

Interviewer Training

Admissions Ambassador Program

2026-27 Admissions Season

Welcome, Admissions Ambassadors!

Over 6,000 Dartmouth alumni (and current seniors) around the world who leverage the strength and reach of the alumni network to assist in the recruitment and yield of prospective students, while serving as the face of Dartmouth in the local community and shaping perceptions of the College for prospective students and families.

Meg Lysy ’99, Senior Director, Alumni Relations

Robin Appleby ’87, Associate Director of Admissions

Highlights of the Interview

- Personalize the admissions experience
  - 95% of enrolled students said the interview was a positive experience (87% of declines)
- The student can tell their story and come to life (3D!)
- Showcase to the world the strength of the alumni community – connection and inspiration
- Majority of students won't be admitted, but we want their experience with Dartmouth to be positive
- Help the admissions office meet the applicants



Admitted Student Questionnaire

My alumni interview got rid of all the doubts I had after applying ED binding! Shoutout Caroline I was so confident I had applied to the right school ED after my interview.

My interview was definitely really amazing. It helped me envision my life at Dartmouth, and it was one of my favourite parts of the application process. Everything about the Dartmouth culture mentioned by my interviewer really spoke to my values, and made me even more excited to go to Dartmouth!

Anne, my interviewer, did an amazing job of connecting my interests to opportunities at Dartmouth and I felt so excited!!

My alumni interview strongly impacted my choice to commit. Meeting the people who attend Dartmouth also strongly influenced my choice.

My Alumni interviewer was so kind and helpful during our conversation, and genuinely was the best alumni conversation I had for this application cycle.

My alumni interview strongly impacted my choice to commit. Meeting the people who attend Dartmouth also strongly influenced my choice.



Pre-interview Preparation

Step 1: Login to the Slate Portal using your NetID and password

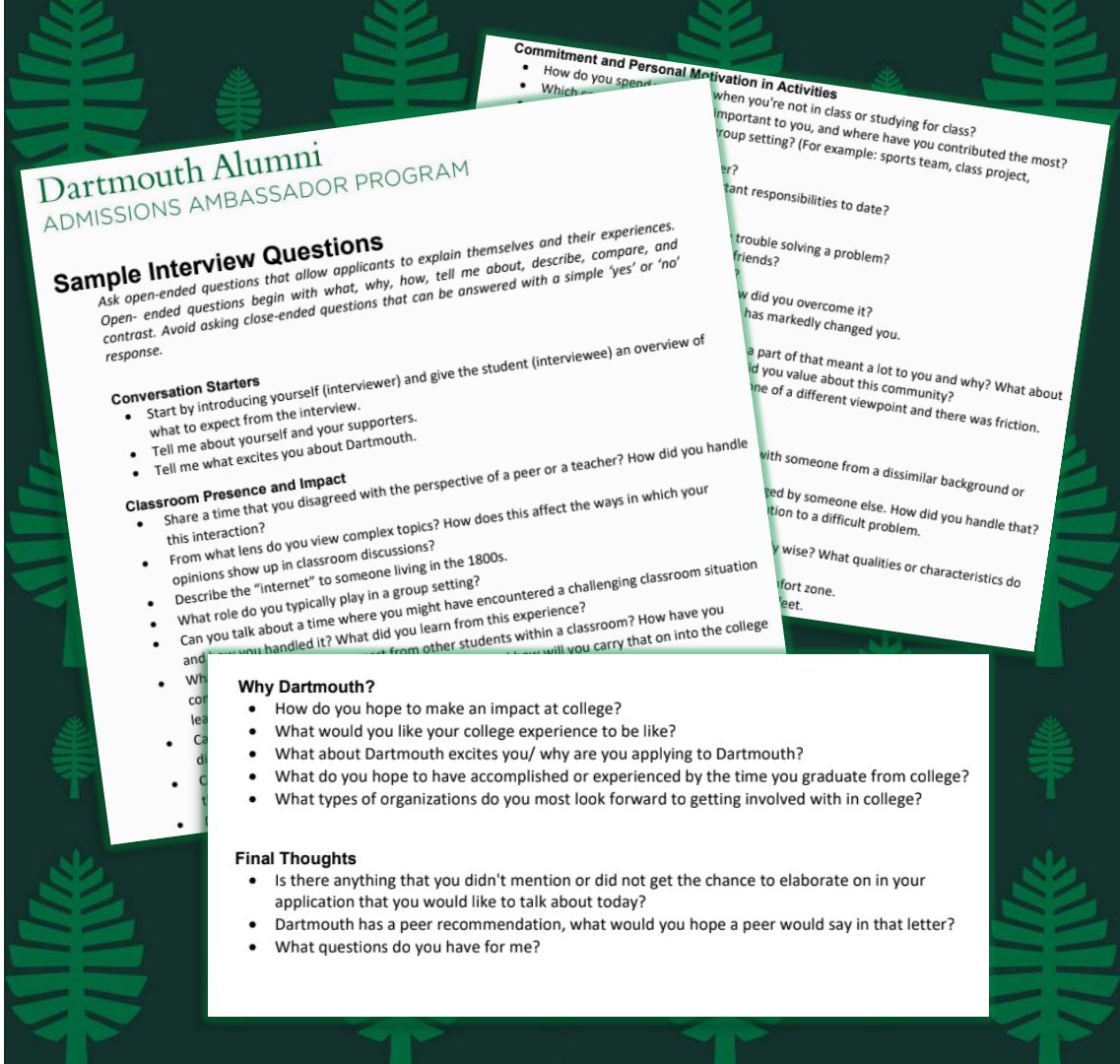
- Pro-tip: Bookmark dartgo.org/login in your browser for quick access to the Portal

