

# DAL MED INTERVIEW GUIDE 2019

**NOVEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup> AND 24<sup>th</sup>**





# SCHEDULE

## Interview Weekend

### HALIFAX

Friday, November 22nd (6-8 pm)..... **Tupper Lounge**  
Potluck + Q&A for those interviewing Saturday\*

Saturday, November 23rd ..... **Halifax Infirmary**  
Saturday Interviews & Tours

Saturday, November 23rd (6-8pm)..... **Tupper Lounge**  
Potluck + Q&A for those interviewing Sunday\*

Sunday, November 24th..... **Halifax Infirmary**  
Sunday Interviews & Tours

### SAINT JOHN

Friday, November 22nd (6-8 pm) ..... **DMNB Lounge**  
Potluck + Q&A\*

Saturday, November 23rd ..... **Saint John  
Regional Hospital**  
Interviews & Tours

\*Potlucks are not mandatory but are a great way to unwind with current Med 1s. This isn't part of the interview process, and we supply the food!

**TUPPER LOUNGE** - 5850 COLLEGE STREET, HALIFAX, NS  
**HALIFAX INFIRMARY** - 1796 SUMMER STREET, HALIFAX, NS

**DMNB** - 100 TUCKER PARK ROAD, SAINT JOHN, NB  
**SJ REGIONAL HOSPITAL** - 400 UNIVERSITY AVENUE,  
SAINT JOHN, NB




# HALIFAX




## HOTELS

### The Lord Nelson Hotel


 1515 South Park St, Halifax, NS, B3J 2L2

 \$129 (plus tax) per night for Thu Nov. 21st - Mon Nov. 25th. Book online or call for this rate. Subject to availability\* (\$28 parking)

 (902) 423-5130 Toll free: 1-800-565-2020 or quote the group ID 41353 online

### The Atlantica

 1980 Robie St, Halifax, NS, B3H 3G5

 \$119 (plus tax) per night for Thursday Nov. 21st and Monday Nov. 25th. Email or call for this rate. (\$22 underground parking)

 Book online <https://www.atlanticahotelhalifax.com/>  
Toll free: (888) 810-7288 or Local: (902) 423-1161

## Transportation

The Halifax airport is approximately 40 minutes outside Downtown Halifax (where Dalhousie is located). Below are some travel options.

### #320 Bus

#### (MetroX)

\$4.25 fare

Exact change only!

### Maritime Bus

#### Airport Shuttle

\$22 one-way

Book in advance!

