



Maricopa County Human Services Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SURVIVING A GROUP INTERVIEW!

Has this ever happened to you? You arrive early for a job interview only to find six other candidates waiting in the lobby to interview for the same position at the same time? Welcome to the world of group interviews. With time being a precious commodity in the workplace, companies are now opting to use group interviews as a method to screen applicants. How do you survive the group interview? Below are several tips:

The introduction. If you're participating in a group interview, be courteous to the other candidates and shake hands if introduced.

What to expect. Employers often conduct group interviews to evaluate how candidates communicate and interact with others. The individuals conducting the interviews will generally watch your level of participation, enthusiasm, non-verbal cues, approach to teamwork and problem-solving.

Set yourself apart from the rest. Communicate your responses clearly and thoroughly. If you're asked a question, don't respond by stating that you agree with another individual in the group. You can convey this message by using your own verbiage and creative flair.

When to speak up. Follow the lead of the individual(s) conducting the interview. They will often select the candidate(s) who will respond to the question. If you have information to add that is of value, ask if you may respond. However, make sure that you don't overshadow the rest of the candidates. No one likes a know-it-all.

Possibilities. Employers often conduct group interviews when there is more than one position available. Don't treat the person sitting next to you as a competitor – they could be a future co-worker.

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