



Interviewing Tips for Students and New Grads

How to prepare:

- Research the company ahead of time — prepare, prepare, prepare!
- Re-review your resume; you should be able to speak to each item you have listed.
- Never exaggerate or pretend to have experience with something you haven't worked on.
- It's fine to acknowledge if you lack experience in a particular area but be sure to explain how you would go about learning the skill or tackling the task.
- Practice interviewing using the STAR format (Situation, Task, Action, Result). Conduct a dry run with family members and friends.
- If you need to take a moment to think about an answer, that's okay! It's perfectly fine to take your time to think about your response.
- Review common interview questions and have examples in mind to share (think back to projects you have worked on, difficult situations, accomplishments, etc.).
- Come prepared with questions to ask each interviewer — this demonstrates your interest and engagement.

Quick tips:

- Be yourself! Be authentic, upbeat and focused.
- Arrive early, relaxed and prepared.
- Silence your phone.
- Highlight your strengths with a brief 30-60 second elevator pitch that showcases your professional identity and what you bring to the table.
- Follow up with a thank you note within 24 hours of an interview.

Virtual interview tips:

- Dress professionally.
- Minimize distractions by printing out a copy of your resume to reference easily and to avoid clicking around during your interview.
- Test your technology beforehand to ensure that your camera, microphone and platform will work with your device (Zoom, Teams, Google Hangout).
- Have an appropriate background (or blur feature) and a well-lit room.
- Control the things that you can; if you have an interruption while on a video interview just acknowledge it, apologize and move on.
- Monitor body language — sit up straight and keep the camera at eye level to stay focused on the camera.