

Career Services Assignment 4 – Soft Skill Interview Prep

Points possible: 50

Category	Criteria	% of Grade
Completeness	All requirements of the assignment are complete.	50
Quality	Answers show thought, proper grammar, and would be acceptable in most interview situations.	50

Instructions: Find a job post online for a role and company you would like to apply for. Answer the following questions as if you were being interviewed for the job. Research the STAR method of answering behavioral interview questions and where applicable, utilize the STAR method in answering the below questions.

How did you hear about this position? (Make sure you remember where you heard about the role so it doesn't look like you are just applying randomly to every position possible.)

- I initially heard about this position when one you reached out to me via LinkedIn, and once I read the description I knew this is something I would like to do and be good at doing.

What do you know about the company? (Research the company, website, products/services, and reviews. Talk about good reviews that make you want to join.)

- You are one of the larger credit unions in Washington State with over \$975 million dollars in assets and over 52,000 members. You have four different lines of business – Retail Banking, Business Services, Mortgages, and Dealer Direct Lending. Your history includes originally being named Group Health Credit Union and you would exclusively serve employees from Group Health and a few other select employee groups until the charter opened up more possibilities in 2003, and in 2010 you changed your name to Salal Credit Union

Why do you want this job? (Be very specific. Talk about what appeals to you about the role but focus more on the value you'll add to the team and company rather than what the company will do for you.)

- To put it bluntly – your Core Values – I am every bit of all you are with your core values and would love to be able to work somewhere that feels the same way.
 - Bold
 - Tenacious
 - Curious
 - Measured
 - Advocates
- I feel that with my curiosity, and wanting to always do better, be better, and help others become better I would be able to add not only creative thinking to the team, but also tenacity. I strive to be bold and advocate for what is right for not only the employer, but employees, and members. I live by the learn, teach, learn motto. You always are learning, but you also need to teach others so that if someone needs help, anyone can assist.

Why should we hire you? (Be very specific. Talk about your skills, passion, and willingness to continuously learn to be an asset.)

- Well, as I mentioned, I love to learn and have the tenacity to keep trying to find the root cause of an issue should one arise (and they always do in IT 😊) I try to figure out how to resolve something from the beginning to prevent it from happening again, rather than a quick fix. I don't like to be reactive, but rather proactive. I try to follow SLA (Service Level Agreements i.e. 4 hr turn around to reply to an email etc. I am smart. I may not know how to do something, but I am not afraid to ask for help, and make sure I don't repeatedly ask the same question over and over again. I know where to look for answers, I search by all means before asking if I haven't found it on my own.

What is your greatest professional achievement? (STAR)

- In my current role, I was just nominated for mentor of the year by a new hire I have been assisting, both with the initial on boarding as well as daily role, tasks, and all-around job. This means a lot to me because it shows that I can do hard things. Mentoring is usually out of my comfort zone, but I agreed to give it a shot, and happy this is going good.

Describe a difficult work situation and how you overcame it. (STAR. Never speak negatively about anyone else or any companies. Perhaps talk about change you experiences, as change is always difficult to overcome.)

- A previous difficult work situation for me would be personality clashing. I am a very analytical person, I look for results, and accuracy. (I am a solid C on the DiSC model) When I have personality clashes with someone who is lets say very enthusiastic and not focused on accuracy but focused on influencing and persuading others, I have to remind

myself it is not me nor them – that we are all different. They don't mean ill towards anyone just like I don't, and we all learn in different ways. I take a step back and try to see things from their perspectives before making judgments.

What are your goals for the future? (Make sure you answer in a time bound manner and talk about how you are looking to learn as much as possible in your field.)

- My goals for the future are simple – to be the best person I can be given my surroundings. I am always looking to learn new things, such as my current path of learning to code. I want to learn both front and back end development so that I may one day in the future be able to advance both personally and professionally, while bringing more knowledge to my employer.

Why are you leaving your last job? (Don't say anything negative. Mention growth, changing industries, etc.)

- I am leaving my current role, or looking to leave, so that I can continue my growth. I feel at this time, I have hit a wall and not able to use my knowledge to the best of my ability. I feel they are going in a different direction than I am so it would be best to search for something that aligns with my beliefs.

What is your salary expectation?

- Currently I am looking for a salary expectation of 95-100k per year.