

Revival Starts with Admissions Interviews

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One way to discover the applicants who are ready to step out of their comfort zones to grow spiritually and receive from your school is to conduct in-person interviews. While a submitted application will tell you a lot about an individual, it cannot replace the value of a face-to-face interaction. In fact, an interview can provide insight into an applicant's character, spiritual and emotional maturity, sense of responsibility, and desired level of commitment to your school.

We would like to provide you some keys to prepare for and facilitate your admissions interviews. Drawing from BSSM's process for interviews, we want to specifically give you some ideas of how you can organize your interview process, be prepared with questions, and use these meetings to communicate your school's culture and requirements. We pray these strategies you and your team gather individuals who are truly ready to be part of your school's journey!

Prepare Questions for Interviews

As your team prepares for admissions interviews, it's important to create a list of questions to ask applicants. We encourage you to draw from the list of questions created for your school application as it's always beneficial to hear an applicant share a verbal response. This will give you an opportunity to further discover why an applicant has applied to your school, what he/she is looking for in this season, if he/she can fully commit to your school's program, and more.

We also recommend that each interviewer reads through an applicant's submitted application before the interview. In fact, it is help for an interviewer to take notes of an applicant's responses, especially those that are unclear and need to be discussed during the interview. The interviewer should also make note of any potential hindrances to the applicant thriving in the school environment (e.g. character issues, lack of emotional or spiritual maturity, etc.).

To help you form questions for your school's interviews, here is a sample of questions our staff members ask BSSM applicants:

- Why do you want to come to BSSM?
- What do you want God to do in your life?
- Is there any one area in your life you need God to touch or change?
- If married, is your spouse and/or children in agreement with your attending BSSM?
- How do your spiritual leaders feel about your attending BSSM?
- What do you think your gifting includes?

Set Expectations During Interviews

We encourage you to use interviews to communicate your leadership team's expectations and goals for students in your school environment. By communicating important pieces such as your school's mission and requirements, you will draw in applicants who are prepared to commit to the journey. Furthermore, it will help you form a class of committed students that will be fully present with your school's leaders and students.

As you prepare for interviews, be ready to share with the applicants more about your school culture, such as your core values, your mission, and your passion to equip and deploy revivalists. Sharing this information will give applicants the opportunity to posture their hearts for transformation by submitting to leadership's authority, demonstrating character that aligns with the core values, and fulfilling specific requirements.

To help you determine the areas of your school's expectations that should be highlighted during an admissions interview, here are a few that we share with our BSSM applicants:

- School mission
- School culture
- Expectations of students (character, teachable, submission to authority, etc.)
- Cost of school (deposit, payment plans, etc.)
- School schedule and attendance requirements (connection group meetings, church services, activation, etc.)
- Academic requirements (booklist, homework requirements, etc.)
- Ministry opportunities (outreach, missions, etc.)

As you develop your school's interview process, may the Lord guide you in all wisdom to create a structure, questions, a list of important items to share with applicants, and more, that will serve your school's purpose. Most of all, we encourage you to be led by His Spirit during the process. He wants to partner with you to invite men and women to your school who are ready to express the revelation of their identity as sons and daughters of God!