Alfred University
McComsey Career Development Center

POTENTIAL INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR LAW SCHOOL

Personal

Who are you? Tell me about yourself.
Why Law School?
How would a friend describe you?
List three things you want me to know about you.
What are your strengths and weaknesses?
Why should we accept you?
How are you unique from other applicants?
What is your relationship with your family like?
What is more important to you than anything else?
Are you married/do you have children?
Do you plan to have children in the future?
How will you juggle a law career with a family?
How important is family to you?

Motivation/Sincerity

What other careers have you explored?
Do you feel that you have a realistic view of law school?
Do you understand what the life as a lawyer entails?
What will you do if you don't get into law school?
Why do you want to attend this school?
Is this school your top choice?
Where else have you applied?
Would you consider a foreign law school?
Where do you see yourself in 5/10/20 years from now?
In what area of law do you want to practice?
How do you plan to pay for law school?
What do you hope to get out of practicing law?
Do you have any concerns about this school?
Have you considered the advantages/disadvantages of living in this area?

Qualifications and Experience

What work experience have you had?
How have you prepared yourself for a career in law?
How did you decide to become a lawyer?
How have you contributed to your community?
Tell me about a time when you have helped someone.
What volunteer experience have you had?
What's your toughest subject?

Problem Solving
Describe a complex problem you have solved/haven't solved.
Tell me about a time when you used creativity to solve a problem.
What kinds of situations have you been in that required project planning?
Tell me about a time when you didn't achieve your objective.
Tell me about a time when you had to make an unpopular decision.
Give an example of a time when you had to make a quick decision on the job.

**Ability to Work in Team Situations**

Tell me about a recent team experience you had that was fulfilling.
Describe for me your typical participation in a team setting. Describe your work/research habits.
Give an example of a time when you were not a productive team member.
What do you expect of others in a team environment?
What type of people do you see yourself working with?
How do you establish working relationships with new people?
Describe for me your more significant leadership experience. How have you effectively worked in a team situation?
Describe your leadership style and give an example.
How would your co-workers/classmates describe you?

**Knowledge of the Law Field**

What legal topics are you interested in?
Are you familiar with any Supreme Court decision in that area?
What do you see as the biggest challenge facing the judicial system today?
Demonstrate your understanding of the court system.
Talk about the basic principles of the constitution.
Are you aware of the upcoming surplus of lawyers? How do you feel about it?
What do you think about legal advice being available on the Web?
What do you feel would be the most challenging/interesting case assignment?

**Personality and Background**

Tell me about a significant event in your life and how it shaped you.
Do you have a favorite book/class/professor?
Who do you not get along with and why?
Which of your qualities would you want to pass down to your children?
What about yourself would you change if you could?
What three material objects are most important to you?
What people have influenced you and how?
Do you have any heroes?
How do you handle stress?
Give me an example of a time you contributed to a group effort.
Tell me about a cross-cultural experience you have had.
What do you do in your free time?
What are your hobbies?
What is your number one accomplishment?

**Ethics/Character**

Would you defend a client who committed murder?
Have you ever cheated or helped a friend cheat?
How will you deal with know-it-all clients?
How will you keep your personal opinions separate from the law?

Current Knowledge of the Field and Opinions

Are restrictions on physician assisted suicide constitutional?
Should the insanity defense be abolished?
Do people have a right to clone themselves?
Does suspicionless drug testing of high school students violate the 4th Amendment?
Are pretextual stops by the police constitutional?
Is flag burning protected by the 1st Amendment?
Should lawyers be prohibited from presenting a false case?
Is it constitutional for public libraries to restrict access to some sites on the internet?
Should the death penalty be abolished?
Is it constitutionally permissible to detain sexually dangerous individuals after they have served their prison sentences?
Should drug use be legalized?
Should law enforcement officials notify the community when a sex-offender moves in?
Is hate speech fully protected by the constitution?
Should same sex marriages be lawful?
Should religion be practiced/taught in our schools?
Are public school officials liable for damages in cases of student-on-student sexual harassment?
Should children with disabilities be provided with extraordinary care in order to attend regular classes in public schools?
Do affirmative action programs in public school admissions policies violate the 14th Amendment?