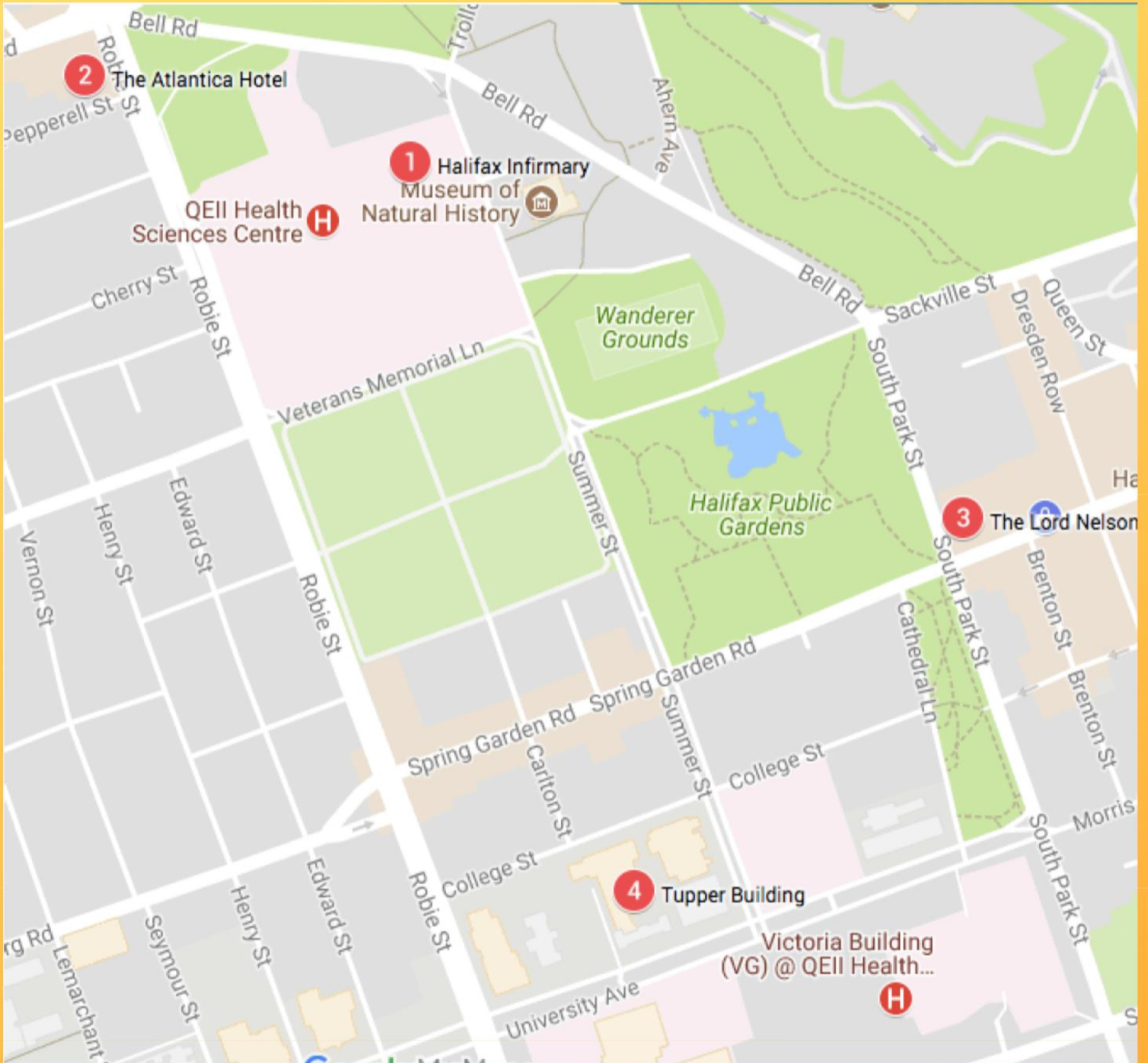
### Taxi

Approximately

\$64.00 one-way



# HALIFAX - MAP



**1** Halifax Infirmary  
(Interview Location)

**3** The Lord Nelson  
Hotel

**2** The Atlantica Hotel

**4** Tupper Building  
(Potluck Location)

# SAINT JOHN




## HOTELS

### The Delta Brunswick

 39 King Street, Saint John, NB E2L 4W3

 \$135 for King Bed Room for Friday, Nov. 22nd (free parking)

 Call (506) 648-1981 and mention you are with Dalhousie Medical School to get this special rate.


