

Useful questions to ask on a job shadowing placement

General questions

- What education/training did you have before taking this role? How helpful was it in getting you the role and supporting you in the role?
- Are there any other experiences – work or non-work related – that have supported your career?
- If you could go back in time would you do anything differently in preparation for this career path?
- What would you look for if you were recruiting for this post?
- Are there any journals or career related web sites you think would be helpful in learning about this role?
- Is volunteering a good way to gain experience that would be recognised at interview?
- What happened at your job interview. What should I expect?
- Are there any professional groups I could join that would be useful to me?
- What qualifications do you feel are important for this role?
- What personal qualities do you need to succeed in this role?
- When did you apply for this role?

Job pros & cons

- Would you choose the same occupation if you were just starting out? Why or why not?
- Do you have special words of warning or encouragement as a result of your experience?
- If you could change any aspect of your career/role? Was it what you expected it to be?
- What is your favourite thing about your current role?
- What do you feel are the most challenging elements of your role?

The job itself

- Could you give me an example of a typical day for you in this role?
- What do you spend most of your time doing?
- In terms of a career path what would that look like for this sort of role? Where could you progress to?
- Who do you work with and what are the relationship links?
- How important is team work to this role?
- How often do you work alone?
- How much of the work is self-directed and how much is regulated by others?
- What are usual work patterns like in this role?