Step 2: Receive and confirm (or decline) interview assignments

Step 3: Contact the applicant as soon as possible to coordinate the time and method (virtual/in-person) of interviewing

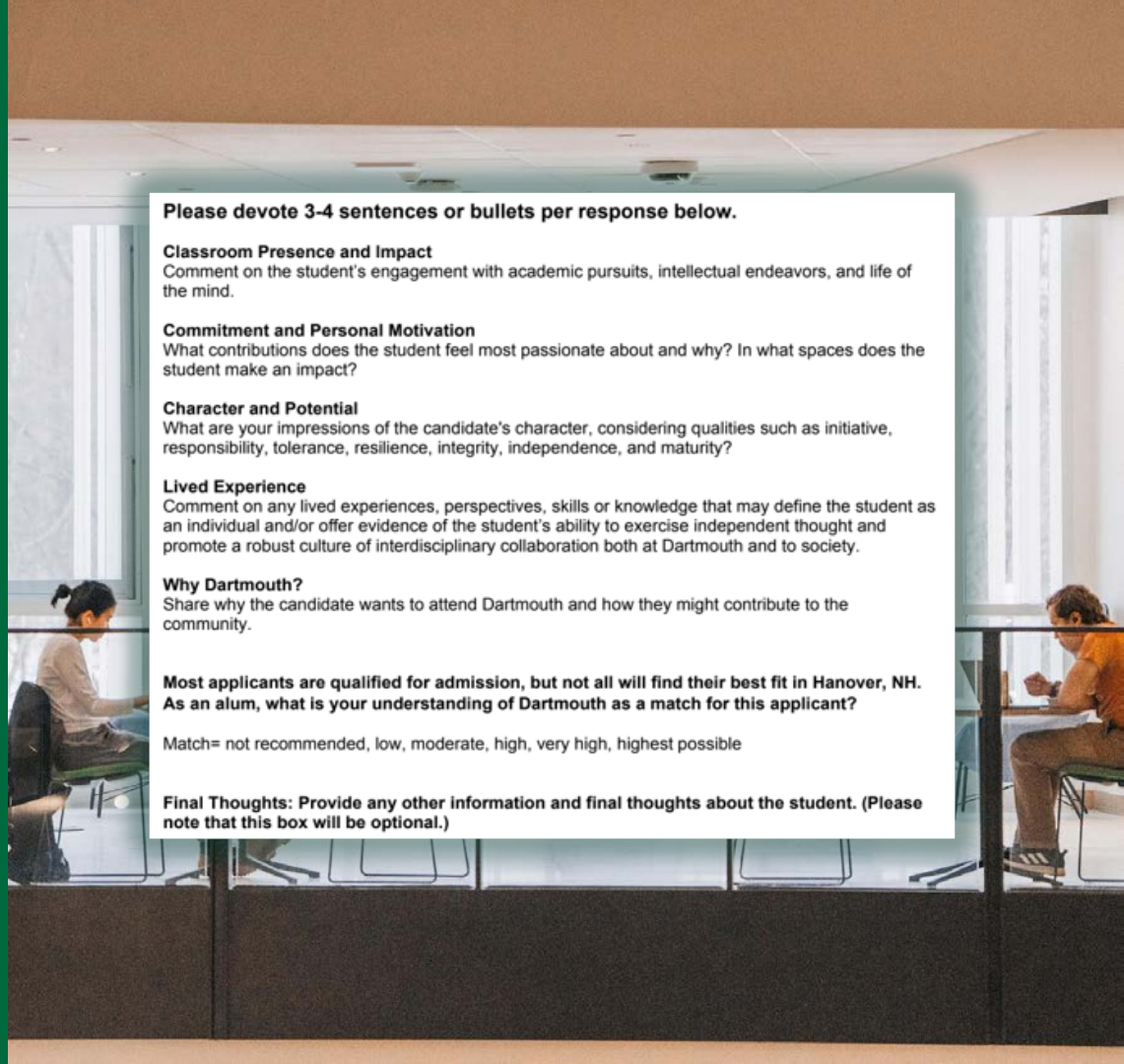
Step 4: Review the Interview Report Form and Sample Interview Questions