### The BunkHaus Hostel

36 Water Street, Saint John, NB E2L 2A5

 \$40 for a bunk in the main room

\$90 for a bunk bed in a private room

\$95 for a double bed in a private room

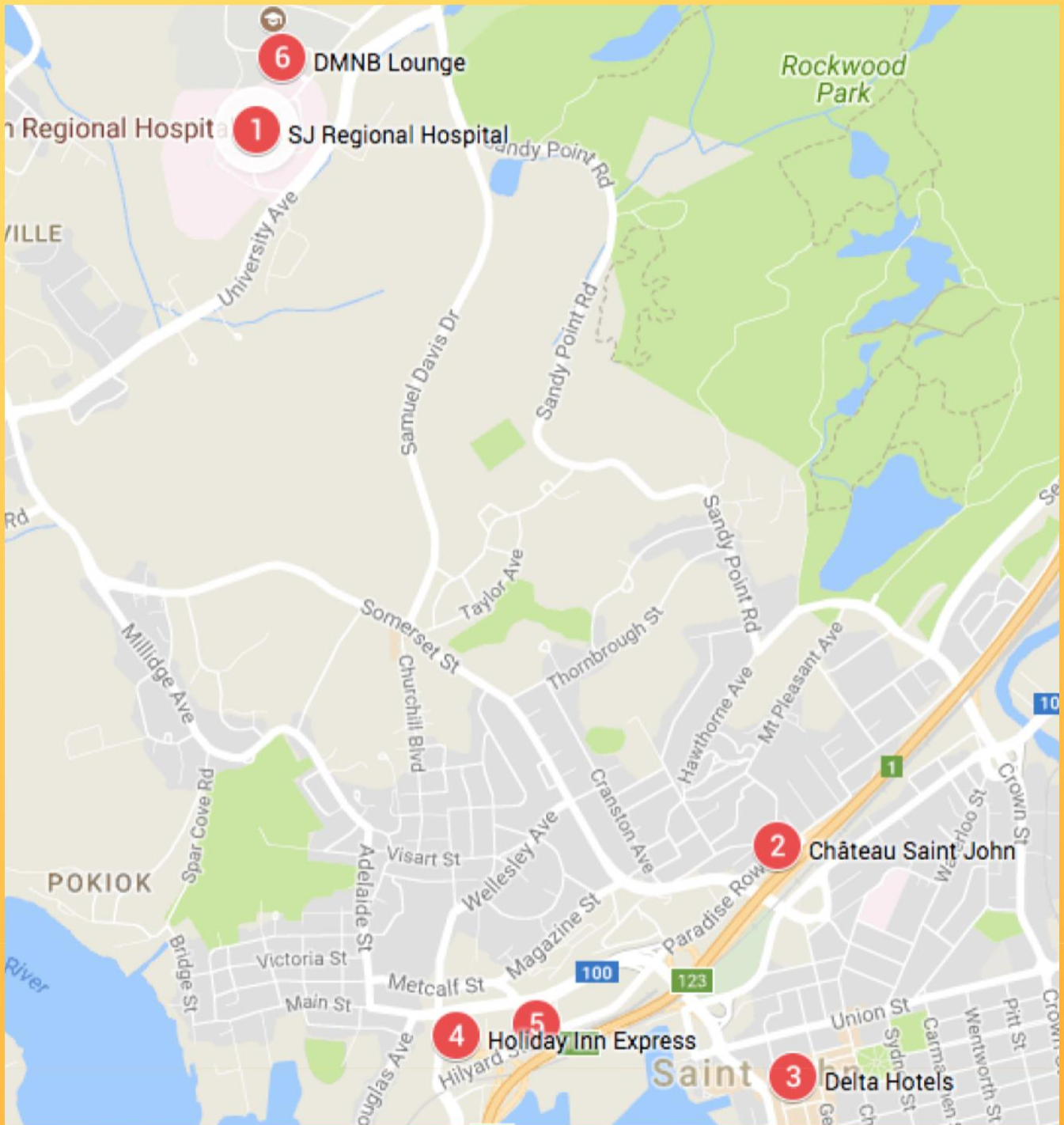
 Call (506) 646-9895

## Other Hotels Listed on Map Below

**Transportation:** Hotels are ~20 minutes from the airport by taxi.  
The DMNB building and Saint John Regional Hospital are about a 10-minute drive from the hotels.

**Diamond Taxi:** (506) 648-8888

# SAINT JOHN - MAP



- |          |  |          |                                   |
|----------|--|----------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> | Saint John Regional Hospital<br>(Interview Location) | <b>4</b> | Holiday Inn Express               |
| <b>2</b> | Chateau Saint John                                   | <b>5</b> | Canada's Best Value Inn           |
| <b>3</b> | Delta Hotels   | <b>6</b> | DMNB Lounge<br>(Potluck Location) |

# INTERVIEW FORMAT

## THE MMI (MULTIPLE MINI INTERVIEW)

**TIME: 2 HOURS**

**SET UP: 10 STATIONS + 0-2 Break  
Stations**

In the MMI, applicants move in a circuit between "stations" with 10 active stations plus 0-2 break stations. At each active station, there will be a prompt outside the door and an interviewer waiting inside the room. Each station lasts 8 minutes and there is a 2-minute break between stations. During this 2-minute break you are moving to your next station and reading the prompt on the door to prepare your answer.

Once in the room, applicants interact with or are observed by a single rater. At some stations, you will be interacting with an actor or another applicant. The stations are designed to assess the applicant's personal qualities, such as problem solving, thinking on your feet, leadership, balance, compassion, motivation, critical thinking, awareness of societal health issues, communication skills and ethics. Scientific knowledge is not assessed. At the rest stations, you will have a 10 minute break and a chance to get a drink of water.

### WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I GET TO THE DOOR?

- - Read the prompt on the door
  - Buzzer will ring after 2 minutes
  - Open the door and enter the station
- Buzzer will go off after 8 minutes; move on to next station



# HOW TO PREP?



## **With 1 month until interview weekend...**

The most common question we get asked is, "How do I prepare for the MMI?" To be honest, there's no right or wrong answer! The preparation process will be different for each and every one of you. We have, however, compiled a list of ways that we prepared for our own interviews, which you may find helpful!

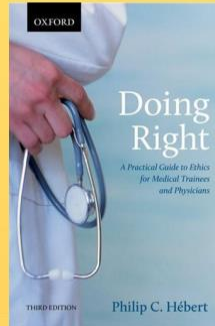
1. **Practice!!** Going over questions with friends, family, other applicants or just by yourself in front of the mirror will help you get used to timing and how to approach various question types. Find questions online by Googling "MMI questions."
2. **Consult resources.** (See next page)
3. **Become familiar with current health topics.**
4. **Develop a strategy.** Having a plan can help ease your nerves and make you feel more confident when answering questions.
5. **Plan a "mock" MMI.** Get together with other applicants and hold a mock MMI with timed stations and various questions!

