



CAREER CENTER

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Sample Grad School Interview Questions

- Tell me about yourself.
- What factors influenced you to go to graduate school?
- Why are you interested in our graduate program?
- What skills and personal characteristics make you a good candidate for this graduate program?
- What do you hope to gain from our graduate program?
- How do you see this program fitting into your career goals?
- What is your greatest strength? What is one of your weaknesses?
- What are your goals for the next five years? 10 years?
- How do you feel your undergraduate studies have prepared you for this program?
- Describe your past work/volunteer experiences and how what you have learned from them will help you in graduate school.
- Describe your past research experiences and how they will help you in graduate school.
- What recent professional articles or books have you read?
- What problems do you expect to face while attending graduate school? How will you handle these?
- What contributions do you plan to make to the field?
- What do you believe to be the major trends in your intended career field at this time?
- What do you think about _____ (current event)?
- What do you think is the most important development in the field over the past 25 years, and why?
- We are looking at many other candidates for this graduate program; what sets you apart from the other candidates?
- What do you do in your spare time? Do you have any hobbies or outside interests?
- Tell me about a major accomplishment and how you achieved it.
- Give an example of an ethical dilemma you faced and explain how you resolved it.
- Tell me about a situation in which you took initiative.
- Tell me about a time you assumed a leadership role.
- Tell me how you handle stress.
- Tell me about a time you had a number of assignments due. How did you make sure you completed all of them on time and did a good job?
- Tell me about a time you were confronted by a fellow student, co-worker, or a customer. How did you handle it to resolve the conflict?