

PROPELLER

# Consultant Interview Quick Guide

WWW.PROPELLER.COM



How to Succeed in the Consultant Interview Process

CONSULTANT INTERVIEW  
QUICK GUIDE

# Know the Format



Most consulting interviews follow a standard format:

1. **A phone screen**
2. **One to three interviews to further dive into your experience**
3. **A final case interview.**

During the phone screen, you'll be asked basic questions about your experience and the projects you've managed, as well as given the opportunity to ask questions. In the second through fourth interviews, you'll be asked to delve deeper into projects and be asked more challenging questions about how you deal with obstacles and work with stakeholders. Finally, in the case interview, you'll be presented with a business case scenario and asked to create a presentation to outline your solution.

# Practice Your Communication Skills

During the interview process, we evaluate not only your experience but also how effectively you communicate. Practice your storytelling skills and career journey story. We often begin the conversation by asking some version of “tell me about yourself.” This prompt is not a trick, but an opportunity for you to tell us about your career journey clearly and concisely. By starting the conversation off on the right foot, you create a positive environment where the interviewer is primed to view you favorably. Giving not enough information or worse, too much, can set the wrong tone for the interview. Here is a [helpful guide](#) to help you nail this common prompt.

For questions about your experience, use the tried-and-true [STAR method](#) to effectively tell stories. Practice a few key stories from your career to get a feel for how to use the STAR method comfortably.



Communicate your career journey through effective storytelling by utilizing the STAR method. ★ See it in action with Propeller's own Serena Cline.





## Know Your Experience

Know the details of your experience. Your interviewer will likely dig into your experience for more details. It is helpful if you share specifics like scope, risks, budget, schedule, and stakeholders. Before an interview, think through two or three of your most significant experiences and identify the main point as well as the important details to tell your interviewer about.



## Ask Questions

At Propeller, we want to hire people who are curious and are just as excited about us, as we are about them. We strongly recommend coming to each interview with a few questions. It's better to overprepare a list of questions than to under prepare. Most interviews leave 10-20 minutes for your questions, and we love it when you have lots of questions. It shows that you have done your research, are thoughtfully evaluating whether this is a good fit for you, and that you are interested in the company.



## Highlight Your Emotional IQ

One of the most important traits of a successful consultant is relationship building and management — the foundation of which is emotional intelligence. When thinking about your experience, consider ways to highlight through your stories how you collaborated, included others, sought input and feedback, and displayed emotional intelligence skills.



## Be Yourself

Where you work is a big deal. We spend most of our waking hours with our coworkers and we believe firmly that you should love where you work. Being yourself in your interview process is a great way to make sure the place you seek employment is a good fit for you. Remember, in interviews you are also interviewing the company, so being clear about your values and desires is critical for a successful, mutually beneficial interview outcome. Bring your authentic self to the interview and let what makes you unique shine.

# What To Do If You're Rejected

Many Propellerites are not hired the first time they apply. We have a very selective hiring process. Sometimes it takes more than one try to get hired. Most frequently, we do not extend an offer because a candidate does not have quite enough related experience or because the experience they do have wasn't communicated well. If you are not extended an offer, we sincerely hope you still have a positive experience with us. We absolutely encourage you to apply again and recommend a few actions:

- Wait at least six months to gain more experience
- Take on more project management opportunities to expand your skillset
- Get additional certifications if applicable (see to the right)

## Project Management

- PMP: Project Management Professional
- CAPM: Certified Associate of Project Management
- PgMP: Program Management Professional
- PMI – ACP: Project Management Institute – Agile Certified Professional
- PMI – PBA: Project Management Institute – Professional in Business Analysis

## Change Management

- PROSCI ADKAR : Change Management Certification
- CCMP: Certified Change Management Professional

## Technology

- CSM: Certified Scrum master
- CSPO: Certified Scrum Product Owner
- PSM: Professional Scrum Master
- SA: SAFe Scaled Agilist

MORE RESOURCES →

1. [Project Manager Interview Questions](#)
2. [3 Rules to Improve your Project Management](#)
3. [A 5-Step Framework to Tell Any Story in an Interview](#)
4. [Project Management for Beginners](#)
5. [The Complete Glossary of PM Terms](#)







# Learn more about life at Propeller and open positions

[WWW.PROPELLER.COM/CAREERS](http://WWW.PROPELLER.COM/CAREERS)