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Interviewee Questions

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Purpose: A place to compile questions that could be asked during an interview from the perspective of the one being interviewed.

Interviewer: Darin Plum, 557 airwing OFFUTT AFB

557th Weather Wing: provide scientific data to other agencies around the world (Proj start June 2020 – sept 2020 took over data center)

Work with hardware, network, cyber, system admin, software, and dev/ops

Scrum/ban – mix scrum and Kanban

Tech stacks: Nippernat, snippernat, - data movement (ship to higher classification levels)  
Hardware: Largely linux (React interface, Java, moving toward Python)  
Ceiling: 630 Million 5 years + Option years

4,000+ servers in the data center, high performance computer, VMware, Moving more toward cloud

Security Level: To begin Interim Secret, then gain Final Secret, eventually gaining Top Secret

7 Teams, some have gotten a little large (10 - 12), (120ish people).

Salary: ~75K

1. Given the situation of the pandemic, what does the daily work experience look like? (Is it in the office, is there any remote work still occurring?)  
   Had to move to remote for non-security, but now in person
2. What is the office in Omaha look like, how many different teams or how large of a facility is it?  
   Mix of remote, on base, tends on security.
3. This positions description specifically was about modernizing the DoD’s weather data center, would this be an on-going project that continues with maintenance and improvements?  
   Will come down to continuous bidding. To develop continuous learning.
4. The description also listed the programming languages Java, React, and Python, are these the primary languages that this project would be working with?
5. Knowing that your team will be implementing Agile methodologies, what does a standard sprint look like for timing (how long is the standard sprint)?  
   Think of it as scrum, plan out 2 week sprint, after planning a curveball causes a change inflicting priorities.
6. Is there any kind of mentorship program, or a structured means to move into/towards a leadership role?  
   Doesn’t enjoy titles much, because the knowledge doesn’t necessary have a team lead.
7. What would make someone successful in this position?  
   Focusing on delivering value back to the mission, someone that can contribute to the incremental build out. Want a team that can help and mentor each other. Work at a sustainable pace while growing their craft.
8. What are the next steps in the interview process?
9. What is the on-boarding process look like for new hires?  
   Full offer in May of 2022, come on and placed on the sif team with general overview of the mission and certifications and some training. Until interim secret, then come onboard. Security Plus certificate – IAT (Information Assurance Technical) level 2. Look at other teams, see what work is done, team norms, and find the match. Team rotation for 24/7 with cloud phone (like google phone). Matermost (similar to slack/discord). Jedi academy every 2 weeks (10 minute slots) demo something back to the group.