

Job Interviews

## Google Cloud TPM Interview Tips

A

Anonymous

May 11

I am interviewing for TPM role with Google Cloud Programs team. I have cleared phone interviews and planning to schedule onsite.

Google Cloud

Interview

TPM

Technical Program Manager

### Questions

1. I understand that there will be 4-5 interviews, but it will help me immensely to know what areas I need to prepare specifically for these interviews and what skills are evaluated? eg: If it is project based or behavioral, what type of questions are asked and how candidates are evaluated?

50 words minimum.

2. I have about 15 years experience and will I have both System design and coding rounds? I see from blind that few TPM interviews doesn't have coding round but two system design interviews? Provide some guidance around preparation for the same.

20 words minimum.

3. The recruiter reached out and have asked me if I know ppl at google. I have worked with few developer advocates at google and they can vouch/provide details around my capabilities. Will this help at onsite stage?

30 words minimum.

4. Any other tips and tricks to successfully crack the interview?

50 words minimum.

### 1 Answer

X

xEXJ64 Google

May 12



1. I understand that there will be 4-5 interviews, but it will help me immensely to know what areas I need to prepare specifically for these interviews and what skills are evaluated? eg: If it is project based or behavioral, what type of questions are asked and how candidates are evaluated?

We typically have 5 rounds of interviews - 3 program management, 1 tech judgement, 1 behavioral. Sometimes you might have 2 tech judgement and 2 program management rounds.

We typically ask "tell me about a time" questions to assess behavior and it is very important that you provide examples and take a structured approach (star method or whichever you prefer).

You also need to be comfortable talking about program management tools and how you used them to track project execution.

Technical judgement is design focused - go through cloud design videos and practice specific design patterns. we do not expect you to write code.

Make sure you ask clarifying questions, state your assumptions and do basic math around scale( for design questions).

We look at whether the candidate is raising the bar in multiple areas but people who show good abilities to identify technical dependencies fare well in the role and are respected a lot.

2. I have about 15 years experience and will I have both System design and coding rounds? I see from blind that few TPM interviews doesn't have coding round but two system design interviews? Provide some guidance around preparation for the same.

I have not seen coding interviews asked for tpm at cloud. It's surprising that they stated there will be coding. Even if they ask I doubt it will be Leetcode style questions and more around class design.

3. The recruiter reached out and have asked me if I know ppl at google. I have worked with few developer advocates at google and they can vouch/provide details around my capabilities. Will this help at onsite stage?

Referrals will be asked to provide input independently and this will not impact your interview output. However if the referrals give negative feedback that does factor in and might affect your chances. So be careful with your choice and may be even reach out to them.

4. Any other tips and tricks to successfully crack the interview?

Build stories from your experience as a preparation for the program management rounds. Prepare for Situations such as most challenging, most difficult, influence without authority, changing behavior to work with teams and write down examples. Then use these examples to practice. When you go to the interview it is going to be hard to come up with a situation on the fly so this will help. Also see if you can talk about some metrics and numbers as part of impact of your work.

A Anonymous ★★★★★

Thanks for helping me out big time. Just like you mentioned, there wasn't a coding interview. I have some time for the next round of interviews. I'll follow your directions.



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