

MOCK INTERVIEWS

Used along with the Cancer and Careers Interview Cheat Sheet, these essential interview questions will help you get ready for what you might be asked in an interview. Remember the best way to prepare for an interview is to practice, practice, practice! Set up times with your friends, family or social worker to hold mock interviews, this will allow you to get more comfortable hearing and answering these questions out loud. Additional job search and interview tips can be found at CancerandCareers.org.

FOR THE MOCK INTERVIEWER:

Pick and choose from this list to help the interviewee get a feeling for answering these questions out loud. Don't just ask them in order, and be sure to listen to the answers and ask follow up questions. Remember, to be the most helpful, you want to imagine yourself as someone hiring for a specific job and truly assessing a candidate based on their answers to these questions. Also, it is hard for the person answering the questions to remember what they said so be sure to write down anything that would be useful for them to know (be it something you thought was really strong or really weak) after your practice session.

FOR THE MOCK INTERVIEWEE:

Prepare answers to these questions and come up with as many real examples as you can. To start, try using the Cancer and Careers Interview Cheat Sheet and then see what else you need to think about after you have filled that in. To make it as authentic as possible tell your mock interviewer what kind of job you are applying for, what level and anything else you want them to know in order to get into the character of a prospective employer for you.

THE QUESTIONS:

- ▷ Tell me about yourself.
- ▷ Why did you leave your last job?
- ▷ Why should we hire you?
- ▷ Can you work under pressure, deadlines?
- ▷ What are your most significant accomplishments in your present or last job?
- ▷ What is your primary strength?
- ▷ What is your primary weakness?
- ▷ What would you like to be doing five years from now?
- ▷ How do you organize and plan for major projects?
- ▷ Describe a difficult problem you've had to deal with.
- ▷ What would your current/most recent manager say about you?
- ▷ How long have you been looking for a new position?
- ▷ Have you ever been fired? If so, why were you fired?
- ▷ What is the most difficult situation you have faced at work?
- ▷ What have you done that shows initiative?
- ▷ I see there is a gap on your resume, can you tell me why and what you were doing in this time?