

## The interview, decoded from real client reports



### AT A GLANCE **Short, personal, plan-focused**

#### WHO INTERVIEWS

Admissions staff or their agent

#### FORMAT

Virtual on Zoom, one-on-one

#### LENGTH

30 minutes, about 10 for you

#### YOUR FILE

Read in full, Pick Six included

### What to expect

Stern interviews are compact, plan-focused conversations with someone who has read your whole application. Expect pointed questions on whether your plan holds up: target companies, your backup, the Stern resources you will use and how you will engage with the community and New York. Recent interviews moved quickly past why MBA and why Stern to hear about passion and long-term vision. Keep every answer tight.

### Questions to prepare

1. Why an MBA, why now, and why Stern?
2. Tell me about your recruiting plans for your post-MBA goal.
3. How will you use Stern's resources to support your recruiting?
4. How do you see yourself getting involved in the Stern community?
5. Tell me about one of your Pick Six photos.
6. Tell me about a time you worked on a team, and the role you play.
7. How do you handle conflict, like a teammate not pulling their weight?
8. What kind of leader are you?
9. What is your backup plan if you don't land your target role?
10. What does it mean to you to be a student in New York?

#### CURVEBALL

##### Your weak spot, named

Because the interviewer has your file, a visible gap can come up point-blank. A light quant background, for example, may be raised directly. If your profile has a soft spot, have a calm workplace example ready.

#### PREP TIPS

##### Don't expect it to be easy

Interviews run by an agent of the admissions committee have felt more scripted and behavioral. Prepare stories on teamwork, conflict and feedback even if you hear Stern is relaxed.

#### FROM INTERVIEW HERO

##### Make your plan sound inevitable

Stern spends much of the half hour testing your goals, targets and backup. Interview Hero's chapter on why questions, built on being "human capital greedy," helps your plan sound grounded and specific.

Chapter 12: Why Do You Want This Job? · [Get it on Amazon](#)



#### YOUR NYU STERN INVITE JUST LANDED?

### Get expert help preparing for this interview

[mbaprotocol.com/services/interview](https://mbaprotocol.com/services/interview)

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