

SPLICE BPC Panel Discussion Questions

Suggestions for questions for the panel discussion: (Questions highlighted in yellow were submitted by students in their registration forms.)

- A. Before Applying (Questions to ask, Things to consider) -
 - a. How do I know grad school is the best option for me? Why should I consider graduate school?
 - i. When is the best time to get a master's degree? ****can lead with this**
 - ii. Making the best choice to go into industry or to do a graduate degree.
 - b. How much does it cost to attend a graduate program? What are funding options? (International, Non-traditional, in-state, out-of-state, TAs, RAs)
 - i. What are the scholarships and financial aid available for a master's degree, specifically in NY?
 - ii. What are the financial aid and financing options for graduate school?
 - c. What should I look for in selecting a graduate school program? (Funding, level of capability in area of interest, access to resources, research advisor)
 - i. What are the best CS Master programs, and what other master programs to look for?
 - ii. Masters vs. Doctoral programs.
 - d. What are the differences between a graduate and an undergraduate program?
- B. Application Process (What is the process? (International vs. Non-Foreign) -
 - a. What are the requirements for acceptance into a graduate program?
 - b. Do I need to submit a FAFSA?
 - c. What are the considerations before applying to a graduate program? (How does my coursework help me?)*
 - d. Who do you select to write your recommendation letters?
- C. Acceptance -
 - a. How do I succeed as a graduate student? (REU participation, Faculty, resource availability)
 - b. What challenges have you experienced while working on your degree? What are common barriers for non-traditional students in graduate programs?
 - c. What kind of support should I expect from a graduate program? Who is available to provide support while I am working on my degree?
 - d. Is it possible to change my degree program
 - e. What are the school options for computer-related graduate degrees in the CUNY network?
- D. Graduation -
 - a. What are the benefits of obtaining a graduate degree?
 - i. How does a master's degree help CS students?
 - ii. Does a certification have more priority than a master's degree?
 - b. What kind of job can I get with a graduate degree?
 - i. Do you need a master's degree to rise within leadership in tech roles?
 - ii. How far can a CS student go with a bachelor's degree and certifications?
 - c. Salary expectations
 - d. What are some pitfalls and share some strategies in transitioning from a student to an employee?
 - i. Research and any advice that they would give to be where they are today.
 - ii. Post-Graduate Success tips/tricks