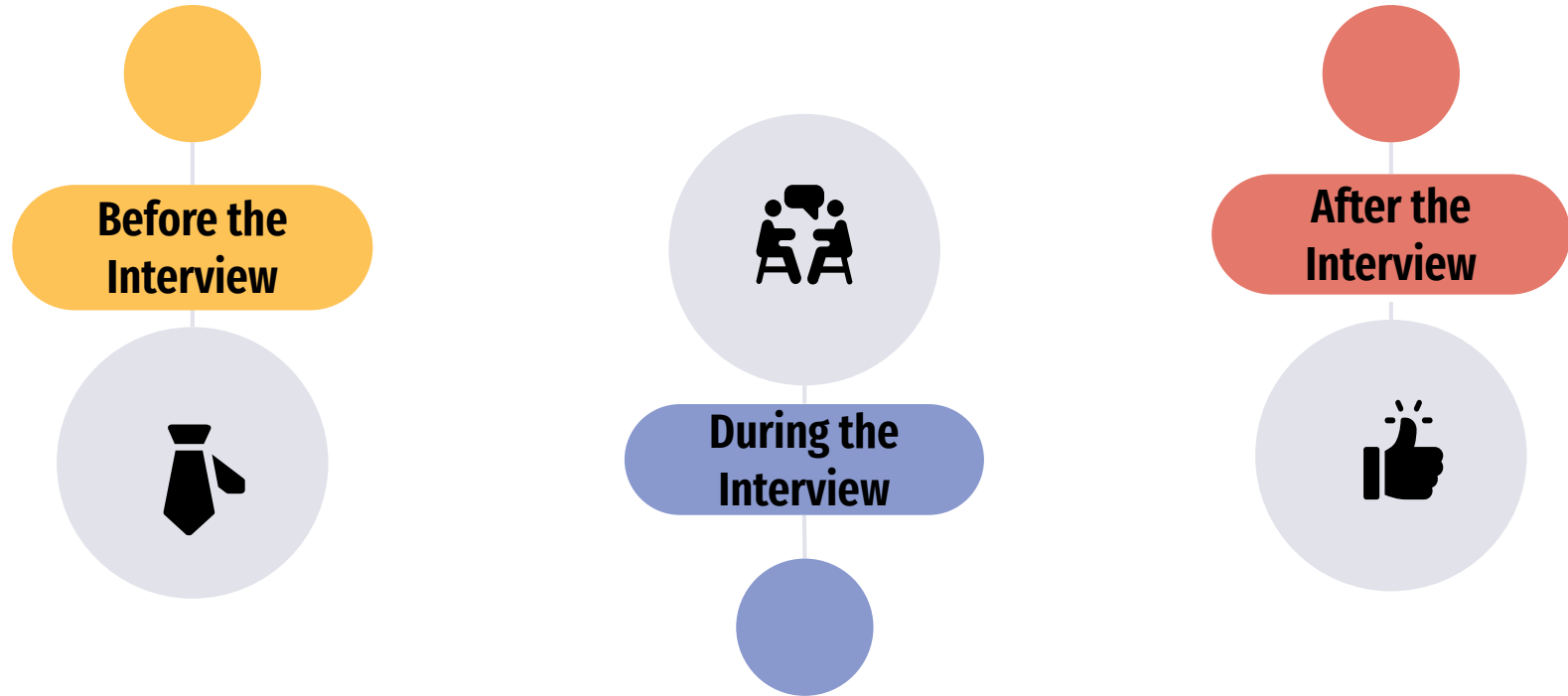


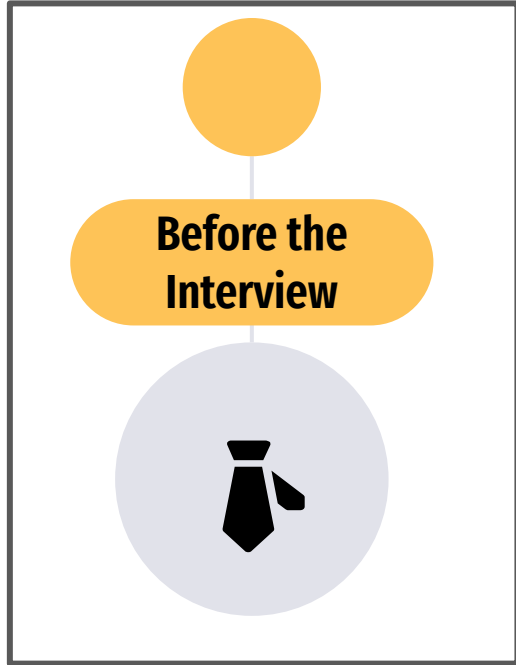
MSA Interviewing 101



MSA Interviewing Agenda



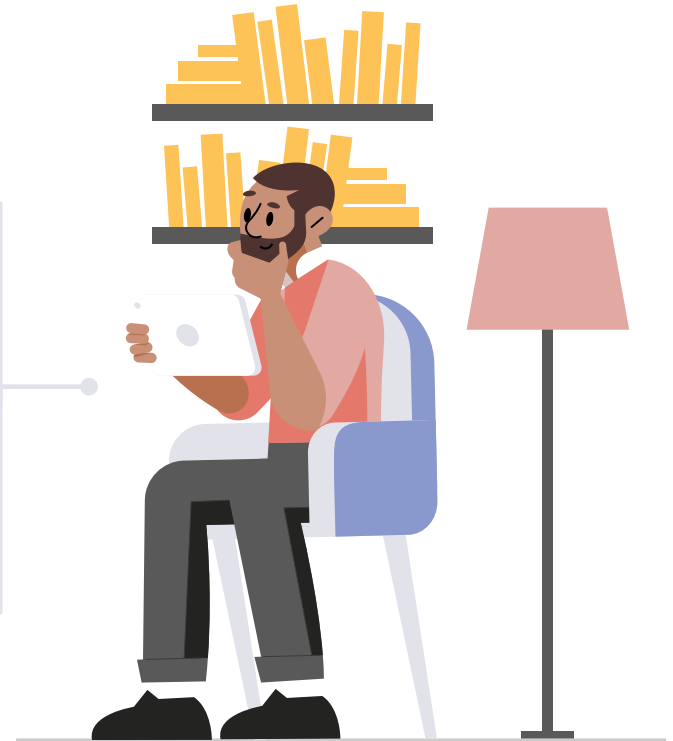
MSA Interviewing Agenda



Before Interview Prep

Strategies for Being Prepared

- 01** Study the JD (job description). Take notes on how your skills align with their needed qualifications.
- 02** Prepare stories for behavioral interview questions.
- 03** Buy a nice notebook to take notes during the interview.



