

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS COUNSELING PROGRAM

ABOUT YOU

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. What are 2 of your strengths?
3. What are 2 of your weaknesses?
4. What are three things you want to change about yourself?
5. How do you stay motivated?
6. Explain your leadership/research/volunteer experiences.
7. What extracurricular activities are you engaged in?
8. Which of your college courses interested you the most?
9. What do you do for self-care?
10. Why did you choose the undergraduate school you went to, and if you could, would you do anything differently?
11. What course was most academically challenging for you?
12. What life experiences have made you a better person?

ABOUT THE PROFESSION

1. Explain the role of a counselor.
2. What do you feel are the most important qualities in being a good counselor?
3. What steps have you taken to acquaint yourself with the role of a counselor?
4. What did you like/dislike about the counseling/mental health offices you have observed?
5. There are many specializations in counseling, which specializations are you more interested in and why?
6. Provide an example of a time that you had to make an ethical decision.

ABOUT YOUR GOALS

1. Why do you want to be a counselor?
2. When did you decide counseling was a good career choice for you?
3. What steps have you taken to confirm that you want to be counselor?
4. How will you handle the stress of counseling to avoid burnout?
5. Why do you believe you have the ability to undertake the study and work involved in this counseling program?
6. What aspects of your life experiences do you think makes you a good candidate for this program?
7. Where do you see yourself in five/ten years?
- 8.
9. What would you like to do if you were not accepted into this program?

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

1. If you were to find yourself struggling after the first semester of the program, what would the reason be?
2. What are the biggest challenges facing counseling today?
3. What schools did you apply to and why?
4. What motivates you about counseling?
5. Describe your method of learning. How does this fit with the counseling program?
6. Why should this counseling program choose you over other candidates?

CURRENT ISSUES/SCENARIOS

1. Explain a difficult situation you have encountered with someone, what you learned from it, and what you would do differently now.
2. You have a client whose English is not very clear to you, and you do not speak their language. How do you overcome the language barrier to assist them with their needs?
3. How have you/would you respond to someone who was verbally hostile towards you?
4. Describe a difficult challenge you had to help someone overcome, and how did you motivate them to overcome it?

USE THE STAR TECHNIQUE

S ituation or T ask	Describe the situation that you were in or the task that you needed to accomplish. You must describe a specific event or situation, not a generalized description of what you have done in the past. Be sure to give enough detail for the interviewer to understand. This situation can be from a previous job, from a volunteer experience, or any relevant event.
A ctions you took	Describe the action you took and be sure to keep the focus on you. Even if you are discussing a group project or effort, describe what you did — not the efforts of the team. Don't tell what you might do, tell what you did.
R esults you achieved	What happened? How did the event end? What did you accomplish? What did you learn?

Courtesy of Quintt Careers.

INTERVIEW REMINDERS & TIPS

The day before your interview:

- ✓ Review your resume, cover letter/personal statement, and requirements for opportunity/program/job.
- ✓ Research program information such as mission statement, values, current events, etc.
- ✓ Prepare a list of questions to ask interviewers.
- ✓ Plan to arrive on time for in-person interview or prepare appropriate (clean and organized) background for virtual interview.
- ✓ Lay out professional outfit.

The day of your interview:

- ✓ Dress professional
- ✓ Have copies of your resume and cover letter or personal statement ready to share.
- ✓ Arrive 15 mins early (if in-person) or join video call 5 mins early (if virtual).
- ✓ Turn off or silence your cell phone.
- ✓ Take some deep breaths.
- ✓ Rock your interview.
- ✓ Ask questions at the end and thank everyone for their time.

The day after your interview:

- ✓ Send a follow-up email thanking the interviewer(s) for their time and re-express your desire for the opportunity.

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