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Interview Prep Guide for Trades

Practical Tips to Help Skilled Trades and Industrial Candidates Interview with Confidence

Why Interview Preparation Matters

- A strong interview can set you apart from other qualified candidates.
- Employers want to hire dependable workers who prioritize safety, quality, and teamwork.
- Preparation helps you communicate your experience clearly and confidently.

What Employers Want to Hear

- Examples of similar projects or equipment you have worked on.
- Your commitment to safety and attendance.
- How you solve problems and work with others.
- Your certifications, licenses, and technical skills.

Common Interview Questions

- Tell me about your experience.
- What equipment, tools, or systems have you worked with?
- What safety procedures do you follow?
- Describe a problem you solved on the job.
- Why are you looking for a new opportunity?
- Are you available for overtime, travel, or different shifts?

Use the STAR Method

- Situation: Briefly explain the context.
- Task: Describe your responsibility.
- Action: Explain what you did.
- Result: Share the outcome.

What to Bring

- Resume with current contact information.
- Government-issued photo ID.
- Trade certifications or licenses.
- List of references.
- PPE if requested.

Questions You Should Ask

- What does a typical day look like?
- What tools or equipment will I use?
- What are the safety expectations?
- Is this temporary, temp-to-hire, or direct hire?
- What opportunities are there for advancement?

Day-of-Interview Checklist

- Arrive 10–15 minutes early.
- Dress neatly and appropriately.
- Silence your phone.
- Bring all requested documents.
- Maintain eye contact and answer clearly.

Follow-Up Tip

- Send a short thank-you message within 24 hours to reinforce your interest.

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