



SDSU Student Accounting Society

Meeting Minutes: Sempra Energy Interview Prep

9/23/2021

Presenters:

Zach Balian--University recruiter

- Email: zach.balian@us.gt.com

Adam Steinmetz--Office manager (Tax)

Ameila Anderson--Senior (Audit)

Cathy Hyodo--Audit Partner

Michael Allgood--Senior Associate in Tax

Presentation:

Before the Interview

- On the firm
 - Website research
 - What can you learn about culture and values? Career growth?
 - What can you learn through events and interactions with the firm?
- Interviewers
 - It's okay to ask
 - Look them up on LinkedIn...what do you have in common
- Position
 - Familiarize yourself with the position you're interviewing for
 - What can you learn about the internship experience that would help you sell your own skills?
- Time to reflect
 - Behavioral interviews--questions focused on you and how you fit into a role
 - Spend some time with your own resume
 - What skills are transferable?
 - How do you rise to meet challenges?

- What role do you play when working with a team?
 - Be ready to answer questions like:
 - “Tell me about a time you had to resolve a conflict in a group situation”
 - “Give me an example of when you had to overcome a major obstacle”
 - “Provide an example of a time you made a mistake. What did you do to fix it?”
 - Talk about things that you are passionate about!

During the Interview

- Dress for Success
 - Unless otherwise specified, business professional is your best bet!
- Virtual interviewing
 - Background
 - Lighting
 - Internet connection (and a backup plan!)
 - Test video platform in advance
 - Make sure that they can hear you clearly!
 - Consistent with eye placement
- Asking questions
 - Remember that interviews go both ways!
 - This time is an opportunity to see if the firm is a good fit for you
 - What is important to you?
 - Personal values
 - Career goals
 - Work/life balance
 - Ask intentional questions
 - Never ask about things that you can find on a website

After the Interview

- Follow up!
 - Soon after your interview, write a short email to following people:
 - Your interviewers
 - Thank you!
 - Reference something specific about your conversation that you valued or enjoyed learning throughout
 - Do so within 24 hours, earlier if possible
 - Your recruiter
 - Reiterate interest
 - Good time to ask about the timeline if you haven't yet
 - Other connections you may have made at the firm

Final Advice:

- It's easy to get nervous, but just remember, interviews are a time for people to get to know you and for you to get to know them! Just take advantage of the time you have with the professionals.

Questions:

When is too soon to try to connect on LinkedIn? Is there a right time to do that?

I don't think that there is any sort of too soon. There's never a time too early, as soon as you can connect you can reach out and establish that connection.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

- Apply through their website, no need to apply through Handshake
 - Go to the career tab & search for the position you're applying for
- Deadline: THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH BEFORE MIDNIGHT