

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Career
Development
Center

SIUE CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER

MOST COMMON TYPES OF INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

STANDARD QUESTIONS: The standard interview question is intended to solicit information based upon self-reported characteristics.

BEHAVIOR BASED QUESTIONS: The questions are designed to require a person to provide an anecdote from past experiences to prove the existence of a given skill. Follow-up questions are often asked to gain more detailed information relating to actions taken and the outcome of the situation.

STANDARD QUESTIONS

- Would you tell me about yourself?
- How did you choose your university and particular field of study?
- What is your greatest strength?
- What is your greatest weakness?
- What qualities would you expect in a supervisor?
- What motivates you to put forth your greatest effort? Why is diversity important in a workplace?
- What is your philosophy of life?
- How would you define success?
- What are your career goals? (Where do you see yourself in five years? In 10 years?)
- Why should I hire you?

BEHAVIOR BASED

- What do you feel have been your most significant school-/work-related accomplishments in the past year?
- Can you give me an instance when you felt most pressured and stressed in your school/work? How did you handle it? What was the outcome?
- Can you tell me about a time you were most persuasive in overcoming resistance to your ideas or point of view. What was the result?
- Can you describe the most valuable criticism you have received and what you did with it?
- Can you give an example of a project/situation that demanded attention to detail? How did you handle the details?
- Can you provide examples of when you had to collaborate or work with diverse individuals?
- Can you tell me about the last time you felt anger on the job? How did you deal with it?
- Can you tell me about an event that really challenged you?
- Can you tell me about the most difficult or frustrating person with whom you have worked? What did you do to cope/deal with that person?

Practice, Practice, Practice!

Make an appointment with a Career Counselor to practice your interviewing skills and responses to these common questions!