

INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWING: Sample Questions

- How did you decide to go into [fill in blank with area of law they are in]?
- What do you think is the most enjoyable part of your job? The most challenging?
- What are the main responsibilities of your job?
- What problems do you deal with and what types of decisions do you make?
- What types of skills and traits contribute most to success in this career?
- Who are your clients? [individuals, corporate entities, the state, etc.]
- Describe the type of environment in which you practice your area of law. In what other types of environments could one find attorneys practicing your type of law?
- Describe your working conditions? [i.e., hours, autonomy, flexibility, etc.] What is a typical day like?
- Why did you decide to work for this company? Describe company culture. How is your organization similar to and different from its competitors?
- What is the most/least interesting project you've ever worked on?
- How did you originally learn about the job opening for your current position?
- What about your particular background or skills do you think got you this job?
- How does a person progress in your field? What are opportunities for advancement?
- If a student is interested in your area of law, what types of things can they be doing right now during law school to help prepare themselves? [i.e., particular classes to take, clerkship experiences, etc.]
- Do attorneys who practice in your field of law belong to any particular professional organizations? Can students join?
- What is the market like for this area of law right now? What do you foresee in the future?
- What is the most important piece of advice you would give to someone trying to enter this field?
- Would you be willing to review my resume and give your suggestions?
- Do you know of other people in this field doing similar work who I might talk to in order to gain additional insights and advice?