Applicant: Dog: Date of Interview: Interviewer:

*(Feel free to read this statement as you begin)* **The adoption interview process is important for two reasons. It helps us determine if an applicant will be approved to adopt from the rescue, and it also helps us determine if the dog they’ve applied for is the right match for that home. Our goal is to be open and honest in an effort to give us the best chance of making a successful match, and we ask that applicants do the same.**

1) Tell me more about why you are interested in adopting a dog at this time? Why a Chinese Crested/this dog in particular?

2) Are you familiar with the Chinese Crested breed (or whatever breed they’re applying for.) *The application asks if they’ve owned a Chinese Crested before. If not, hopefully they’ve done some research.*

* If you’ve owned one, tell me what you’ve observed about the breed temperament and requirements for care.
* If no, have you researched the breed? Tell me what you’ve learned.

3) When you think about the dog that would be a good match for your home—for your family, for your other pets, for your lifestyle-- what personality characteristics are you looking for in your next dog?

4) Tell me about your typical daily routine with the dog. (Feeding, exercise/play, walks, yard time).

Feeding your dogs: (Free feed, how many times a day, what do you feed?)

How often do you walk your dog(s)? How far?

Where do your dogs sleep?

What do you do with the dog when you’re at work or away from the home?

What’s your routine on the weekends or days off work?

5) Tell me a little more about your social life. How often do you go out?

How often do you have visitors or guests at your home?

Do you live in a “dog friendly” neighborhood?

6) What will you do as far as bathroom duties? Do you have a fenced yard? Tie out?

What are the arrangements for bathroom duties for the dog while you are at work (if the applicant works full time)?

7) What is your strategy for house training?

How would you react if the dog had accidents in the house? How would your spouse react?

8) Do you have children? How old are they and how would they be with a small dog?

If you do not have children of your own, are there children that visit your home (friends, family, neighbors, etc.)? How old are they and how would they be with a small dog?

9) Tell me about your other pet(s). (Age, activity level, personality)

How do you feel your other dogs (pets) would react to a new dog coming into the home?

10) What experience do you have dealing with behavior challenges with a dog? (Describe)

If a behavior problem arose would you contact a trainer or behaviorist for help with the dog? If not why? If yes are there any training methods that you would specifically use or avoid?

What behavioral challenges are you NOT prepared to address, even with a trainer?

11) What experience do you have dealing with health challenges with a dog? (Describe.)

12) How often do you travel? What will you do with the dog when you travel?

13) Discuss: ***Bald is Beautiful believes that adoption is a life-long commitment to the dog.*** If approved, are you willing and able to provide a lifelong home and care to the dog?

14) **Optional Questions:** These are questions I’ve added depending on how the person is answering other questions, or if I’m concerned about their expectations or any particular issues with a dog.

* *If you’re concerned the applicant might have unreasonable expectations for a dog, or be overconfident, with attitude that “this is easy,” you can ask them:* Describe what you think is typical/reasonable to experience during a dog’s adjustment period into a forever home. If you saw concerning behaviors in the beginning, how would you respond?
* *If an applicant is strongly mourning a dog that has died, and looking to adopt another dog to fill that void, you can ask them:* Of course, any new dog you adopt will be different from “Fido,” but tell me… what are some qualities that “Fido” had that you hope your next dog will also have? What’s something about “Fido’s” personality/behavior that you wouldn’t mind being different in your next dog? *This can help bring up the conversation that any new dog will have its own personality and will NOT be the same as the last dog.*

(15) What questions do you have for me?

Other Comments: