

Preparing for interviews: What you need to know beforehand

You have an interview request. Great! Now what? Being prepared is crucial, whether it's over the phone, online or in person.

You should have already done some research on the company you are interviewing with. Go more in depth. Check Glassdoor for internal company reviews and interview summaries from employees. Use LinkedIn to review the company and people who work there. Read news articles and blog posts.

Be prepared to first answer [behavioral-based questions](#) that will assess your interpersonal skills. Employers place

great importance on if you match their company values on a personal level. [Character counts!](#) Questions assessing your technical skills will typically be asked later in the interview process.

It's also important to [prepare questions to ask the employer](#). This is a great opportunity to gain clarity about the position and shows that you are being thorough in making sure this is the right fit for you.

A great way to prepare for an interview is through mock interviewing. Have a friend ask you some example interview questions. Also, all UIC students have free access to [InterviewStream](#) a web-based mock interview tool.

Preparation will help increase your confidence level before interviews and increase your odds of landing an offer.



INTERVIEW PREPARATION QUICK TIPS

- Do more research on the employer
- [Review example interview questions](#)
- [Prepare questions to ask employer](#)
- Bring resumes in [padfolio](#) for notes
- [Dress business professional](#)
- Turn your phone off
- Arrive 5-10 minutes early
- Firm handshake
- Smile and use good eye-contact
- Keep answers brief
- Use examples/anecdotes
- Practice with [InterviewStream](#)
- Highlight your strengths
- At end, ask: What are our next steps?
- Follow-up thank you within 24 hrs.

EVENTS

Hanley, Flight & Zimmerman
Wednesday, Feb 13th | 11-1:30PM
SELE 3rd Floor | CompE/EE/ME
[Details & Positions](#)

Chicago Area Career Fair
Thursday, Feb. 16th | 11AM – 2PM
Tinley Park Convention Center
[Details and Employers attending](#)

The Entrepreneurial Engineer
Thursday Feb. 23rd | 5 – 6:30 PM
SEO 1000 (10th Floor) | All majors
[Details & RSVP Info](#)

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Employers review profiles often
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[Career Advice from the Experts](#)

We have hand-selected recent articles with career development advice to help you prepare for your future career in engineering.

Featured articles this week: Interview preparation

- [How to answer the 10 most common interview questions](#)
- [These are the biggest mistakes people make during interviews](#)
- [6 interview tips that will leave them wanting more](#)

Engineering Career Center

816/818/820 – SEO

[Walk-in Hours](#)

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- Resume and cover letter reviews
- Interview preparation
- Salary and job offer negotiation
- Internship & full-time job search strategies
- Career Fair preparation (Elevator speech)
- Professional etiquette
- Networking & LinkedIn tips
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