

SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED

Career Resources for Student Veterans

WHY SHOULD WE HIRE YOU?

INTERVIEW PREPARATION

Articulating Experience

- Be careful to **avoid military jargon, abbreviations, and implied context** when talking about your experience.
- Focus on **transferable skills connected to the position/ company**.
- Practice talking about your military experience and **what you learned**- many employers look for qualities that are difficult to learn outside of military service.
- Be prepared to talk about your **military/ work experience as well as what you've done in school**.

Before Your Interview

- **Research the company** beyond just their mission. Try to get an understanding of what they do and offer.
- **Think of good questions** to ask at the end of your interview that provide a mix of logistical information not found in research and personal experience of your interviewers.
- **Develop and practice stories about your experiences**. Many questions will all tie back to a handful of central themes. It is easier to modify a story a little than to tell a story well for the first time during an interview. (See next page for a tool you can use to prepare your stories.)

Types of Questions

Interview questions can come in many forms including

- Behavioral
- Case studies
- Opinion
- Technical
- Competency
- Competency
- Elaborate on Resume
- Random
- Brainteaser

Career and Professional Development

870 Washington Street SW | Blacksburg, VA 24061

career.vt.edu | 540-231-6241



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HIGHLIGHT YOUR SKILLS

PREPARING STORIES

Skill	Experience
Leadership	
Communication	
Teamwork	
Interpersonal Skills	
Global Perspective	
Creativity	
Problem-Solving	
Professionalism	
Productivity	
Digital Fluency	

When telling your stories, make sure to focus on your own actions (as opposed to those of the team) and provide enough detail so the interviewer can easily see the depth of your experience.

S Situation: What does the listener need to know for the story to make sense?

A Actions: What did YOU do? The majority of your story should be here.

R Results: How did it all turn out?

A Application: What did you learn? How does that apply to the job you are seeking?

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