- Pro-tip: Check out the Interviewer Toolkit linked in My Resources to learn more



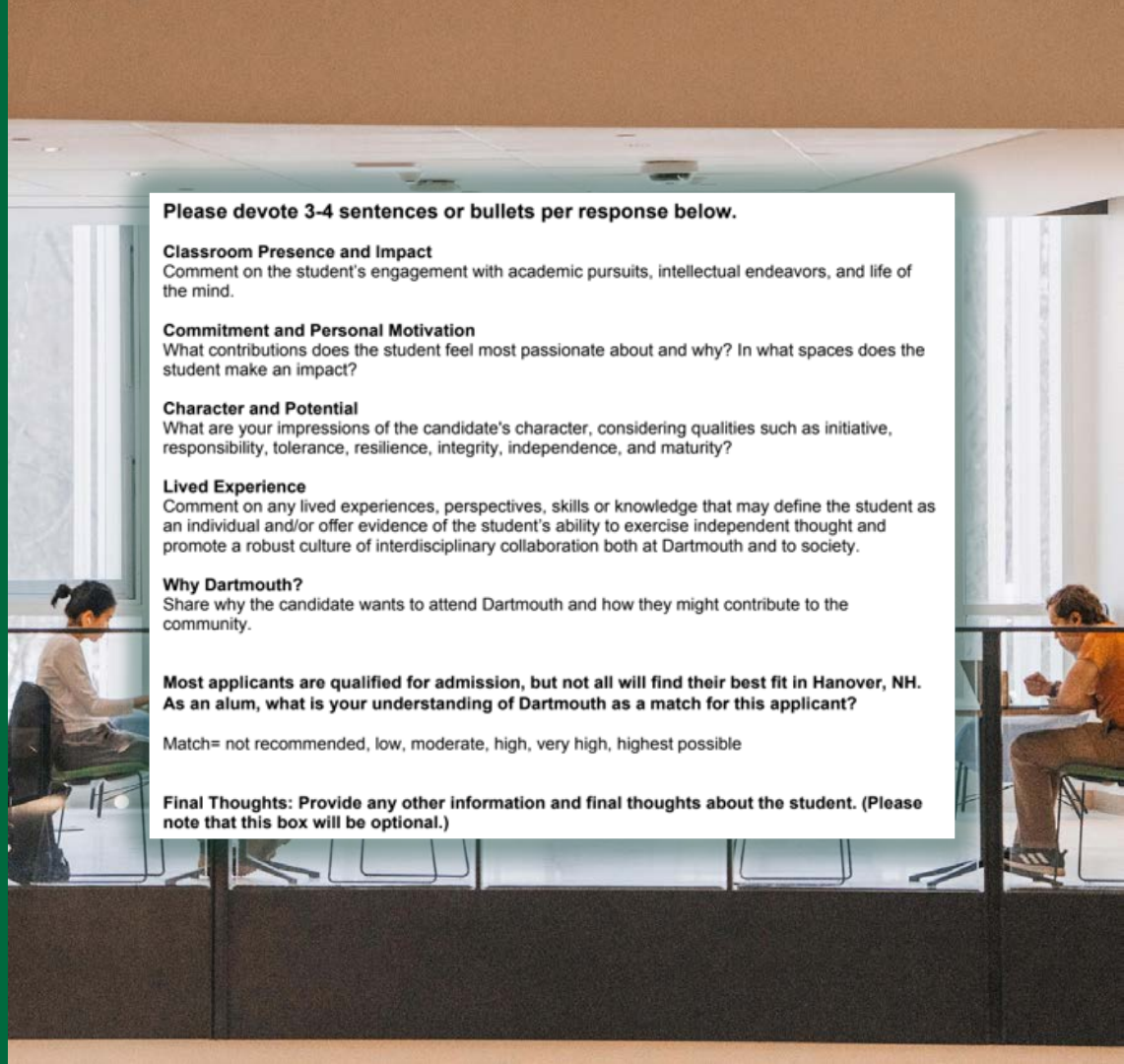
Interview Dos

- Make the student comfortable (you are an ally)
- Keep it conversational
- Ask open-ended questions
- Say "tell me more"
- Ask for stories or examples
- Let the student tell their story
- Report what the student says rather than how you interpret it



Interview Dos

- Make the student feel good about the interview, regardless of your rec
- Share what you learn; it's okay to leave boxes blank
- Let us know if the student is unresponsive or declines the interview



Interview Don’ts

- Don't conduct interviews in your home (this is REALLY important)
- Don't ask questions about race and ethnicity based on appearance (or for any reason at all)
- Don’t comment on identity, race or gender of applicant in the interview or in your report
- Don't compare Dartmouth with other schools or ask where else they are applying





Class of 2031 Interview Report Form

PLEASE NOTE: There is NO auto-save feature in Slate. We recommend composing and saving your interview report in a separate document and then transferring that text into this form. If you want to save your progress in the Slate portal, you must click on the Save button at the bottom of this form. Remember: saving your form does not submit it. When you are done, please click the Submit button. Thank you!

Applicant's First Name
Pippi

Applicant's Last Name
Longstockings

Interviewer's Name

Interview conducted?
Yes

Where was the interview held?
Virtual/Phone Interview

Date of interview.

October 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Please devote 3-4 sentences or bullets per response below.

1. Classroom Presence and Impact

Comment on the student's engagement with academic pursuits, intellectual endeavors, and life of the mind.

2. Commitment and Personal Motivation

