

# SHIFT 2024

## Speed Interview Questions for Students

Thursday, January 18, 2024 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Mount Saint Vincent University, Rosaria Multipurpose Room

### 30 minutes to sit down with 3 interviewers and respond to 3 interview questions

#### How do I get started?

1. **Review your group questions and the extra questions below before the event.** Prepare your answers by attending the SHIFT keynote Interview Coaching 101: How to Prepare, Perform, and Follow Up on January 17 from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room (walk ups welcome!) or [attend the keynote via MS Teams](#). You can also use [Your 2024 Guide to the Most Common Interview Questions and Answers](#) by The Muse.
2. On event day, after registering at the main entrance, come see us at the Speed Interviewing Check In table in the Multipurpose Room.
3. At the start of your speed interview time, find an interviewer (any table is fine!). You'll have 10 minutes to respond to one of your group's three interview questions and receive feedback. Then, when you hear the bell, move to your right and meet the next interviewer (3 interviewers total).
4. Enjoy the rest of the SHIFT Career Development event. From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., you can get your resume, cover letter, or LinkedIn profile reviewed or get your LinkedIn headshot for free!
5. \*Optional\* attend our Networking Wine and Cheese from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room. Non-alcoholic beverages available.

#### 1:30 p.m. (Group 1)

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. Name two of your strengths and two areas for improvement.
3. If you have a task you don't understand, what do you do?

#### 2:15 p.m. (Group 2)

1. Please give me an example of a problem you faced in a previous job position, volunteer role, or during your studies. What happened, what was the result, and what did you learn?
2. How do you prioritize your tasks?
3. If I asked one of your previous supervisors to describe you, what would they say?

#### 3 p.m. (Group 3)

1. Where do you see yourself in five years?
2. Describe a time when you worked with a group. What were the issues and what worked well? How did it go in the end?
3. [Student first shares the details of their ideal job with the interviewer]. What makes you a good candidate for this job?

## Extra interview questions

- Practice your 20- to 30-second elevator pitch (see the resources on this web page from the SHIFT keynote: Interview Coaching 101: How to Prepare, Perform, and Follow Up)
- How do you handle disagreements or misunderstandings with your co-workers?
- How do you like to receive feedback?
- How do you deal with stressful situations? How do you care for yourself afterward?
- What are your salary expectations?
- What makes your workplace more inspiring and comfortable for you?
- A customer complains about a mistake with their purchase. They are upset. How would you manage this situation?
- How do you stay organized?

## Frequently asked questions

- **Do I have to wear dressy interview clothes?**

ANSWER: No, this is a low-key practice event. Please wear the clothes you regularly wear. If you're getting your free LinkedIn headshot during the event, consider bringing a change of clothes.

- **What if I don't get my interview question right?**

ANSWER: This is a practice event to help you develop interview skills before your next real job interview. Take some risks when you respond and engage with the feedback from your interviewer. Try to be kind to yourself.

- **What if my interviewer and I finish our interview question early?**

ANSWER: You can pick from the list of extra questions and try responding to another question!

- **What backgrounds or industries do the interviewers come from?**

ANSWER: Our interviewers have worked, or are working in, business, banking, youth and young adult employment, hospitality, law, EDIA (equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility), and post-secondary.