

Interviewing with Uber's Advanced Technology Center's Offboard Group

How it works

We're excited to start the interview process with you and the ATC's Offboard Group! We want you to feel like you've presented yourself well, and for both you and us to feel like we've gotten to know each other a little bit. To help you out, this guide explains what to expect through the process.

Of course, if you have any questions, please reach out to raffi@uberatc.com.

Homework Assignment

We make use of homework assignments to simulate you actually working on a problem that Offboard may be asked to solve. The assignment will be technical, and depending on the particular role you are interviewing for, may either be software exercise (where you will be asked to deliver code) or be a written one where you will mail us a document / presentation.

We want you to use whatever tools you are familiar with – use your own computer, your own editor, your own development environment, and please use Google and other online resources. We want you to do your best work, and we think that means you need to be as comfortable as you can be.

We would like to get the homework back within one calendar week of us issuing it to you. But, we only would like you to spend 8-10 hours of “wall time” on the assignment. When you get the assignment, don't be surprised if your first reaction is “there is no way I can finish this in 8-10 hours!” Our homework assignments are designed to be hard to complete in the allotted time. That's indicative of any problem that we face on Offboard. It may also not be well specified – so, don't do your homework in isolation! Feel free to ask questions, and get clarifying information you need from us.

What we're the most interested in for this assignment is:

- **correctness** – of course, we want to see it be as “right” as possible;
- **clarity in thought & communication** – you are delivering to us either software that we are going to run and read, or a presentation. Your homework has to stand on its own when we review it;
- **time management** – like mentioned, the homework can't be “finished” in 8-10 hours, so, what do you do?; and
- **your definition of “done”** – what is the overall package that we receive from you.

Doing a coding problem on the whiteboard was an accepted way to interview in many places we've worked at before. We just don't think that's neither effective nor realistic.

Each one of these skills / traits are indicative of the traits needed to be a successful member of Offboard. We value each of these.

After you send it in

We know that you just carved out a few of hours in your life to get your homework assignment to us, so we're going to do everything we can to get back to you with our thoughts.

Once you send in your homework assignment, we'll queue up at least two people to take a look at it and give their feedback. If your homework assignment was to write us some software, then expect that the reviewers will try to fire up your code, run it, and then read it. If your homework assignment was to send us a document or a presentation, then expect that the reviewers will spend a bit of time reading it and marking it up.

After we collate all the feedback, you'll hear from us with our view of what the next steps are.