

Various Questions that Might Be Asked During Dietetics Interviews

General Dietetics Questions

1. What is a dietitian and why do you want to become one?
2. Give me three words that best describe you.
3. What are your short-term goals, within 5 years?
4. What are your long-term goals, within 10 years?
5. What are your strengths?
6. Do you work better in groups or independently? Explain.
7. What areas can you improve on?
8. How do you process new information, internally or externally?
9. How do you handle stress?
10. Do you consider yourself logical or emotional? Why?
11. How do you handle failure? What have you learned from your failures?
12. Do you see yourself as a leader or a follower? Explain.
13. Do you speak any additional languages?
14. What is your opinion of alternative medicine? What about herbal supplements?
15. What is your opinion on bariatric surgery?
16. How do you motivate someone to make healthy lifestyle changes?
17. Do you work better alone, or with someone?

University/Performance-Related Questions

1. Discuss a successful outcome from a volunteer project you have been involved with.
2. Explain a time when you worked on a team. What was your role and what did you learn about yourself from the experience?
3. What activities are you presently involved in at the University? Looking at your field experiences, which one did you learn the most from? Explain.
4. Explain your previous work experiences. Of all jobs you have held, which one did you like best, and why?
5. Discuss your diet and how that would influence your client.
6. Describe your role in community activities.
7. Have you ever been in a management position? Describe it.
8. What is your management style? What are the challenges facing managers?
9. What was/is your favorite class in college and why?
10. Explain a time you had to demonstrate flexibility.
11. What are some of your greatest accomplishments?
12. Describe your computer skills. What other information technologies do you know?
13. Have you ever been involved in a conflict in the kitchen, in a food service setting? If so, how did you handle the situation?
14. If a patient complains of possible food poisoning from the hospital cafeteria, what would you do?
15. What does networking mean to you? How does it enhance your professional abilities?
16. What are your hobbies/extracurricular activities?
17. What was your biggest group accomplishment? Have you ever had any conflicts with people in a group project? What was the conflict, and how did you handle it?
18. How do you educate others in your school environment?

19. If you were to pursue research, what would you focus on? Why?
20. Describe someone who is a mentor in your life.
21. If you are having difficulties, how do you obtain help?
22. How do you feel about cleaning up someone else's "mess"?
23. When you are given orders, how do you decide which one to do first?

Internship-Specific Questions

1. Why are you interested in this dietetic internship program?
2. What puts you above other candidates for this program?
3. What is your plan if you do not get this internship?
4. Why did you choose this program? What do you hope to get out of this program?
5. What do you feel your role will be in each of the rotations? How do you feel about being an intern in a new program?
6. On a scale of 1 to 10, rate how appealing this program is to you. Explain why. What is unappealing and what would you change about our program?
7. What questions would you like to ask us about our program?
8. What do you expect out of dietetics? Why do you want to be a dietitian? Where do you see the future of dietetics?
9. What is your concept of a dietitian? What are the roles of a dietitian?
10. What unique qualities can you bring to this program? What do you have to offer?
11. How will you support yourself during the program?
12. In an internship, you will be faced with a lot of criticism. How do you plan to handle this?
13. What are your concerns about the internship?
14. How do you plan on dealing with the pressures of the Dietetic Internship?
15. How do you feel about working more than 8 hours a day, if so needed?
16. Describe how you plan to prepare for the RD exam.
17. Is there a difference to you in working at a 375-bed hospital versus a 1,000-bed hospital? If yes, then why?
18. Do you think an internship is important for your studies? Why? If ADA made it optional, would you still do an internship?
19. How many grams of protein and calories are in a diabetic exchange of meat? Do you think RD's should have to memorize these kinds of values? Why?

Situational Questions

1. Would you question a doctor on a diet order? If yes, how would you do this?
2. What would do if a patient is disagreeable and won't cooperate when you are doing a diet instruction?
3. What would you do if a diet technician was being uncooperative to specific tasks or goals you set for them? Even if you have discussed the matter, what would you do if the individual still won't cooperate?
4. What would you do if an individual was consistently late to work?
5. If you found that the low sodium soup tasted salty, what would you do? What if the cook says that is how it always is, what would you do then? How would you check on this problem in the future?
6. During a nutrition screening, you learn that a patient has been taking large doses of vitamins A and K. The patient states that they were prescribed by their doctor for treating back pain. The doctor was unable to explain why these supplements were prescribed, but the patient claims their back pain has recently decreased. What would you do? What if the patient simply misunderstood the doctor? If you spoke to the doctor, what would address in this situation?
7. If you were the foodservice manager and the dishwasher broke, what would you do?
8. How would you motivate a male who is 6'3" and weighs 235lbs who is on a weight reduction diet of 1,000 kcals?