

7 TIPS for INTERVIEW PREPERATION



Before Applying: Land the Interview

Tailor Your Resume & Cover Letter

- Use keywords from the job posting.
- Highlight experiences relevant to the role.
- Keep it clean, error-free, and concise.

Network Strategically

- Connect with alumni or recruiters on LinkedIn.
- Mention referrals in your application if you have them.

Apply Early

- Don't wait until the deadline.
- Follow up professionally 1 week after applying.

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Before the Interview: Get Ready

Practice Common Questions:

- "Tell me about yourself"
- "Why this role/company?"
- "What are your strengths/weaknesses?"

- Behavioral questions like "Describe a time you worked on a team."

Prepare Questions to Ask Them

- What does a typical day look like?
- What are the biggest challenges in this role?
- What opportunities are there for learning or advancement?

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Before the Interview: Get Ready

Research the Employer:

- Know what they do, their mission, and recent news.
- Understand the company culture via their website, LinkedIn, and review sites.
- Look up your interviewer if possible.

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Before the Interview: Get Ready

Match Your Skills to the Job:

- Review the job description carefully.
- Prepare examples of how your coursework, jobs, or extracurriculars meet their needs.
- Practice using the STAR method:
 - Situation
 - Task
 - Action
 - Result

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Day of the Interview: Show Up Strong

Be Early

- Arrive/log in 10-15 mins early.

Bring Essentials

- Extra resumes, notebook, pen, and portfolio if relevant.

Communicate Confidently

- Smile, keep good posture, and maintain eye contact.
- Take your time to think—don't rush.

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After the Interview: Follow Up

Send a Thank-You Email

- Within 24 hours.
- Mention something specific you enjoyed or learned.

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NMSU Career Resources

- Handshake: Job listings, workshops, and mock interview scheduling.
- Big Interview: Practice interviews and feedback tools.
- Career Services: 1:1 coaching, resume reviews, and career fairs.



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