# Geico Recruiter Prep

1. Tell me about yourself.
   1. I am someone who is drawn to challenges, which is what led me to pursue a career in math and become an Actuary.
   2. When I first started at my company, it was almost like a startup. My entire department was only 7 people. There was lots to do so I had to learn a lot of different things very quickly. Early on, there were a lot of repetitive tasks and manual processes that were eating up valuable time. I started picking up programming to automate a lot of my department’s tasks so that we can focus our resources on more analytical work.
   3. Over time, I learned to be a more effective programmer by learning design patterns and efficient data structures and algorithms.
   4. My love for tech and programming drew the attention of the manager for our data analytics team. He began an initiative to redesign and develop our pricing application in Java using the Spring Boot framework. He approached me and asked if I can help with the reprogramming effort. Now I put in some extra hours and split my time between Actuarial Analyses and developing software.
2. Why did you leave your last job?
   1. I am leaving because:
      1. I’ve reached a point in my career where I realize that my true passion lies in programming. Throughout the years, while building various applications and tools for my department, I discovered that programming brings me the greatest joy and fulfillment. As our pricing application is approaching its launch and my hybrid work arrangement is coming to an end, I have made the difficult decision to seek a new opportunity in engineering and fully immerse myself and develop my skills.
3. About Geico:
   1. Grew up with Geico as a household name. Gecko in the early 2000s used to play all the time.
   2. Geico started during the great depression.
   3. Unofficial Warren Buffet subsidiary since it’s wholly owned by Berkshire hathaway
   4. Investment in employees (tuition assistance)
4. What is the most challenging thing I’ve worked on?
   1. Territorial Analysis
      1. One of my most memorable projects involved being tasked by the CEO to perform segmentation analysis on industry data and create a decision-making tool. Recognizing the need for efficiency and automation, I took on the challenge with a strategic approach. I designed and implemented Python code to extract data from the rating bureau, employing scraping techniques due to the absence of an API. After cleaning and processing the data, I uploaded it to SQL for further analytical work. I then developed mathematical models to estimate and project losses/premiums to ultimate. To streamline the decision-making process, I designed a methodology and created a user-friendly dashboard for presenting the results. The outcome exceeded expectations, and the CEO was highly impressed with the solution.
5. What is your greatest weakness?
   1. One area I'm working on is recognizing when to let things be. Sometimes, when I come across something I don't fully understand, I tend to dive deep into it and end up going down unrelated paths. It can be hard for me to step back and say, "Okay, that's enough for now. I'll come back to it later." This can sometimes lead to overthinking and trying to plan for every possible situation, even when it's not necessary.
   2. To address my weakness of overanalyzing and going down unrelated paths, I am working on being more self-aware and recognizing when this tendency arises. I am prioritizing my tasks and managing my time effectively by setting realistic deadlines. When faced with complex topics, I am breaking them down into smaller, manageable parts to learn incrementally. I am also seeking guidance when needed and practicing the art of letting go, accepting that it's okay not to have all the answers immediately. By implementing these strategies, I am striving to strike a balance between deep understanding and efficient use of my time.
6. Why should we hire you?
   1. I’m an enthusiastic hardworking person who’s open to all perspectives and ideas and embraces tech in everything.
   2. Geico should hire me for my extensive technical expertise in programming languages such as Python, R, SQL, VBA, and Java. I have a track record of automating tasks and developing efficient solutions. Additionally, my experience in cross-functional collaboration and problem-solving skills make me a valuable asset for successful project outcomes.

# Questions for Recruiter:

1. Is this role more focused on full stack development or does it lean towards backend work? Can you give me an idea of the balance between frontend and backend responsibilities in this position?
2. How would you describe the company culture and the work environment at Geico?
3. It seems like the Claims Technology team is a newer addition. Could you let me know when this team was formed? And what are the main challenges and opportunities that the team is currently facing?
4. Does the team or company have any preferred tech stack or particular technologies they usually work with? Are there any exciting technologies or frameworks the team is looking into or planning to explore?
5. Are there any resources or opportunities for professional growth and learning? This could include things like training programs, conferences, or any other initiatives that support skill development within the company.
6. What are the three most important qualities or skills that are sought after for this role?
7. How does the company support work-life balance for its employees?
8. What growth opportunities are there for this role?
9. Can you describe what the onboarding process would be like?