## **You want to be comfortable discussing:**

- Ethical dilemmas in health care
- The health care system
- Dalhousie's medical program
- Your own qualifications



# RESOURCES

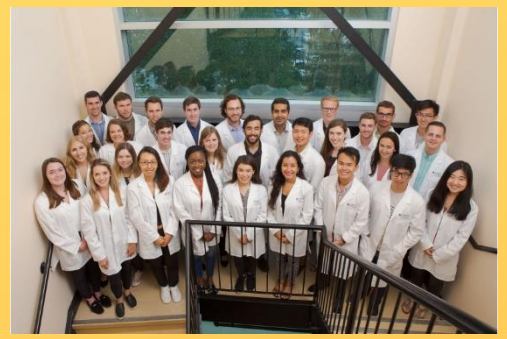


You are definitely not expected to be experts on any topic, but being a bit familiar with basic medical ethics and some current health topics can make it easier to come up with talking points. There are a TON of great resources out there!

## Here's what the Class of 2023 recommend:

- **White Coat, Black Art:** A CBC podcast on the culture of medicine and current health care issues
- **The Canadian Medical Association Journal website:** There are lots of articles, commentary and guidelines
- **Bioethics for Clinicians:** It's nearly 20 years old but covers a lot of basic principles in bite-sized chapters and clear language
- **Doing Right: A Practical Guide to Ethics for Medical Trainees and Physicians:** A book on Canadian ethics that uses many relevant cases that can get you thinking about some of the ethical questions they may ask
- **MSC's Multiple Mini Interview Questions Book & DVDs [with Specific Cases in Medicine, Dentistry, Physiotherapy, Nursing, and Pharmacy]:** Helps with "picturing" interview day and developing strategies for different types of MMI questions
- **YouTube:** Great resource for videos that help with visualizing the MMI interview
- **AMA Journal of Ethics Cases:** Ideas for how to respond to ethical scenarios
- **The Night Shift by Brian Goldman:** More of a leisurely read to add to your MMI prep! Gives an idea of the breadth of scenarios you could be presented with in the interview, and it is also a real page turner

# FAQ'S



## 1) What is the format of the interview?

After you register, you'll be divided into groups and each group will be brought to a track. Each track has 10 active stations and may have 0-2 rest stations. Each active station has a prompt posted on the outside of a door and an interviewer waiting inside the room. You have 2 minutes to read and think about the prompt, then a buzzer will sound, and you'll knock on the door and enter the room. Once in the room, you have 8 minutes to talk to the interviewer. After those 8 minutes are up, a buzzer will sound, and you'll exit the room and go to the next door to start reading your next prompt. At a rest station, you have 10 minutes to relax and get some water. The entire interview will take 2 hours (but it really flies by!).

## 2) What types of questions will they ask?

The questions can really be about anything – how you would act in a given (medical or non-medical) scenario, your thoughts on a current issue, your interests/strengths/weaknesses/goals, how you would solve a given problem, etc. etc. etc.! At some stations you may have to interact with an actor/actress or with another applicant. It's impossible to prepare for every question and there's a good chance you might see a question you've never contemplated before – don't let that make you nervous! The point of the interview is to be yourself, and you don't need to prep an answer in advance to achieve that!

## 3) Can I bring a pen and some paper?

No, you can't. But don't worry, you don't need to write any details down! There's a copy of the prompt inside the room that you are welcome to refer to at any point.

## 4) Do I need to speak for the full 8 minutes?

No – it is totally up to you how much of the 8 minutes you fill. The interviewers will have follow-up questions that they can ask you. Depending on how early you finish your answer (and how many questions the interviewer asks), you may end up sitting in silence towards the end – and there's nothing wrong with that!

Our personal advice would be that it's better to give a thoughtful, concise answer that doesn't fill the whole time than it is to ramble and repeat yourself.

# FAQ'S



## 5) **Are my best/worst scores thrown out?**

This was also a rumour during previous application cycles, but there's no truth to it! Your scores from all ten stations are kept.

## 6) **What should I wear?**

Something that looks professional and makes you feel comfortable! Most of the men in our year wore suits and most of the women wore pant suits, skirt suits, or dress/blazer combos.

## 7) **Why did I need to send in a photo?**

You will be given a lanyard to wear around your neck during the interview with your photo and additional information for the interviewer.

## 8) **When is the tour and what does it include?**

The tour will take place directly following your interview. You will get to see our lecture rooms (with all of the cool tech that we use!), tutorial rooms, labs, and get a opportunity for a Q&A with current med students!

## 9) **Why am I so nervous/excited?**

Because you're about to interview at one of the top medical schools in the country! Congrats again; we can't wait to meet you!



# Ask a med student

We are a group of six first-year medical students who are here to help with questions about Dalhousie University Medical School and the MMI weekend. Emily, Moe and Adrianna attend Dalhousie Medicine Nova Scotia (DMNS) in Halifax and Sam, Anna and Sophie attend Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick (DMNB) in Saint John.

Please contact us if you have any questions at all about the application, the MMI, or Dal Med in general!



[askadalmedstudent@gmail.com](mailto:askadalmedstudent@gmail.com)



Ask a Med Student - Dalhousie, Class of 2024