

Finding a Career or Life Coach is similar to finding a new physician.

Think about these things when interviewing a potential coach.

Referrals Work

- Begin by asking people you trust who they work with or if they know someone who are pleased with his/her coach
- Your friends or colleagues probably know of someone you might contact

Trust Your Intuition

- How might you feel spending a lot of time with this individual?
- Do you feel that you can develop a successful working relationship?

Reflect

- Ask yourself what you'd like to get out of the coaching partnership
 - o What are your goals?
 - o What changes are you envisioning?
 - o What expectations do you have?

Prepare Questions in Advance

- These questions will depend on what you want from the partnership
 - o How will you know that your work together has been successful?
 - o What could you learn by working with this person?

Understand the Coach's Background, Expertise and Experience

- What qualifies the potential coach to work in this field?
- What training and experience has prepared the coach to be able to assist individuals like you?

Discuss Coaching Style and Methods

The coaching approach should be clear and direct

Ask Specific Questions about Fees, Confidentiality, Policies, etc.

Ask for a Free Introductory Session

 If you have a comfortable feeling about the coach, and about the potential benefits of working with him or her, ask for a complimentary session

- Most coaches will offer a free half-hour session with a potential client
- This will give you an idea of the coach's style and what to expect

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