

PRE-INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR MAY CANDIDATES

PAM LOCKHART

Pre-Interview Questions for the MHA program

1. What interests you about our program at Austin Peay University?

What I find most interesting about the MHA degree program at Austin Peay University is that it appears to be a business degree, but with a healthcare focus. This could provide a great deal more flexibility than a standard MBA or MSM. I'm very excited about the opportunity to gain knowledge in data analytics, management, financial planning, law, and human resources while building an understanding of how these business concepts are utilized in healthcare delivery.

2. How would earning this degree add to your career aspirations and goals? Please explain.

My goal is to earn a master's degree that will open doors for me in the Nashville area, and healthcare is big business here in middle Tennessee. Unfortunately, I'm lacking a background in medicine or healthcare. However, I have spent years working for large companies in customer relations, records, recruiting, accounts payables, and management positions. This degree could potentially bridge the gap.

3. Explain your comfort level with online learning. Provide examples of courses you have taken online and the types of assignments/interactions you had with the class/instructor.

Easily 90% of my courses, for both my associate and bachelor's degrees, have been taken in an online format. In these classes I have always had group discussions to participate in and group projects to complete. My comfort level is very high with online classes and if I must choose between on-site or online, I will choose online. Interaction with my online instructors has always been positive and rewarding with open and prompt communication.

4. While earning your degree, there will be two instances where you will be expected to be on campus. These happen to be for the first weekend of residency and for your last course. Do you see any issues with this requirement?

My first concern about this program was the on-campus requirement for the MHA 5020 course. However, I reached out to the instructor, and she immediately put my fears to rest by explaining that the class only requires 1.75 days on campus split between two weekends. As this time allows me to meet with the other students in the cohort, and hear from industry representatives, I now see this "residency" as a valuable opportunity.

5. Tell us about yourself and include what your peers and former teachers would say about you.

I still maintain correspondence with several of my former instructors and classmates. In 2022, I received the Outstanding Student Award in Leadership Science from APSU. I strongly suspect my nomination came from my instructor Dr. David Denton, who was also my advisor and mentor in that program. During my time as a student at Volunteer State Community College, I served as a President's Ambassador and as the President of Phi Theta Kappa. Through PTK, I was selected to the All-Tennessee Academic Team and was recognized by our Governor. Lastly, I received the R. Wade Powers Exemplary

Probity Award which is granted through nominations made by the faculty and staff. It is my hope that my peers and former teachers would say that I am diligent, organized, easy to work with, and always give my best effort in any endeavor.

JUSTIN VINING

1. What interests you about our program at Austin Peay State University?

I would like to take the next steps in my career. My family is near Austin Peay, and I have a job in town with a convenient schedule to continue my education. Everything fits together well for me to take these next steps in my career path, and this program seems like the most logical choice for these steps.

2. How would earning this degree add to your career aspirations and goals? Please explain.

I have always wanted to be in the medical field and have pursued lab work specifically. I want to further my goals and eventually become a lab director. This degree would give me the highest chance of accomplishing this goal as well as give me flexibility in executing this goal. I wish to continue moving forward in this field. Management is my next step. This degree would prepare me and set me up for such a move forward.

3. Explain your comfort level with online learning? Provide examples of courses you have taken online and the type of assignments/interaction you had with the class/instructor.

I'm comfortable with online classes as I am very self motivated and learn best by reading. I have taken my prerequisite math classes online and some honor classes that were online. I make sure to address any questions I have with professors and to keep open communication so that everything is on time, and I understand the material.

4. While earning your degree, there will be two instances where you will be expected to be on campus. These happen to be for the first weekend of residency and for your last course. Do you see any issues with this requirement?

I live in Clarksville and can easily reach campus. I will have no problem coming to campus when needed.

5. Take as much space as you need to tell us about yourself and include what your peers and former teachers would say about you.

I'm a very curious person who is always asking questions. My previous professors always encouraged me to seek further education. My mom also has a doctorate in education and has instilled a sense of continuing improvement which makes me very excited to pursue this opportunity. I like to help others when I can and try to answer questions as often as I ask them. I find enjoyment in learning new things and moving forward, which makes this program a very good fit for me.

SHARELL BALL

1. What interests you about our program at Austin Peay State University?

I'm a two-time Austin Peay State University graduate; therefore, I know how much work must be distributed to be successful here. There's no doubt in my mind that Austin Peay will help me reach my full potential in my chosen field.

2. How would earning this degree add to your career aspirations and goals? Please explain

This degree will help me become one step closer to getting a doctorate, allowing me to expand my education as well as my career opportunities in the health and research fields.

3. Explain your comfort level with online learning? Provide examples of courses you have taken online and the types of assignments or interactions you had with the class/instructor.

I have an associate degree in liberal arts and a bachelor's degree in sociology, both of which were completed online. I'm very comfortable with online learning. Every sociology course that I have taken has been online with many great professors like Dr. Roxanne K. Gerbrandt. One of the most challenging courses that I've completed was a math statistics course with Dr. Ibukun Amusan, which I eventually overcame with a good outcome.

4. While earning your degree, there will be two instances where you will be expected to be on campus. These happen to be for the first weekend of residency and for your last course. Do you see any issues with this requirement?

No, I see no issues with this requirement, but I will need to know the hours and days of this requirement in advance.

5. Take as much space as you need to tell us about yourself and include what your peers and former teachers would say about you.

I'm a hard worker, and I'm very committed to myself, meaning I will do everything that will better me. I'm not a person who gives up on what she wants easily; I'm very ambitious, creative, and willing to learn, which makes me an easy person to teach. I would say that my peers and past teachers would

also agree. I take my education very seriously and do to others what I would want done in return. I believe respect is very important as well, so another good quality of mine is that I'm very respectful towards others, no matter their title. My end goal is to be successful in today's society and take pride in helping people in my line of work. In college, many students have a different outlook on what they want to do after graduation compared to when they first started. My choice has never changed since high school. All I wanted to do was help others in whatever I chose to do. By receiving the opportunity to pursue this degree, I will be one step closer to being able to do so.