**Questions Applicants Might Ask an Interviewer:**  
Interview etiquette requires that you, as the applicant, allow the interviewer to direct and control the first part of the interview. A new employer takes the lead in asking the questions about your work experience, education, skilols and attitude.

However, at some point, the interviewer will turn to you and ask if you have any questions. You must be ready with questions the demonstrate your business judgement and maturity.

Asking questions not only helps you as a candidate determine the “fit” of the program with your desired academic and career objectives, but it also communicates to the selection committee the extent of your interest in their program:

What characteristics distinguish this program from others in the same academic field?

How long does it take typically to complete the program?

Where are recent alumni employed? What do most graduates do after graduation?

What types of financial aid are offered? What criteria are used for choosing recipients?

What opportunities are available through the program to gain practical work experience?

Are there opportunities such as assistantships, fellowships or internships available? What are the deadlines to apply for these opportunities?

Are there any scholarships or fellowships available? How do I apply?

Do most students publish an article/conduct research prior to graduation?

I've read articles written by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_ --\_\_\_\_. To what extent are students involved in assisting these faculty members with related research projects?

What types of research projects are current students pursuing?

How are graduate test scores, grades, letters of recommendations, and personal statements evaluated for the admissions process?

What is the selection timeline? When will candidates be notified about their acceptance into the program?

When will you be making your final decision for admitted students?

What do you see as my greatest strengths and weaknesses in terms of your program?

Can you tell me how my performance in your program will be evaluated?

What type of teaching and guidance style of the program as a whole?

What freedom will I have in my research?

What are the expectations of the program and faculty in your program?

What is generally expected for the first six months of this program?

What would consider the most challenging portion of your program?

**Field Specific Questions & Current Events:**  
You will undoubtedly encounter questions that related specifically to your chosen field of study. Be certain that you are aware of current trends, issues and controversy in your field so that you will be able to answer questions intelligibly. Below are a few examples:

What do you believe to be the major trends in your intended career field at this time?

What do you think about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (current event)?

What problem in the world troubles you most? What would you do about it?

What is the most important development in this field over the past 25 years, and why?

Tell me more about how my work fits into the whole picture?

Describe the type of student who does best in your company?

**DO NOT Ask These Questions:**  
Poor questions deal with salary, benefits, vacation, or security. These self-centered questions indicate that you are more concerned about whats in it for you than what you can offer the company. Wait until the company shows interest, during a second interview, before asking these types of questions.

What about benefits?

When could I expect a promotion?

What happens after my probationary period?