

For general guidance on resume building and interview etiquette, please refer to our previous HireWire installments that can be found via the Newsletter page of the Amity Search Partners website.

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Interview Question Tips

As we progress into 2024 and new opportunities come to market, we have curated a list of insightful interview questions for private equity job seekers. Below is a mix of common and unique interview questions designed to help you shape your narrative, articulate your expertise, and identify your priorities for your next career move. We also included a few questions to pose to an interviewer. While primarily intended for investment-focused interviews, these questions can be adapted for various roles beyond the realm of investing.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER WHEN PREPARING FOR INTERVIEWS

- Why do you want to work in private equity and what attracted you to our firm specifically?
- How do you stay informed about industry trends? What publications do you read regularly?
- What is your favorite company in our portfolio?
- Walk me through the steps involved in building a leveraged buyout (LBO) model.
- What methodologies do you use to value a company? How do you approach valuing a company in a rapidly changing industry or during economic uncertainty?
- How would you get from EBITDA to free cash flow?
- Can you build a paper LBO from scratch?
- How do you formulate an investment thesis, and what factors would you consider to determine the viability of an investment opportunity?

- How do you assess and quantify risk in a potential investment, and what risk factors would you consider?
- How would you assess market dynamics and the competitive landscape when considering a new investment?
- Can you give me an example of a company that would make a good LBO candidate today?
- What is your biggest failure/mistake/regret? Why? How did you handle this experience and what did you learn from it?
- Describe a situation where you disagreed with a colleague. How did you handle it?
- Describe an instance where you had to manage conflicting priorities – what was your solution and why?
- What motivates you?
- What accomplishment in your career are you most proud of and why?
- Is there anything you'd like to share about yourself that doesn't come across on your resume?
- Why should we hire you?

QUESTIONS TO ASK AN INTERVIEWER

- What aspects of this firm have contributed to your decision to stay, and how have you developed professionally during your tenure?
- Upon stepping into your role, what aspects surprised you the most about the job?
- Can you describe the key initiatives for this role – immediate term and long term?
- What characteristics make an individual successful at your firm?
- What has been your favorite deal to work on?
- What are your firm's goals in the next year? The next five years?
- What opportunities exist within this firm for long-term career growth and advancement?

LINKS TO PRIOR AMITY HIREWIRE VOLUMES

- [Volume 1: Tips for interview success](#)
- [Volume 2: Make your resume stand out](#)