

KEY TO RATINGS

INITIAL RATING

- 1+, outstanding student all around
- 1, strong student all around
- 1-, strong student but with some minor deficiencies, or good all around student
- 2+, weaker student these are not usually sent to committee to review
- 3, automatic reject

COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REVIEW

- I= Interview
- D=Discuss in committee
- R=Reject without interview

INTERVIEWER RATING

- 5= Truly Outstanding Applicant, equivalent to Superior DBBS Students
- 4= Above Average Applicant, equivalent to top 11-50% of DBBS Students
- 3= Average Applicant, equivalent to lower 50% of DBBS Students
- 2=Below Average Applicant, can be successful in program but may experience complications
- 1=Do Not Accept

Below are more expansive definitions by current admissions committee members of the rankings for interviewed applicants. These are meant to help serve as a guide.

5 = Truly outstanding applicant

- The applicant has a strong research background, shows insights, and asks good questions.
- The applicant seems to possess the internal motivation and intellectual independence required of a successful graduate student.
- A student who will be a standout in your lab in all respects (creative scientist, independent worker, role model for others, lab leader).
- These students have already demonstrated strong potential for independent research, and will likely succeed in any program.
- The interview should be engaging and make you wish the student were already in your lab.

4 = Above average applicant

- The applicant may have minor deficiencies in background but seems capable of executing a successful graduate career.
- A student with solid research experience with clear signs of research potential. Some of these students will develop into our best students.

3= Average applicant

- Applicant has limited questions regarding the interviewer's research and shows limited insight into what it takes to be a successful graduate student.
- The applicant may have previous lab experience, but the applicant has difficulty describing the work. Strong reservations about acceptance. A student with limited research experience and only glimmers of research potential. Demonstration of independent research ability or creative scientific thought may or may not be present in the interview setting.

2 = Below Average

- A student with limited research experience but no clear evidence for research potential. Does not follow basic discussion of research in interview setting.
- Applicant is unlikely to succeed in our program.

1 = Do not Accept

- Applicant is unlikely to succeed in our program.