Sample Questions to Ask Mentors

The small group mentoring format is a good time to ask questions and seek advice for your particular situation. Please ask mentors the questions you would like answered. Below are sample questions that you can use to get started.

1. What was your first job? How did you get it? Why are you doing what you're doing now?

2. What is it like working in government/industry? How and/or why did you start your own company (for consultants)? What are the benefits/disadvantages?

3. If you're in a hiring position, what do you look for in an applicant? How important are grades? How important is experience?

4. Should I include unrelated work experience on an otherwise mostly blank resume? Any tips on preparing for an interview? Negotiating salary?

5. What is the job market like for us now, in two years, in 5 years?

6. How do I get health and safety training (HAZWOPER)?

7. How do I become a registered/certified geologist?

8. How do you "bill out" a client?

9. How important is networking?

10. What "hard career lessons" have you learned that, if given the opportunity, you would do differently?

11. How does your geoscience education/training/degree relate to the position that you now hold? How did you use it to get your job?

12. What advice do you have for a recent graduate who is seeking an entry level position?