

MOCK INTERVIEW WITH
EMPLOYERS

STUDENT GUIDE

(For the Academic Year 2020 – 2021)

Welcome

Thank you for registering for Mock Interviews with Employers. This event is a short-simulated interview between you, a peer and an industry professional. You will have an opportunity to be interviewed by a professional with hiring experience, followed by personalized feedback to strengthen your interview skills. The event includes interview coaching with Career Exploration & Education staff and time to network with the employers.

Within this package, you will find detailed information to help you prepare for the event. Please read it carefully and contact the Career Exploration & Education team if you have any questions.

All the best!

events@careers.utoronto.ca

Benefit to you:

- Practice your interviewing skills and receive feedback from industry professionals with hiring experience
- Learn more about the interview process and strategies to present yourself as the best candidate
- Hone your networking skills

Event logistics

Duration	Activity
15 minutes	Registration: Registration will be done via Zoom. During this time, while in the virtual lobby, please replace your Zoom username, to your First and Last Name, as indicated on your T-Card. This is important so the employers can identify who you are. Students who have updated their username to reflect their First and Last Name, as on their T-Card, will be granted access into the main virtual meeting.
30 minutes	We promptly start! Introductions, instructions, and a brief employer presentation.
1 hour and 15 minutes	Mock Interviews with Employers (four, 15 -minute interviews including feedback) -10 minutes for the interview -5 minutes for feedback.
20 minutes	Networking and Connecting event and Feedback Survey. Please note, as this will be a virtual event. Please turn off your microphone when you are not speaking to avoid distracting background noises.

Preparing for the event

What to expect:

You will meet with industry professionals who will provide you with an authentic interview experience and insights into their industries and professions.

You will have 15 minutes with the interviewer who will ask questions and provide supportive feedback. 10 minutes will be for your interview simulation and 5 minutes for feedback. Employers have been instructed to avoid technical or industry specific questions, questions that require significant advanced preparation, or questions that require you to have professional work experience, as this event is open to all students and recent graduates of various backgrounds. Employers are encouraged to use a broad range of question types in order to help your learning and support your preparation.

How to prepare for interviews

Interview Practice:

- *Big Interview* (on clnx.utoronto.ca, under 'Resources' on the left-hand side)
- *Talking to Professionals Workshop* (Register under Events & Workshops on clnx.utoronto.ca)
- Mock Interview Practice with a Career Educator (call or email for a 1:1 appointment)

Research:

- Review the organization's website, Facebook, Twitter and/or LinkedIn profiles
- Know their mission statement and values
- What do they say about their product/service?
- Read organization reviews

Be Punctual:

- Leave extra time for unexpected events
- Ensure your technology is working correctly
- First impressions count! Arrive on time

Appearance:

- Even though this will be a virtual event, please research and wear clothing appropriate for the job and organization
- Ensure you are comfortable in what you choose to wear

You're the STAR:

Being authentic in an interview is important. Great interview stories are well connected to your experiences, not only to provide evidence, but also to highlight your unique strengths and skills. Here is a formula to help you ensure your answers remain specific, concise, and relevant:

STAR! Tell a story/what happened?

Situation: When and where did you demonstrate the skill/qualification?

Task: What was your role or task that best demonstrates the skills qualification?

Actions: What did you do?

Result: What came out of the experience?

Sample Interview answer to “Tell me about yourself”

I’m a recent graduate in the psychology program where I was able to engage in a research project studying the social determinants of health- this is where I learned about the importance of working with communities to co-build health promotion programs for their successful uptake and sustainability. I’m interested in being able to build on my current skillset in supporting effective health promotions programs at ABC organization.

Next Steps/Resources

- *LinkedIn Lab Workshop*
 - (Register under Events & Workshops on clnx.utoronto.ca)
- *Career Chat: Networking*
 - (Register under Events & Workshops on clnx.utoronto.ca)
- Sign up on [10,000 Coffees](#) to Connect with U of T Alumni