

Top 10 Interview Questions During Your Law Firm Interview

By Harrison Barnes from Los Angeles Office Managing Director

When I am [preparing a candidate for an interview](#), we discuss many topics ranging from the trivial, i.e., [what should I expect](#) to the critical, i.e., [how to respond when asked why you are leaving your current employer](#).

Obviously, the manner in which these topics are handled is different for each candidate because [each candidate is different](#). There are no standard answers.

However, there is one topic - the [questions that a candidate should ask his interviewer](#) - where I do repeat myself. I have a couple of favorite questions that invariably earn high marks from my candidates during their post-interview debrief. In order to have more than a couple of great questions at the ready, I decided to ask my fellow BCG recruiters about [interview questions](#). My goal was to develop a [list of truly outstanding questions](#) - my "Top Ten," if you will - designed to [impress your interviewer](#) and make my candidate more memorable - a key feature in a competitive market if one hopes to [secure a position](#).

Before I get to my [Top Ten Interview Questions](#), I need to discuss the more mundane questions you may want to ask at some point during the process. For example, [you probably do want to ask about how work is assigned](#), how feedback is given to associates, when you will get client contact, and how deals are staffed (partner-to-associate ratio.) I do not mean to trivialize these questions. They are important and will provide important [information about whether any particular position is a good fit for you](#). However, nearly all candidates ask these questions, and you want to be able to [set yourself apart from the crowd](#). See [Interviewing Tips](#) for more information

To that end, you may want to employ one or more of the following questions, which should elicit [thoughtful and a responses](#). The questions are not in any particular order, so they are not truly a David Letterman "Top 10". Rather questions that, [based on your interviewer's personality and the general tenor](#) of the interview, you may opt to use [make your interview notable](#). Without further delay, my Top Ten Interview Questions are as follows:

1. What has been your most exciting experience working at this firm?
2. Is there anything that you did not [know about this firm](#) when you joined that would have been helpful or good to know?
3. If you and I were to work together on a matter, how would you utilize an associate with my [skill set](#)?
4. What career growth can I reasonably expect if I meet your expectations?
5. What precipitated your hiring need right now?
6. Why did you [choose this firm](#)?
7. Of which accomplishment is this firm most proud?
8. Where could you use the most support in your practice right now?
9. How would you characterize the culture and philosophy of the firm?
10. What is your favorite part of your job?

I cannot stress the [importance of engaging your interviewer](#) in thoughtful conversation; these questions go a long way towards achieving the goal. You may not want to use all of them (or any of them) if the interviewer does not seem amenable to innovation. However, [commit them to memory in case you want to use them](#), as you may be pleasantly surprised by how they can [turn an interview around for the better](#). Good luck, and remember - there are no stupid questions!

See the following articles for more information about law firm interviews:

Law Firm Interview Resources

[Top 23 Law Firm Interview Tips: How to Excel in Law Firm Interviews](#)

[Top 12 Reasons Attorneys Do Not Get Law Firm Interviews](#)

[Interview Questions and Reminders](#)

[Interview Skills 101: Focusing on the Positive](#)

[Post-Interview Thank You Notes](#)

[Special Attorney Interview Tips for Senior Associates](#)

[Special Attorney Interview Tips for Junior Associates](#)

[The Importance of Self-Confidence in a Law Firm Job Interview](#)