



Informational Interviews (Career Mentoring)

What are Informational Interviews?

An informational interview is a casual conversation with a professional whose goal is to learn about their career path, industry, and advice—not to ask for a job.

Mentee Considerations:

- Reach out politely through Mav Mentors, LinkedIn, or email. Keep your request short and respectful.
- Prepare 5–7 thoughtful questions. Don't treat this as a job interview or a job request.
- Please keep it to 30 minutes unless invited to go longer. If suggested, be open to meeting in person.
- Be on time, dress appropriately, and follow up with a thank-you message within 24 hours.
- Sample questions:
 - How did you get started in your field?
 - What do you enjoy most about your job?
 - What challenges do you face in your role/industry?
 - What skills are most important for someone entering this field?
 - Who else should I connect with?

Mentor Considerations:

- Share your career path, including challenges and lessons learned, not just successes.
- Offer practical advice about skills, classes, and experiences that matter.
- Keep your responses conversational; students value authenticity.
- Suggest one or two additional professionals, events, or resources.
- Encourage the student to follow up with you on LinkedIn.

How to set one up:

- Reach out through Mav Mentors, LinkedIn, or email.
- Keep your message short and respectful. Example:
"Hi [Name], I admire your work in [field, point to something specific if possible]. As a student at UTA interested in [career area], I'd love to learn from your experience. Would you be open to a 20–30 minute informational interview?"

Resources:

- [30 Questions to Elevate Your Informational Interview](#) - Indeed.com