewing during the holiday season. This then delays when you get your first acceptance, which can get stressful as it gets later in the year. I think I would have had my first acceptance months earlier if I had known this ahead of time, making for a more relaxing year. Also, if working, try to select the Monday interview spots quickly (again this is easier to do if you respond immediately). This way you can travel there on the weekend and take less time off.

•Practice interviews!! First interview was so so much worse compared to second.

•Be sure to arrive early if you are traveling and consider extra hours/days to be able to tour around the surrounding area and city that encompasses the medical school you are visiting. However, you can always return for "Second Look Days" often in April if the school has one.

•Just wait and be patient. This process is grueling and takes no prisoners. In my opinion, you really learn whether or not you're willing to go to medical school after going through this process.

•It's not a bad thing to be your own weird self. The interview is just as much about if you're going to fit and love the personality of the medical school as anything else.

•Writing notes and questions about the school as well as responses to questions about yourself helps the reflection process and interview preparation.

•Flight delays made me spend an extra night in a city, miss one extra day of work, pay for one extra day of parking at the airport... It is going to be expensive, but considering the overall cost of medical school, I'd say it is worth it.

•Do not apply to more than 20. Not worth it. Find schools you really like and do research before hand. AMCAS gets expensive very very FAST!

•I did apply MD/PhD so usually around $100-300 of what I spent to travel for each interview was reimbursed by each school, and food was covered for most of my visits, but all of my interviews were over 2-3 days.

•Get comfortable telling your story. Take the time to think about what really made you decide to apply (even if it's not what you think admissions committees will expect to hear). Then tell your family and friends, tell it to strangers – really anyone who will listen, until you can tell it clearly and like you mean it.

•Often times breakfast was "included" at the medical schools, but I learned quickly that that often just meant a granola bar and coffee, so I often ate a breakfast beforehand just in case. I also generally had to pay for two dinners, one the night before, and one the night of on my way home.

•I do wish I had known just how many days I would have to take off - had to take off at least a day off for every interview, and how much I needed to save for it. It really depends on the student too. Living in Boston, had I just applied to northeast schools it would have been a bit cheaper (trains, driving), but you need to budget a lot more if you are planning to interview at Southern or Western schools. I can't imagine how expensive it must be if you live in NY and are interviewing at CA schools. I also chose to not stay at the overnight stays with current medical schools simply because I wanted to relax and prepare the night/morning before, so I could have decreased my budget that way, but it wasn't worth it for me. A good piece of advice I got once while I was complaining about the cost of interviewing/applying though was to view it as an investment, just as how our tuition will be an investment. And the return on investment is quite nice!

•Be yourself and have fun!

•It's important to prepare and research answers to potential questions prior to the interview, but just try to relax and be confident in your answers during the actual interview.

•Not advice, but if I didn't have a car it would be really difficult.

•Other cost: Cost of having someone watch my pets.

•I would have intended to get there an extra day early to account for traveling difficulties.

•The interview can be a stressful day, but it can be fun to converse with other interviewees who are going through the application/interview process too. Try to relax a little bit, and you'll be more yourself!

•Even though admissions offices only offer you a couple of dates choices, you can usually work with them to find a date that works for you. I had to change the dates of two different interviews because of my job, and admissions offices were really willing to work with me. This is also true if you have to request to interview earlier in a day in order to catch a flight the same day - just express what you need, and admissions officers are generally super helpful.

•I would just like to point out that coast-to-coast trips were much more expensive (greater than $600), whereas trips within the East Coast than had direct flights were less expensive ($200-$300).

•Send in applications to your top schools first. That way, if you happen to get an early acceptance to a top choice, you can cancel the rest of your interviews (this only applies to schools that are rolling).

•Confidence.

•Food - schools never had gluten free options.

•Relax and be yourself above all else! Best to present the real you because you will be able to find the school that best suits you.