Before Interview Prep: Know the Job Description

Basic Qualifications

BA or BS degree with 3 years of experience OR MA with 1 year of experience

Machine learning

Excellent presentation skills

Logistic regression

Data visualization with Tableau





Possession of excellent interpersonal skills

Additional Qualifications

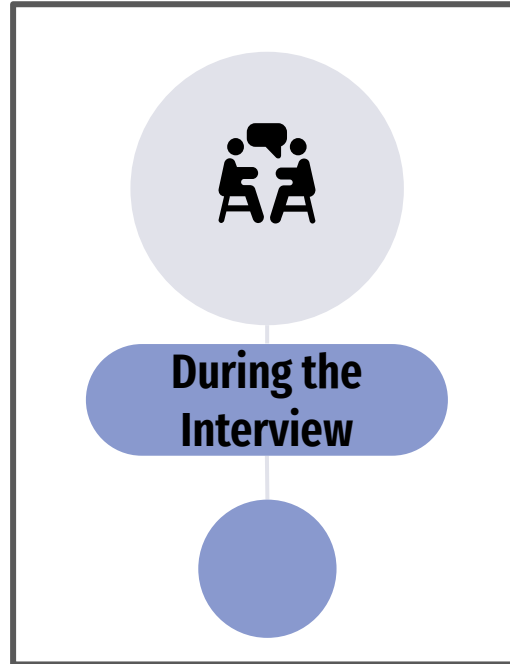
Experience with cloud services

Experience working with teams in an Agile environment

Before Interview Prep: Know the Company

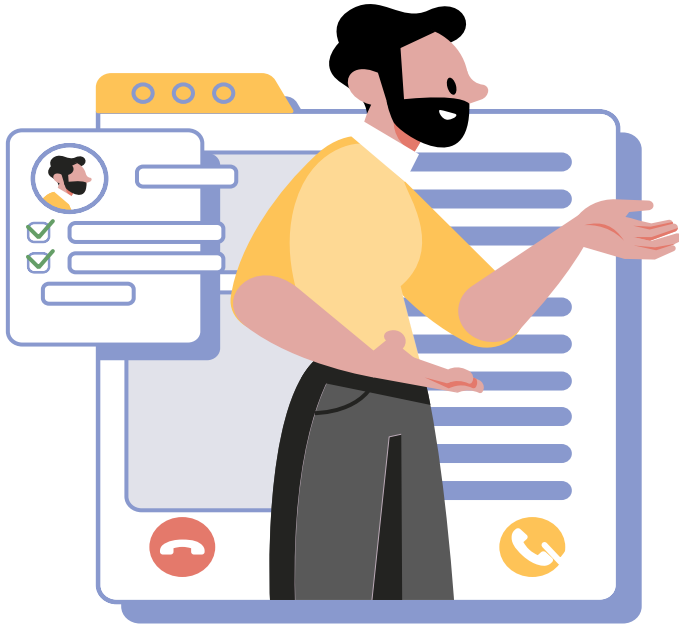
-  Review your notes from AIPs and informational interviews
-  Read the company mission statement, company history, products, etc...
-  Learn about company culture, latest ventures, collaborations, etc...
-  Google the leadership teams

MSA Interviewing Agenda



During the Interview

Types of Questions



Tell Me About Yourself

Behavioral

Technical

Case Study

Tell Me About Yourself

Also Known as the Elevator Pitch

Allows you to brand yourself and set the tone for the interview

Why do they ask?

Test your communication skills

Learn Your Passions

Direct the Interview



Question Examples

Walk me through your experiences

I'd love to hear about your journey

Tell me a bit about your background

Tell Me About Yourself

What to Include



Who You Are

What's your brand? What are your unique skills/passions?



Why You're Qualified

Include some specific accomplishments.



Why You Want the Job/Are a Good Fit

Research and network. Tie your skills to needs of company.

Tell Me About Yourself

Options for How to Structure Your Answer

Option 1:

Past: Tell the story of how you got to the IAA. Include relevant tools/software/accomplishments from your education and/or work experience.

Present: Discuss the IAA, maybe your practicum and/or specific accomplishments on a homework team (don't discuss grades as evidence of success).

Future: Explain what you'll bring to the position and specific reasons why you want to work for the company.

Option 2:

Present: Identify who you are professionally. Consider using part of your professional overview and discuss specific passions, skills, or accomplishments.

Past: Can minimize if not a lot of professional experience. Tell the interviewer about relevant experiences in education, at the IAA, or in past jobs.

Future: Explain what you'll bring to the position and specific reasons why you want to work for the company.

Tell Me About Yourself Examples

Brandon's Example



15 Minutes Later



Tell Me About Yourself Examples

Dr. LaBarr

Tell Me About Yourself Tips



Don't include everything you've ever done ever.



Don't memorize a script (but do practice).



Don't be too vague or discuss irrelevant topics.

Tailor your answer to the role and company.



Show enthusiasm for the position by using appropriate body language.



Aim for around 1-2 minutes.



Behavioral Questions

Why do they ask?

Past behavior is a good predictor of future behavior.

Question Examples

Tell me about your most difficult team experience.

Tell me about a time you had to pick up a new technology quickly.

Tell me about a time you made a mistake.



Behavioral Questions

What to Include: STAR/PAR/CAR



Context

Set the scene. Describe the situation/problem.



Action

What action did you take to address the problem?



Results

Describe the *positive* outcome of your actions.

Behavioral Examples

Dr. LaBarr

Behavioral Examples

Brandon

Behavioral Questions Tips



Don't tell an unrelated story that doesn't answer the question.



Don't highlight mistakes unless specifically asked.



Don't say anything negative about coworkers or bosses.

