

## Interviewing: Providing great answers to their questions

We cannot prepare for every question that we will be asked during interviews, but we can prepare to have a great response, even if we do not have the answer.

Hiring personnel appreciate answers that provide examples and help explain how you would be able to handle similar situations in their work environment.

A great tool for answering questions is the [STAR Method](#), where you address the *Situation*, identify *Tasks*, state *Action* you took and describe *Results*. The STAR Method helps you walk the interviewer through your answer by providing a brief, relatable story from start to finish.



One question you might encounter is "Tell me about a time when you failed." Choose a situation where you learned something from your failure and apply it using the [STAR Method](#).

By [turning your answer into a brief story](#), you make your answer more memorable

and help yourself to stand out from the other candidates in a positive way.

If you find yourself not having an answer to their question, refrain from saying "I don't know," without providing details to how you would handle the situation without knowing the answer. If you do not know the answer, how would you find it, or how would you respond?

The most important approach is to be honest and be prepared to provide good examples to your answers.

**Interviewing Advice From Career Development Professionals**  
Before | During | After

### Get Career-Ready @ [ecc.uic.edu](http://ecc.uic.edu)

Career Advice | Upcoming Events | [UICcareers.com](http://UICcareers.com)  
This Week Archives | Industry Links | CPT paperwork

### CAREER TOOLBOX

Resume | Cover Letter | Searching | Networking  
Following Up | Interviewing | Negotiating Offers



### Apply for the HACU National Internship Program

Spring & Summer opportunities available  
Deadline for both sessions is October 27th

### EVENTS

#### Group Resume Reviews

Mondays 3-4PM & Fridays 12-1PM  
ECC - SEO 822  
[Resume Review Session Info](#)

#### LinkedIn Workshops

Every Tuesday | 3-4PM  
ECC - SEO 822  
[LinkedIn Workshop Info](#)

#### Schneider Info Session

Tues. Oct. 17th | 5 – 6:30 PM  
SEO 1000 | Major: IE grad students  
[Event Details](#)

#### Northern Trust Info Session

Wed. Oct. 11th | 11AM – 1:30PM  
CS Lounge | Major: CS undergrads  
[Event Details](#)

#### SASE: STEM Career Fair

Sat. Oct. 14th | 10AM – 4PM  
FREE | Renaissance Schaumburg  
[Event Details](#)

#### Olenick Pop-Up

Wed. Oct. 18th | 10AM – 2PM  
CS Lounge | Major: CS  
[Event Details: Apply Online](#)

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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: Interviewing

- [Tough job interview questions and answers](#)
- [Situational interview questions and answers](#)
- [Answering behavioral interview questions: Handling conflict](#)

### Engineering Career Center

816/818/820 – SEO

**Walk-in Hours**

Tuesday – Thursday | 12 – 4PM

#### Services Offered

- Individual career coaching
- 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
- Career related workshops

### NOW HIRING: Featured Employers

Companies with postings on UICcareers

