

Interview tips:

Provide specific examples to questions. For example, when asked about your research experience, try to describe a project that you worked on. Or the process that you went through this past semester or even in undergrad.

For example, I worked on a project interviewing Latino small business owners. First, I did some research with minority business agencies to understand demographics. I reached out to organizations I was familiar with to get their contacts, I contacted Latino/Hispanic Chambers of Commerce. We held discussions and then put the findings together in a report.

Strengths and weaknesses: Turn weaknesses into strengths. I am a perfectionist, so sometimes I get bogged down in making it trying to perfect my documents. I have learned to hand it over another person to give me another set of eyes instead of continuing to fuss over it.

Confidence: Be confident and speak with confidence. Sit up straight, make eye contact, minimized gestures. Be yourself, in a very professional setting.

Commitment, chipping in, willing to do work that is not just research and writing but also, filing, organizing, answering phones, etc.

Community: Demonstrate your understanding and ability to work with the populations that the organization is going to serve.

Why you are working here? Be prepared to answer why you are interested in working in public interest and that organization in particular.

Personal

What are your greatest strengths and weaknesses?

Are you a team player or do you prefer to work alone?

What is the most difficult/rewarding thing you have ever accomplished?

When was the last time that you were really angry with someone and how did you handle it?

Education:

Why law school?

Clinicals, extracurriculars?

Work:

What work do you like/dislike doing?

How do you work under pressure?

How strong are your writing skills?

Why did you leave your prior jobs?

What are your short/long term career goals?

How would you describe your ideal job?

Where do you see yourself in 5 to 10 years?

Job Specific

Why our offices?

Have you worked with this population?

What qualifications make successful at this job?

Why should we select you over the other candidates?