Be prepared and have your "stories" ready.



Focus on the positive: outcome or what you learned.



Be brief while providing enough context to understand the situation.



Technical Questions

Why do they ask?

To gauge your technical knowledge and experience.

Question Examples

When should you use a decision tree?

What is linear regression and when should you use it?

What programming languages are you most fluent in?



Technical Questions

What to Include: CAR



Context

Summarize technical concept. Describe situations where concept would be used.



Action

Describe an example of the technical concept's application.



Results

Explain insights that can result from the technical concept.

Technical Example 1

Brandon

Technical Example 1

Dr. LaBarr

Technical Example 2

Brandon

Technical Example 2

Dr. LaBarr

Technical Questions Tips



Don't forget to tell stories and/or provide examples when possible.



Don't say I don't know: say what you do know, even if it's limited.

Read JDs or notes from AIPs and review unfamiliar topics.



Ask clarifying questions when needed.



Case Study Questions

Why do they ask?

To see how you think through and solve a problem.

Question Examples

Explain how you would troubleshoot X problem.

A customer has identified 3 different factors they see as imperative to the business, but you only have time to analyze one. How would you help the customer decide on the most important factor?

Saw a pigeon having a job interview earlier. I hope he got it.



Case Study Tips

The “right” answer is good, but it’s just as important to show *how* you came up with it.



01

Listen to what is being asked.

02

Ask clarification questions.

03

Explain how you’d gather the data to make your decision.

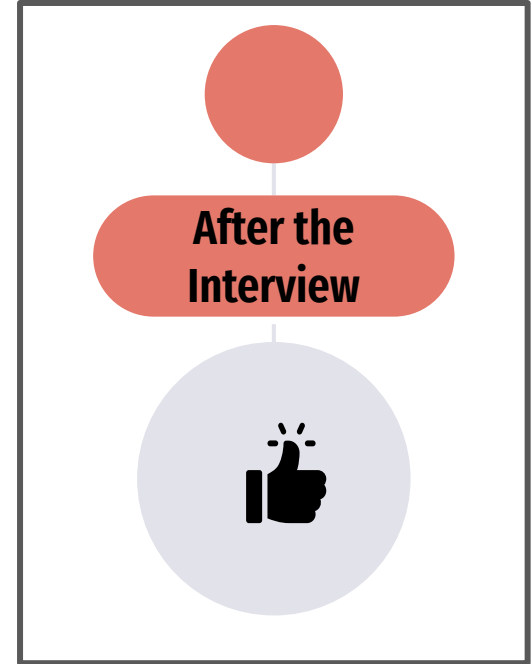
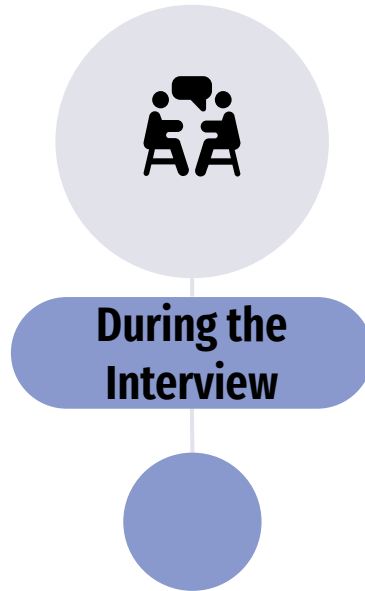
04

Discuss how you’d use that data to generate options.

05

Explain your recommendation.

MSA Interviewing Agenda



Your Questions Following the Interview



The Closing

Bring it home.



01

Thank them for their time & reiterate your interest.

02

Ask about next steps.

03

Send a thank you to each interviewer.

What's Next?

- Alumni Mock Interviews: December 6-14 (virtual)
- Case Study Prep
 - Fifth Third Case Study Prep: Nov. 16
 - Watch online recording (Supreet Deshpande)
 - Attend Q and A live via Zoom (must watch recording before attending): Jan. 11
- Technical Questions Prep
 - Date (Garrett Pederson and Rachel Schwitzgebel): Nov. 29
- Spring Practice Sessions
 - Tuesdays/Wednesdays/Thursdays

Questions?

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