



## Research Experiences for Community College Students

April 2022

RECCS is a summer student research program for Colorado community college students funded by the National Science Foundation and coordinated by CIRES Education Outreach, Niwot Ridge LTER and INSTAAR.

*Welcome to the new monthly RECCS newsletter where you will find helpful academic and career tips, and a selection of current internships, entry-level job openings, and graduate positions. This month's topic offers tips on interviews and standing out.*

### What to Expect in an Interview



Photo: Aubrey Magdalena, RECCS 2021.

- ...the interview is all about you - be ready to talk about yourself and to be composed.
- ... to talk about employment gaps and periods between jobs in the best light possible.
- ... to describe projects you've been involved in.
- ... to bring questions of your own - this is your opportunity to interview the company and find out if this is somewhere you can really see yourself working.

## Common Interview Questions

- Can you tell me a little about yourself?
- Why did you leave your last job?
- How did you hear about this position?
- Why do you want to work for our company?
- Why are you the best person for this job?
- What are your greatest strengths and weaknesses?



## Questions to Ask During an Interview

### ***Ask questions regarding the duties and requirements***

#### ***of the position, such as:***

- What are you looking for in a candidate?
- How would you describe a typical day in this position?
- What are the biggest challenges of the job?

#### ***Ask questions related to the office structure:***

- How many people work in the office/department?
- Who does this position report to?
- What is the company's management style?

#### ***Ask questions regarding the culture:***

- How does the company promote diversity?
- What is the best part of working for this company?
- Is there a prayer space?
- What type of background do you feel is best suited for success in this position?

#### ***Ask questions regarding promotion:***

- What kinds of opportunities are there for growth within the company?
- How does one advance in the company?

#### ***Questions not to ask:***

- What does the company do? (Do your research ahead of time!)
- When can I take time off?

[Read more here](#)



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from the Noun Project

## Tips for a Great Interview

### **Standing out**

- Research the company - show how you can be a good addition to the company.
- Dress for success - follow the dress code, and show your personality.
- Arrive early for your interview.
- Showcase your strengths and areas for improvement.
- Talk about more than what's on your resume - describe your accomplishments.
- Ask the right questions - show interest and ask insightful questions.
- Be aware of your body language.

- Send a thank you email

### Virtual Interviews

- Log on on-time.
- Set up your space - consider your background, check for reliable internet, and be comfortable with the online platform.
- Make eye contact, stay focused, and be visibly engaged.

### More Tips to Feel Prepared

- Know your worth - remember your value and the potential you have for the job.
- Be aware of potential biases and discrimination - be ready to address it, but don't be discouraged.
- Practice your interview answers, especially if you have little experience, to help build confidence.
- Network - build connections and expand your network.

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## Here are Field Specific Examples



### **14 Black professionals share their advice for your...**

There's nothing quite like receiving a job (or internship) offer. It's almost always a moment filled with excitement, promise, and much-deserved celebration! But for Black new hires, especially those just taking the first steps in their career...

[Read more](#)  
[joinhandshake.com](http://joinhandshake.com)



### **Research Assistant Interview Questions (With Example...**

Research assistants are expected to have superb observational, analytical, technical, and time-management skills as they aid professionals with conducting experiments and interpreting the data.

[Read more](#)  
[www.zippia.com](http://www.zippia.com)

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## Join RECCS on LinkedIn!

1. Create or update your LinkedIn profile ([view the how-to video](#))
2. Connect with us on [LinkedIn!](#)

## Current Job Openings

- [Fall 2022 U.S. Dept. of Energy Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships \(SULI\) Program](#)
- [Office of Science Graduate Student Research Program](#) (Closes May 4, 2022)
- [2022 SOURCES Internship Program](#) Los Angeles, CA
- [Water Conservation Associate/Summer Internship](#) Denver, CO (Closes April 24, 2022)
- [Stewardship Intern](#) Keene, New Hampshire (Closes May 13, 2022)
- [Grassland Research Assistant](#) Joseph H. Williams Tall Grass Prairie Preserve, Oklahoma (Closes April 16, 2022)
- [Research Chemist](#) Lakewood, CO (Closes April 13, 2022)
- [Graduate/Undergraduate Intern: Agrivoltaics Analysis](#) Golden, CO
- [BLM Seasonal Botanist and Ecologist](#) Craig and Meeker, CO (Closes April 29, 2022)
- [Environmental Engineer - Entry Level](#) Broomfield, CO
- [GIS Analyst / Environmental Planner \(Entry Level\)](#) Beltsville, MD
- [PLM Analyst - Entry Level](#) Denver, CO
- [Entry Level Environmental Scientist/Geologist](#) Kansas City, Missouri
- [Entry-Level Geologist](#) Denver, CO
- [Environmental Remote Sensing Scientist](#) Boulder, CO
- [Environmental Scientists / Engineers - Jr. Level](#) Denver, CO
- [Environmental Scientist](#) Denver, CO
- [Staff Geologist](#) Denver, CO

## What is going on with RECCS?

The 2022 RECCS 15-student cohort has been selected and students are enthusiastically looking forward to starting their research this summer!

## RECCS Team

Alicia Christensen, Bec Batchelor, Christine Okochi, Anne Gold (RECCS PI), and Karla Pineda-Velez



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**[www.cires.colorado.edu/outreach/programs/reccs](http://www.cires.colorado.edu/outreach/programs/reccs)**

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