

SAMPLE INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Some general informational interview questions (applicable to most or all career tracks) include the following:

Background and Qualifications

- Can you tell me how you got to this position?
- What does a typical career trajectory look like in your organization?
- If you were just starting out now, what kind of work would you want to do? What would you recommend that someone in my position do to try to break into this field?
- What specific qualifications are needed for entrance into the field? How competitive are jobs in this practice area/field?

Trends and Staying Current

- What are some of the biggest challenges currently facing your industry and your organization?
- What do you read to keep up with developments in your industry? How do you see your industry changing in the next 10 years?
- Day-to-Day Aspects of the Job and Biggest Likes/Dislikes
- What is a typical day like for you?
- How has ____ differed from your expectations? What have been the best moments and the biggest challenges?
- What do you like most/least about your job?
- What are some of the most interesting matters/projects you've worked on? Does the subject matter change regularly, or do most projects focus on one particular subject area?
- How much interaction do you have with colleagues and clients?

Salary and Terms/Conditions of Employment

- What are the salary ranges for lawyers at my level? What could a more experienced lawyer expect to earn?
- What about benefits/bonuses/stock for new and experienced lawyers?

Advice on How to Find a Job and New Contacts

- What resources do you recommend that I read/watch if I want to sound credible and break into this field?
- Can you recommend any recruiters or search firms that do a good job in this arena?
- I'd love to continue my networking. Might you be willing to introduce me to 2-3 other people who would be good contacts?