

Preparing for Interviews – College & Career Fair Edition

Education

What education would I need for your career?

What different careers can you have at your workplace with a...

- High school diploma?
- Industry certification from a 2-year college?
- 2-year Associate's degree?
- 4-year Bachelor's degree?
- Master's degree?
- Doctorate degree?

What should I major in if I want to be in this field/industry?

What skills or technical training would be helpful to have in your line of work?

How/when did you know you wanted this to be your career path?

Did you have any experiences in high school or college (like an internship/apprenticeship) that helped you choose this career?

Soft Skills

What does your employer look for when hiring?

What advice do you have for a high school student to get into this field in the future? What should I be doing now to be where you are?

Do you offer part-time jobs, summer internships for high schoolers, or internships for college students?

What does a typical day look like for you?

What is the hardest or most challenging part of your career? What do you enjoy most about your career?

Are there opportunities for promotions in your company?

Common Interview Questions (College)

- Why come to this school?
- Did you get what you wanted out of high school?
- How did you contribute to your high school?
- What do you do in leisure time?
- What do you like to read?
- What are your plans after postsecondary school?
- How will our school help you with these plans?
- Are your grades and test scores an accurate indication of your abilities?
- How would you describe yourself?
- How would people describe you?
- What do you do in the summer?
- What is your family like?

Common *Post-Interview* Questions (College)

Hot Tip: ALWAYS ask questions after an interview!

- What is special about your school?
- How is your school different from any other school?
- Which departments are strong and why?
- Do you graduates find jobs? Do you help them find jobs? With whom do they find jobs?
- If I am undecided concerning my major, what help will I be able to get?
- What matters socially to your students?
- How current is your technology?
- If my academic record is acceptable to your school, what personal qualities are you looking for?
- What are your research opportunities?
- How would you evaluate my school report?
- Would I be acceptable?
- Should I apply?

Common Interview Questions (Employment)

- What are your weaknesses?
- Describe yourself in three words?
- What has been your greatest achievement?
- What are your strengths?
- Describe a time when you have failed?
- Why should we choose you for this role?
- Why did you apply for this job?
- How will you contribute to the team?
- Describe a situation where you have gone above and beyond?
- Describe a project you have handled?
- What attracted you to this company?
- How would your friends describe you?
- Describe a situation where you have had others follow your lead?
- Name a time where you have worked under pressure?
- What attributes do you have that will support you in this role?

Common Post-Interview Questions (Employment)

Hot Tip: ALWAYS ask questions after an interview!

- What's the next step in the interview/hiring process?
- How long does your recruitment process usually take?
- What are the primary responsibilities of the position?
- What would my day-to-day routine look like if I got the job?
- What can you tell me about the job apart from what was in the description?
- What would I be expected to accomplish in my first month/year on the job?
- What is the key to succeeding in this role?
- What does it look like during the busiest and toughest times for this role?
- Would I need to travel for the position?
- What kind of hours are expected for me to perform the role at maximum capacity?
- Is overtime expected and/or allowed?
- Could you tell me a little bit about the person I would report to directly?
- What is the onboarding process like for new hires?
- How many people will I be working with?
- If I were hired for the position, what would be the ideal starting date?
- Do you expect the responsibilities for this role to change in the near future?