# EMT Prep Interview Tips & Questions

**TIPS**

* **Be prepared!**
  + Write out your possible answers to questions you may be asked and practice saying them.
    - Practice by speaking to yourself in a mirror
    - Video yourself
    - Practice with other people
  + Be sure to read the entire job description, requirements, and application process
  + Do your research and look into the company you are applying for.
  + Some companies may require a cover letter to be submitted with the application, so be sure to have one ready.
  + Resume:
    - The resume should be one page, but make sure the font size is not too small
    - Try to include verbiage from the job listing regarding job requirements
    - Have someone look over your resume to see if they have any suggestions about wording or format
    - Be sure to use spell check
    - Make sure you have the correct company listed in your resume and cover letter
    - Make sure to have at least 3 copies of your resume prior to the day of your interview.
    - Consider purchasing a portfolio binder to hold the resumes and note pad.
  + If you list references, be sure that your references know that you have listed them and also advise them of what job/company you applied for.
  + Get an inside perspective by speaking to anyone you know who works at the company you are apply for or another similar company
  + Company contact information: Keep a copy of the company address, contact person, and the contact person’s phone number and email address.
  + Make sure you know how to get to the interview location.
  + If you are driving, make sure you have enough gas. Be sure to do this the day before your interview.
  + If you are taking public transportation, check the schedule and take an early bus/train.
  + Leave early in case there is traffic. DON’T BE LATE.
  + If for someone reason you are going to be late, be sure to contact the company to advise them that you will be late and when you expect to be there.
  + Consider bringing a black or blue pen and something to write on in case you want to take notes.
  + Keep track of your EMS certifications and make sure they are not expired.
  + Bring your EMS certifications and a picture ID.
* **Look professional for the interview:**
  + No jeans, shorts, t-shirts, hats, or sneakers. Wear business attire.
  + Make sure your clothes are clean and pressed and your shoes are shined. Do not wait until the day of your interview to do this.
  + Although piercings may be allowed, you may want to consider removing some or all of your visible piercings.
  + Shave or make sure your facial hair is trimmed.
  + Trim your nails.
  + Brush your teeth ☺
  + No wild hair colors or hair styles.
  + Do not wear perfume/cologne in case someone is allergic to it.
  + No excessive jewelry.
  + No excessive makeup.
* **Interview:**
  + Do not use slang or curse words.
  + Do not chew gum.
  + Be aware of any nervous habits you may have such as tapping a pen or shaking your leg.
  + Use examples when appropriate and be specific.
  + Look the person/s in the eye.
  + When meeting someone new, give them a firm handshake and introduce yourself.
  + Note the names of the person/s conducting the interview and occasionally use their name.
  + Don’t be a robot. Smile when appropriate.
  + Always have an opening (“Tell us about yourself”) and closing statement (“Is there anything else you would like to add”) prepared that will summarize your qualifications and why they should hire you.
  + If not provided, ask what the next steps are and when they should be contacting you.
  + If you have not heard back from the company by the date they advised that they would contact you by, follow up by calling or sending an email to the appropriate person.

**INTERVIEW QUESTIONS**

* **Personal Questions:**

1. Tell us about yourself?
2. What have you done to prepare for the position?
3. Why do you want to be an EMT?
4. If hired, what contribution will you make to company?
5. How do you plan to cope with the stress of the job?
6. Describe for us your 3 most important personal character traits.
7. How would your friends describe your character?
8. What is your greatest strength? Weakness?
9. Describe a difficult decision you have made in your life.
10. Where do you envision yourself 1 year from now? 5 years?
11. What is your proudest/greatest achievement?
12. Name a time where you were stressed and how you handled it.
13. What is the hardest thing you have ever done?
14. Why would we select you over the other candidates?
15. How do you handle conflict?
16. What word would best describe you in a positive way? A negative way?
17. Why do you want to work for our company?
18. What do you say when you don't know an answer to a question?
19. Do you have any questions for us?
20. Do you have anything to add?

* **Work History:**

1. Give an example of a time when you worked with someone who came from a background different from you?
2. Do you have an example of a situation when you have followed strict rules to complete a task
3. Give an example of a mistake you made. What did you learn from that mistake?
4. What would your employer say about you?
5. Give some examples of customer service that you provide in your current/past employment?
6. Give an example of a time you worked on something that was innovative and explain your role.
7. Tell me about a time when you had to work with a person that you did not like?
8. Give an example of a goal you set for yourself and how you reached it.
9. Give an example of a time you had to play a leadership role.
10. Give an example of a difficult decision you had to make and how you came to make that decision.

* **EMT Specific:**

1. What does customer service as an EMT mean to you?
2. Describe the job of an EMT?
3. What is the most appealing aspect of being an EMT?
4. What is the least appealing aspect of being an EMT?
5. Why is teamwork so important in EMS and what are the advantages and disadvantages of working as a team?
6. What kind of problems might arise as an EMT and what might you do to prevent or minimize such problems?
7. Define honesty and integrity. What do they mean to EMTs?
8. What are your qualifications for the job?
9. What kinds of stress are EMTs subjected to?
10. Why is safety such an important component of EMS?

* **Situational:**

1. Have you ever been in an emergency situation? Tell us what you did?
2. You bring in a patient to the ER who has a ½ inch minor laceration on their forehead. The RN you are transferring the patient to is upset and says that this is a minor issue, why are you bringing patients like this to the ER? How do you respond and handle this situation?
3. You are a new employee and you are partnered with a senior EMT. The senior EMT advises you to do something that is different than what you were taught in your new hire training. What do you do?
4. Your partner comes into work and advises you that he was drinking all night. You can still smell alcohol on him and he still appears to be intoxicated. What do you do?
5. Give us a time you had to work part of a team and what was your role?

* **Scope of Practice:**

1. What do you do if you suspect a patient is experiencing a CVA?
2. If a Paramedic advises you to administer a medication to a patient, can you administer it to the patient?
3. Is it within the scope of practice for an EMT to transport a patient with an IV that is connected to medication?
4. What do you do if a patient is pulseless and apneic and the patient’s family member says that the patient is a DNR, but they do not have a copy of it?
5. How do you make sure you are up to date regarding local/State protocols?