



Interviewing Questions to Prepare

Overview

Adapted from the Student Affairs BU GSDM “Interviewing Strategies” guide.

Review the following questions to prepare possible answers for interviews. When responding, provide an example to illustrate your point if asked to elaborate. Also, remember to prepare a few questions for the employer: feel free to adapt some of the questions below but tailor them appropriately to the interviewer to find out more about the expectations for your role or to learn about culture and values of the professional community you would be joining.

Background

1. Tell us about yourself. How would you describe yourself?
2. What are the most important rewards you expect in your career?
3. What do you consider to be your greatest strengths and weaknesses?
 - a. Prepare one to three traits for each and specific examples that demonstrate how you embody the trait.
4. How do you think a friend or colleague who knows you well would describe you?
5. What motivates you to put forth your greatest effort?
6. How has your education prepared you for a career?
7. What led you to choose your current position?
8. What academic subjects did you like best? Least?
9. Do you enjoy doing research?
10. What have you learned from participation in extracurricular activities?

Goals

11. What are your long-term and short-term goals and objectives, and how are you preparing yourself to achieve them?
12. What specific goals, other than those related to your occupation, have you established for yourself for the next ten years?
13. Do you have plans for continued study?
 - a. Specialists may be asked why did you decide to pursue an advanced degree?
14. What do you see yourself doing five years from now?
15. How do you plan to achieve your career goals?
16. What do you expect to be earning in five years?
17. Which is more important to you, the money or the type of job?

Qualifications for the Role

18. Why should I hire you?
19. What sets you apart from other candidates?
20. What qualifications do you have that make you think that you will be successful?



Evaluation & Contributions

21. How do you determine or evaluate success?
22. What do you think it takes to be successful in a dental practice like ours?
23. In what ways do you think you can make a contribution to our practice?
24. What qualities should a successful dental professional possess?
25. What two or three accomplishments have given you the most satisfaction? Why?
26. In what kind of a work environment are you most comfortable?
27. How do you work under pressure?
28. Why did you decide to seek a position with this practice?
29. What two or three things are most important to you in your job?
30. What criteria are you using to evaluate the practice for which you hope to work?
31. Do you have a geographical preference? Why?
32. Are you willing to spend at least three months on a trial basis?
33. Do you see yourself living in the community in which our practice is located?
34. What major problem have you encountered and how did you deal with it?
35. What have you learned from your mistakes?