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Tips for a Successful Job Interview

Motivated Dental Professionals

When embarking on an interview, job seekers have lots of questions: What do I bring? How do I dress? What do I say? How do I know whether the interview went well?

Unfortunately, the answer to many of these questions is: It depends. But take heart. There are many ways job seekers can prepare to answer common interview questions and succeed in an interview.

- Bring copies of your resume, cover letter and a notebook to take notes.
- Arrive 10 or 15 minutes early. Traffic could have potential backups.
- Research the Dental Office ahead of time.
- Practice interview questions and responses with someone you trust.
- Make sure you understand how any video and audio technology work before a remote interview.
- Make sure you are in a quiet room, no distractions or interruptions.
- TURN OFF YOUR CELL!
- Maintain easy eye contact, portray yourself in a positive light, and never talk negatively about a former boss.
- Support your claim of being the best candidate by focusing on your skill set, patient care, and how confident you are that you could hit the ground running and contribute to the dentist's practice.
- Keep the conversation professional, not personal.
- Prepare questions to ask the interviewer.
- Do not bring up money or benefits until the end or at least halfway through the interview.
- SMILE.
- Send a handwritten thank-you note.

Keep in mind that during the coronavirus pandemic, many interviews will be via phone or digital video platform while companies practice social distancing. Despite the shift in format, many of the same rules apply. Dressing professionally (at least from the waist up when on video) and preparing to answer interview questions are still crucial.