

## Questions for Proteges to ask Mentors

- What advice do you wish you'd been given when you were in college?
- What was the hardest thing about your transition from college to the business world?
- Who do you most admire and why?
- What tools/experiences (books, podcasts, trainings, conferences) do you use to continue in your professional development?
- What tools/experiences (books, podcasts, trainings, conferences) would you recommend for me?
- What challenges have you faced throughout your career?
- Have you had a mentor before? What types of things did you work on with them?
- How did you choose your career?
- Is the position you're currently in what you expected to be doing when you were in college?
- What mistakes have you made? What did you learn from them?
- How do you achieve work/life balance?
- What do you like most about your job?
- What factors do you consider most important when planning for the future?
- What habits have you worked to develop that have helped your career?
- What's something you would've done differently in your career?
- How do you set goals for yourself?
- What role has networking played in your career?
- What types of networking events would you recommend for me?
- Did you ever apply for a role that you weren't 100% sure you were qualified to do? How did that work out?
- Which soft skills have been the most significant in your career? How did you work to develop those skills?
- Can you tell me about the most difficult boss/coworker you've worked with? How did you handle that situation?
- What lessons have you learned the hard way?
- From our time together, what do you think I need to work on?
- What do you see as some of my blind spots and how can I improve?
- Is there anything you notice about me that might be holding me back?
- What is your best advice for the first 90 days in a new job?
- How would you suggest I manage my nervousness for an interview?
- Who are the people who have made the biggest impact on your career?
- What personal values drove you to your current role?
- What is your proudest achievement professionally?
- What unexpected obstacles have come up in your career?
- What is the toughest feedback you've ever received?
- At what point did you start to feel like you were making it in your career?
- What does success look like to you? How did you determine that for yourself? Has your idea of success changed over the course of your career?
- What part of your day do you enjoy the most?
- How have you incorporated your personal passion into your career?
- What else do you want to accomplish in your own career?
- If you were me, what questions would you be asking you?

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- What do you see as my natural strengths and weaknesses?
- How would you describe me in 3 words?
- How do you keep updated on industry news?
- What should I look for in future mentors?
- Which leadership skills were the most difficult to develop and how can I begin to develop those skills?
- How can I stay connected to people that I have networked with, but may not work in the same industry or in the same geographical location?
- I have two career paths that I'm torn between. Can you weigh in to help me make a decision that is best for me?
- What new skills do you think I should work on/develop?
- What's the best advice you can give to help plan a career rather than simply work to keep a job?
- How do you balance your work and home life?
- Who are the people that have made the biggest difference in your career?
- What has been the proudest moment in your career?
- What is the most challenging thing that you've had to do to get to where you are?
- What role has your education played in your career?
- What is one thing that I'm surprised about your career path that most people do not know?
- What are the best and worst parts of your day at work?
- What is the most exciting/rewarding project that you've ever gotten to work on?