Rakuten



Interviewing Dos and Don'ts

As a general rule, if it's not required to perform the job effectively, don't ask about it! Keep interview questions as job-related as possible. The chart shown here provides a few topics that could become areas of legal concern if not handled properly during an interview. Please note that these guidelines are specific to the US.

	DO	DON'T
Age	 Ask if they meet the minimum age required for the job. 	Ask how old they are or their date of birth.
		Ask when they graduated from high school or college.
Health	 Ask if they can they perform the duties of the job as defined on the job description. 	 Ask about the overall health of the candidate. Are they in treatment for any mental health issues?
		 Ask about recent or past illnesses or surgeries or how many sick days they have/had.
		Ask about height or weight, unless job-related.
Disability	 Ask if they can perform the duties of the job as defined on the job description. 	 Ask if they have a disability and/or the details or severity of a disability.
		 Ask about past or current workplace compensation claims.
Gender & Family	 Ask if they have any family members who work at the company. 	 Ask about marital or relationship status, number of children, or childcare arrangements.
		 Ask about spouse's occupation and/or healthcare coverage.
		Ask about the current or past gender of the candidate
Military	 Ask about any military training they received, if their military status is known. 	 Ask about veteran status, military discharge status, or branch of service.
Religion	 Ask if they can work the schedule as defined on the job description. 	Ask about observations of certain religious holidays.
		Ask about religious affiliations and practices.
Race &	N/A.	 Ask about a candidate's race or skin color.
Ethnicity		• Ask for a photo submission, unless required for job.
Origin & Ancestry	 Ask if they are legally eligible to work in the U.S. for any employer without restriction. 	 Ask about the birthplace of the candidate or family members, nationality or ancestry, ethic association, or country citizenship.
	 Ask if they are able to read, speak, and write the language required to perform the job. 	 Ask about native language or English proficiency, unless required for job.
		 Ask for the candidate's surname/last name. Maiden Name.
Police Record	 Ask If they have been convicted of anything that might conflict with the duties of the job, endangering themselves or others. (e.g., DUI/ Delivery Driver, etc.) 	Ask if they have ever been arrested and the number, types or dates of arrests.