



Tips for Residents: Questions to Ask at a Fellowship Interview

There is a lot to learn about a fellowship program in a short period of time. While many questions may be addressed in the pre-interview presentation, below is a list of questions to consider asking fellows and faculty during and after your interview to learn more about the program:

Training:

- What is the daily workflow like for a fellow?
- What is the structure of the fellow's schedule? (i.e. changes daily, weekly, biweekly or monthly)?
- Do you anticipate any changes to the program or schedule between now and the start of the fellowship year?
- How do you evaluate the fellow's performance?
- What type of didactic training do fellows receive? (e.g. journal clubs, rad-path conference, etc.)
- If elective time is offered at the program, what electives do fellows typically rotate on?
- Are there any interdisciplinary elective rotation options (e.g. breast surgery, oncology, radiation oncology, pathology, etc.)?
- How much autonomy is given to the fellows?

Program:

- How many clinical sites do fellows rotate through? Are there different responsibilities at different clinical sites?
- What are your patients' demographics?
- What is the volume of cases? What is the variety of caseload (screens, diagnostics, MRI, biopsies, localizations)?
- How do you acquire your screening mammograms?
- What modalities are offered for supplemental screening?
- What are the breast localization techniques used at the program?
- Are there dedicated ultrasound technologists? If so, are there opportunities to learn how to independently perform breast ultrasounds?

Research:

- Are there research opportunities?
- Is the program participating in any research trials?
- Is there protected academic time for research?
- Are the fellows encouraged to present at local or national conferences?

Additional Roles and Responsibilities:

- Are there opportunities to teach residents and medical students?
- What, if any, are the call responsibilities (evening, weekends, overnight)? o Do fellows provide preliminary or final reads on call?
- What are the expectations for fellows during tumor board?
- Are there opportunities for moonlighting?

Lifestyle:

- What is it like to live in this city?
- Where do most fellows live?
- Does the hospital provide any subsidized housing?
- Are there any childcare options at this institution?

Job search:

- How does the program help fellows find jobs?
- Is there time given to interview for attending positions during the fellowship?
- Do most of your fellows go into private practice or academics?
- Where do your fellows go on to practice in terms of practice location/geography?
- Does your program often hire your own fellows