

Develop interview skills 🤝

Interview purpose

What are the interviewer's goals for this meeting?

What are your goals for this meeting?

Preparations

Questions you should be prepared for

- Why are you interested in this position?
- What experience do you have?
- How much time can you spend in the lab? When are you able to start?
- What are your goals?

Questions should you consider asking

- What type of projects are available? What type of projects are other undergraduates in the lab working on?
- What would my responsibilities be?
- What kind of commitment do you expect? (Hours/week, flexibility, weekends/nights)
- Who will I be working with / who will be my mentor?
- What skills or knowledge will I need to have beforehand?
- What skills or knowledge will I be learning?
- Would I have the opportunity to do (If you have particular goals — but be realistic about your expectations)
- Is this a paid position? / Is there potential to do an independent project and/or get academic credit?
- Have undergraduates attended or presented at conferences or workshops?

Next steps

1. Practice - have a friend ask you the questions should be prepared to answer.
2. Don't stress. Academic interviews are usually quite casual, and faculty are eager to tell you about their work.

Tell/know list

Things I want to tell the interviewer by the end of the interview

(E.g., your relevant training, skills and experiences, your motivations and goals)

Things I want to know by the end of the interview

(E.g., expectations for the research assistant, what the role will be like)