

Interview Questions

Review and answer these questions to prepare for interviews.

Career Management

- Why do you think you'd be a good fit for this position? (One-minute elevator pitch)
- Why do you want to work at XX company? (Elevator pitch mixed with company mission)
- What do you believe is your greatest professional strength and weakness? (Avoid picking a character flaw; choose an area where you know a little bit and are eager to learn more.)
- Tell us about a time when you collaborated with others to achieve a goal.
- What are your short-range and long-range career objectives? Or, what is your five-year plan? (Don't say anything that indicates that you are a short-timer at the company.)

Communication

- Tell me a little bit about your _____ experience (e.g., following procedures/running experiments/working with the public/timber cruising). Go through the job description and highlight all the skills the organization wants and formulate a question around them. Practice answering each, especially about weaknesses you have. Anticipate in advance how to highlight your positive aspects.
- Tell me about a time when a project or task was successful because of your communication.
- Tell me about the last presentation you conducted.
- Tell me about a time you needed to tailor your message to an audience.

Teamwork/Collaboration

- Tell me about a time when you realized in the middle of a project that things were not going as planned. What did you do?
- Tell me about a time when you had a disagreement with a team member or coworker and how you resolved it.

Leadership

- Give me an example of a time when you motivated other people under challenging circumstances.
- Describe a situation where you used persuasion to convince someone to see things another way.
- Tell us about a time you led a project or group of people.

Professionalism/Productivity

- Tell me about a time when you failed to achieve the stated objective/goal in a work or educational situation.
- Tell me about a time when you completed a project with minimal direction.
- Give me an example of an important goal you had to set, and tell me about your progress in reaching that goal.
- Tell me about a time when you had to go beyond the call of duty to get a job done.

Education/Goals

- How or why did you choose your major?
- What types of campus activities have you participated in?
- How do you think you will use/apply your degree in a new job?
- What accomplishments are you most proud of?

Global/Intercultural Fluency

- Tell us about a time when you worked with people with different backgrounds or cultures than your own. What did you learn from this experience?
- Tell us about a time you intentionally went outside your comfort zone.