What contributions does the student feel most passionate about and why? In what spaces does the student make an impact?

3. Character and Potential

What are your impressions of the candidate's character, considering qualities such as initiative, responsibility, tolerance, resilience, integrity, independence, and maturity?

4. Lived Experience

Comment on any lived experiences, perspectives, skills or knowledge that may define the student as an individual and/or offer evidence of the student's ability to exercise independent thought and promote a robust culture of interdisciplinary collaboration both at Dartmouth and to society.

5. Why Dartmouth?

Share why the candidate wants to attend Dartmouth and how they might contribute to the community.

6. Most applicants are qualified for admission, but not all will find their best fit in Hanover, NH. As an alum, what is your understanding of Dartmouth as a match for this applicant?

High

Optional Final Thoughts

Provide any other information and final thoughts about the student.

Submit | Save For Later | Cancel

Interview Don'ts

- Don't ask questions about test scores, GPA, grades, class rank, etc.
- Don't give false hope or discourage an applicant
- Don't make assumptions or hypothesize about a student's academic preparation for Dartmouth
- Don't interview in pairs





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After the Interview

Don’t stress! Feel free to write in narrative form or in a bulleted list.

An effective report brings the applicant’s interests to life and offers context beyond what Admissions might see in the application.

Try to submit the report on your Slate Portal shortly after the interview.

You are encouraged to congratulate applicants who are admitted!



Additional Resources

For a comprehensive list, log in to the Slate Portal and click the “My Resources” tab

Admissions Beat Podcast

Connect With a Student

People Places Pines

We appreciate your time, effort, and dedicated service to Dartmouth

