

Interview Rules (ages 14-18 as of Oct. 1st)

5 minute interview for rounds one and two

Each student will compete in 2 rounds of Interview. Those with the best scores will move on to finals (3rd round) which will consist of a group interview.

1. Competitors will receive the job descriptions for rounds 1 and 2 at the welcome meeting for the tournament. Those making it to finals will receive job descriptions when finals are announced.
2. The competitor will sit in a chair facing the judges for round 1 and at a table or desk facing the judges for the second round and finals.
3. The competitor may bring a notebook with notes and pen to the interview.
4. Students should consider the judges to be the interview panel for the specific position.
5. Students may not listen to other Interview competitors speaking before them as each competitor will be asked the same interview questions in the round.

Round One:

1. The first is a serious round with questions or topics chosen directly from the list below. The competitor will sit in a chair facing the judges.
2. An Interview Facilitator will be responsible for asking questions and running a timer. The timer will face the competitor with 5 minutes counting down.
3. The speech time will start when the Interview Facilitator asks the first question/topic. The facilitator will continue with additional questions/topics as time is available.
4. The competitor may finish a thought after the timer goes off.
5. Each competitor will be evaluated on the quality of his/her answers, not the number of questions/topics completed.

24 Interview Questions/Topics for Round 1

1. Can you tell me a little about yourself?
2. Tell me about your previous work or volunteer experiences.
3. How would you describe your ability to work as a team member?
4. What are you learning in your classes that will help you succeed in this position?
5. Tell me about a goal you achieved recently and how you did it.
6. What is your greatest strength?
7. What is your greatest weakness?
8. Tell me about a problem you had recently and how you solved it.
9. How would your best friend describe you?
10. Have you ever had difficulty with a supervisor or teacher? How did you handle the conflict?

11. How would you handle a situation where you made a mistake?
12. How would you handle a difficult customer or coworker?
13. What skills or strengths do you bring to this position?
14. Tell me about a situation where you demonstrated responsibility or leadership.
15. Are you comfortable working independently?
16. How do you prioritize and manage your time effectively?
17. Describe a time when you faced a challenge or setback. How did you overcome it?
18. How do you handle stress or pressure in the workplace or academic setting?
19. Tell me about one of your proudest accomplishments.
20. Tell me about a time when you made the wrong decision.
21. Give me an example of a time when you performed well under pressure.
22. Tell me about a time when you went above and beyond.
23. Where do you see yourself in five years?
24. Do you have any questions for me?

Round Two:

1. The second round will offer a creative approach. The competitor will be given a humorous scenario or job description.
2. The competitor will sit at a table or desk facing the judges and consider him/herself part of the imaginary scenario.
3. An Interview Facilitator will be responsible for running a timer. The timer will face the competitor with 5 minutes counting down.
4. The speech time will start when the Interview Facilitator asks the first question/topic. The facilitator will continue with additional questions/topics as time is available.
5. The competitor may finish a thought after the timer goes off.
6. Each competitor will be evaluated on the quality of his/her answers, not the number of questions/topics completed.

Finals:

1. Competitors will enter the tournament room at the same time.
2. Students should consider themselves candidates for the same position in a group interview with the job experience or education necessary for the position.
3. An Interview Facilitator will be responsible for asking questions and running a one minute timer for each response. The timer will face the competitors.
4. Every student will have the opportunity to be the first to answer a question/topic.
5. Finals will include the same number of questions/topics as competitors.
6. The competitor may briefly finish a thought after the timer goes off.
7. Competitors should consider this a group interview and feel free to refer to other candidates' answers during the round.