

Information Interview

It's important to learn everything you can about the job you aspire to have. The more you know, the better informed you'll be to make the right decision for yourself, your family, and your/their future.

Contact the [DFPS Military Liaison](#) to get in touch with a DFPS employee/military veteran to gain insight about a job you would like to have.

Use the questions below to get you started for the interview.

Education background:

1. What degree did you pursue for your undergraduate? For graduate?
2. What classes from your undergraduate degree are most useful to perform in your job? From your graduate degree?
3. What were the requirements for your licensure?
4. What additional education/skills were required to maintain your licensure or be proficient in your job?
5. What advice would you give to someone interested in your field of study? (ie, what classes to take, certifications, etc)

About your job:

1. What is your job and specialty areas? How long have you been in this field? How long in this position? Do you work alone?
2. What is a typical day for you at work? What is it like weekly? Monthly? Yearly?
3. What are the major responsibilities and duties of your position?
4. What skills are needed to perform your job?
5. Besides what is needed, what qualities do you feel you bring to the profession?
6. Who are your clients? (ie individuals, groups, couples, etc)
 - a. What are the common needs of your clients?

- b. On average, how long do you treat your clients?
- 7. How often do you consult with others for advice on your decisions while treating your clients?
- 8. Have you come across an ethical dilemma? What advice would you give to someone with the same dilemma to solve it?
- 9. What volunteer work or internships do you think prepared you for your field of interest?

About your career and field:

- 1. What kind of people do well in this career?
- 2. What influenced you to choose this profession?
- 3. Was this always what you thought you would be doing? If so, why? If not, what was it and what changed your mind?
- 4. What other goals do you have in your field?
- 5. What activities (volunteer work, workshops, sponsorships etc) or professional organizations are you a part of?
- 6. What steps do you take to ensure you are not “burned out”?
- 7. People in the helping profession are involved with clients who may have completely different perspectives. What do you do to make sure you are respectful of their viewpoints?
- 8. The public has heard all the terms of different helping professions (social worker, professional counselor, psychology, psychiatrist, etc). Without being properly educated, some people think that they are all the same regardless of the title. How would you describe to someone the differences between a professional counselor and social worker?