

BEST PRACTICES FOR INTERVIEWING

| | AVOID | TO ACHIEVE |
|-----------|---|--|
| PREPARING | unprofessional voicemail or 3rd parties awaiting potential interviewers unprofessional information social media sites rescheduling without a dire excuse getting lost and missing appointment | Record professional messages and prep all who cohabitate Clean up your social media profiles as can be first interview Make sure you can attend interview before it is scheduled Practice the route prior at the same time as scheduled interview |
| Bring | arriving late and flustered cell phone should be left OFF or in trunk of car | Arrive at least 10-min. early and check-in at least 5-min. early Give interviewer(s) your undivided attention |
| | backpack or school notebooksbeing empty handed | Carry a portfolio or folder with a pen and pad of paper for notes Be able to offer 2-3 copies of your resume & reference page |
| ATTIRE | patterns or bright colors too dressy or too casual revealing attire or attire that advertises | Wear solid and neutral colors dress one level above what might wear to work at that job Choose professional appropriate attire that matches the organization |
| RESPONSES | giving short 1-word cliché responses not having an interview strategy criticizing a previous employer | Demonstrate with ESR responses: Examples, Specifics, and Results Practice the most common interview questions Keep responses positive and about your own skills and performance |
| QUESTIONS | lacking knowledge of organization about salary and benefits promotion or raise schedule | Research company and have at least 3 questions prepared Ask how they have recognized employees in the past Ask what would be best for you to accomplish as new employee |
| | why questions puts people on defensive about competition-should know from research about getting an office or special supplies | Ask what they like about their job or organization Ask about the culture of the organization Ask about opportunities to collaborate in teams |
| BEHAVIOR | hunching over or minimizing weak handshakes or eye contact voice issues (timid, monotone, speedy, "ums") apathetic or negative attitude | Demonstrate self-confidence with posture and body language Offer a firm handshake and appropriate eye contact without staring Enunciate words and use a steady pace & voice with normal intonation Demonstrate a positive attitude with a smile |
| AFTER | annoying or stalking | Send a short but positive-sounding thank-you note |



MOST COMMON INTERVIEW QUESTIONS



| Know your rights! Are these interview questions legal? | LEGAL | ILLEGAL |
|---|-------|---------|
| Have you ever been arrested? | | X |
| Have you ever been convicted of a crime? | X | |
| Are you married? | | X |
| What religion are you? | | X |
| Do you have children or planning on it? | | X |
| What responsibilities could interfere with work? | X | |
| What country are you from? What is your nationality? | | X |
| Is English your first language? | | X |
| What other languages do you speak or write fluently? | X | |
| Do you have outstanding debts? Do you own property? | | X |
| Do you drink alcohol socially? | | X |
| What illegal drugs have you used in the last 6 months? | X | |
| Have you had a past drug addiction? | | X |
| Say, how old are you anyway? | | X |
| When did you graduate High School? | | X |
| What kind of discharge did you receive from the military? | | X |
| Do you have any disabilities we should know of? | | X |
| Can you perform the position without accommodation? | X | |
| Why are you seeking new employment? | X | |
| Have you ever been fired from a job? | | X |