

Career Services – College of Natural Sciences

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Sample Interview Questions

This is a broad list of questions you might be asked in a basic, behavioral interview. These are usually either the questions you are asked in preliminary interviews or the first half of a lengthier session. Take time to go through the questions and see if you can jot down a couple of notes for each one, perhaps a story when appropriate. Remember to use the STAR method (Situation, Task, Action, Result) when answering questions that ask for an example.

General Questions

- 1. Tell me about yourself.
- 2. Why did you apply for this opportunity?
- 3. Why do you want this job?
- 4. What is your greatest strength?
- 5. What is your greatest weakness?
- 6. Are your grades a strong representation of your ability to perform in the workplace?
- 7. Why did you choose your major?
- 8. Do you plan on pursuing a graduate degree?
- 9. Where do you see yourself in five years?
- 10. Whom do you admire and why?
- 11. Provide five adjectives that best describe you.
- 12. How would your friends describe you?
- 13. If I were to review your Facebook account or complete a Google search of you, would I find any inappropriate content?
- 14. What type of work environment do you prefer?
- 15. What type of management style do you prefer?
- 16. How would you describe your ideal job?
- 17. What type of team allows you to thrive professionally?
- 18. How do you establish credibility with someone your own age or older?
- 19. If I were to speak with your supervisor at _____, what would be the best things he/she would tell me about you? What would be an area of improvement he/she would share?
- 20. What publications and social media do you review on a daily basis for news updates?
- 21. If you could choose one thing to do over again, what would you choose and why?

Behavioral Questions

- 1. When plans do not go your way, how do you handle it?
- 2. Describe a situation that required you to work with a difficult individual.
- 3. How would you respond to a customer question when you are unsure of the answer?
- 4. Provide an example of your leadership skills.
- 5. What have you done to build strong teams?





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- 6. Describe a time when you went above and beyond the call of duty.
- 7. Provide an example of a time when you offered a solution to a difficult problem.
- 8. When have you had competing demands on your time and how did you handle them?
- 9. How have you handled a difficult working relationship?
- 10. Name a particularly demanding goal that you have achieved.
- 11. What personal traits make you stand out for this role?
- 12. Tell me about an accomplishment for which you feel a tremendous sense of pride.
- 13. Describe your problem-solving approach.

Company-Specific Questions

- 1. Why should we hire you for this position?
- 2. What is the mission of our organization and who are our clients/customers?
- 3. Describe our organization's culture.
- 4. Are you willing to commit to our organization for two years?
- 5. What would you do during your first week to stand out?
- 6. Do you have to believe in a product to sell it?
- 7. When you prepared your application, what was one area that concerned you?
- 8. How do you feel about sacrificing your personal life for the demands of this position?
- 9. Are you open to travel? Are you open to relocation? What are your top 3 cities?
- 10. What is your minimum salary requirement for this position?
- 11. What challenges do you think our firm/organization/company faces?
- 12. On a scale of 1-10, rate how qualified you are for this opportunity.
- 13. Do you have any questions for me?