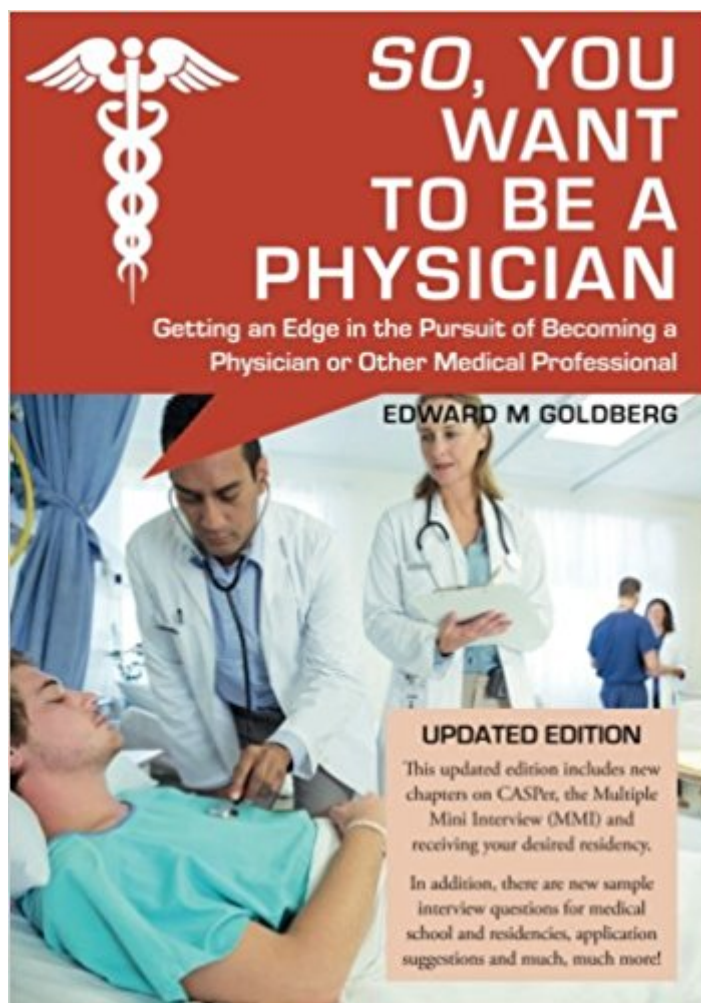


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# So, You Want To Be A Physician: Getting An Edge In The Pursuit Of Becoming A Physician Or Other Medical Professional



## Synopsis

The journey to becoming a medical professional is laden with a variety of challenges, including acing your personal statement in the application, responding to your secondaries intelligently, knowing about new interview techniques such as the Multiple Mini Interview (MMI) and CASPer, and impressing medical school staff during the interview. *So, You Want to Be a Physician* offers first-hand examples from aspiring medical students the author has mentored, including actual interview questions, personal statements, and practical advice on how to master the art of the interview.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Edward M. Goldberg is a leader in the field of hospital administration, serving as a President and CEO of multiple hospitals over the past 38 years. In October of 2012, he was inducted into the Studer Fire Starter Healthcare Hall of Fame. He has successfully coached scores of aspiring medical school students throughout his career, and that wealth of knowledge has resulted in this book.

As a college freshman I recommend this book to any young college student or high school student considering medical school. The author gives advice on what actions a student can take to maximize their med school application's attraction to an admissions officer. This guide will encourage any prospective student to laser in on exactly on what medical schools want to

see, without being “distracted” by other parts of a college experience. In addition to advice on what type of college might be best, what type of classes to take, the book also gives good insight into what extracurriculars the student should spend their time on; what would be most helpful in putting down on your application, your personal statement and what could be helpful to talk about in your interviews. This book is really for kids early on in their academic careers.

I am glad that I was able to read this book, even though I had already been accepted into medical school. I was introduced to Mr. Goldberg very late in the game; the day I was to leave on a flight to Arizona for a school interview in fact. We had been corresponding via email during the week prior working on the answers to the three most frequently asked questions - as stated in this book - and worked very quickly to perfect my materials and then meet the day of to practice my interviewing skills. Even though I had never been in an interview before, Mr. Goldberg allayed many of my concerns and sources of self-consciousness, but also raised awareness to areas of improvement that I had not even considered. That was by far the most impactful aspect of working with him. If I had access to a book such as this in high school, I know that I would have done several things differently. Even though I would have achieved the same end, I realize now just how lucky I am to have been accepted. I had good grades, but not stellar; I had a slightly-below-average MCAT score; I had no medical research (only psychological) and no direct clinical experience. However I did have three majors, several honors societies, honors and scholarships, athletics, an internship, volunteer service (with a hospital and in a shelter for battered women) and I presented well. I am an outlier and likely not a good exemplar for the best path to take, however it can be done. This book is very succinct, direct and short, yet covers the entire journey from the first desire to be a physician (or other healthcare worker) all the way through residency at the end of medical school and can easily be read in a day or two. It is engaging and therefore I recommend that all people considering these professions should read this early on to receive the most benefit. Working with Mr. Goldberg directly was a boon not only to my professionalism, but also to my self-esteem. He was the first experience that I had with the interviewing process and, as previously mentioned, alleviated much of the self-doubt that I had. He takes matters seriously and is a successful man with likely very little time to give, yet he made me feel important in the time that he set aside for me. The biggest advice I could give is to take matters seriously. Treat school, interviews and your future goals as matters requiring precision and effort, but be flexible. Have humility and recognize that there is always room for improvement. I feel that every young person should have the opportunity to practice interviewing

before they apply for schools, jobs, or anything else. I am grateful that I was able to practice with a man like Mr. Goldberg.

I have been in the Healthcare industry for over 33 years. Ed Goldberg was my initial healthcare employer from 1982 to 1984. His guidance and mentoring, during those formative years, prepared me, as a healthcare executive, better than any formal training prior to and after that time that I spent working with him. He is a rock star, in our industry, and his passion to pass down knowledge to the next generation of healthcare professionals is second to none. His attention to detail and his understanding of what it takes to be successful is clearly evident in this book. I believe his lessons to those applying for medical school, dental school, etc., can also be applied to all individuals seeking health professions, from physicians to healthcare executives. Everyone seeking an advanced health profession degree should buy this book and follow Ed Goldberg's recipe for success!

If you are struggling with whether or not medicine is right for you, or have known your entire life that you wanted to become a physician, the first thing to do is take a realistic look at what it takes to get there and what the job of becoming a physician is actually like. Many factors must be considered when making the decision. Do you have the right personality to be a physician? Do you have the perseverance to complete the training? Do you have the ability to get good grades? Are you a good test taker? Is your personal statement one that separates you from equally talented applicants? Do you know what to expect during the interview process? Are you willing to make the necessary sacrifices to get through medical school and residency? And finally, do you have a strong desire to help people? All kinds of people - from lawyers to indigents, grandparents to babies. Mr. Goldberg's book will help answer these questions for you. His pragmatic approach is easy to read and understand with specific examples made available for the reader to gain the edge in the competitive process of becoming a physician. Mr. Goldberg adds humor throughout the seriousness of his counsel, an attribute that proves useful in any pursuit in life. I especially liked the example of the student determined to become a dermatologist, whose father was close to the author, but who refused help till after several disappointments turned to Mr. Goldberg for assistance. The story has a happy ending with the student gaining admittance to a dermatology residency program with the invaluable assistance of Mr. Goldberg. There are many other success stories used as examples and yours could be one as well with the help of this excellent book.

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