

Anderson

UCLA ANDERSON SCHOOL OF
MANAGEMENT

 MBA PROTOCOL

INTERVIEW INTELLIGENCE SERIES • QUICK GUIDE • 2026

The interview, decoded from real
client reports



AT A GLANCE Quick, friendly, fit-focused

WHO INTERVIEWS
A current student

FORMAT
Virtual, one-on-one

LENGTH
30 minutes, kept to time

YOUR FILE
Blind: your resume only

What to expect

A short, pleasant conversation with a current student that covers a lot of ground fast: your resume, why MBA, why Anderson, goals, plan B and exactly where you will show up on campus, with a behavioral prompt or two. Expect 20 to 25 minutes of questions and 5 to 10 for yours. Interviewers keep to time because the next applicant is waiting, and many answers get steered back to fit.

Questions to prepare

1. Walk me through your resume, or tell me about yourself.
2. Why an MBA, and why now?
3. How will you contribute to Anderson? Which clubs, activities or resources?
4. Why Anderson, or why UCLA specifically?
5. What are your short-term and long-term goals?
6. Tell me about a time you worked with people from different backgrounds.
7. What is your plan B if your career goals do not work out?
8. What are your strengths and weaknesses on a team?
9. What transferable skills do you have for your post-MBA goals?
10. Is there anything else you want us to know?

CURVEBALL

Plan B, again

"What's your plan B if your career plan doesn't work out?" comes up often, sometimes as "what if you don't get into your target function?" Have a specific, unflustered answer.

PREP TIPS

Clubs, by name

Interviewers push past "I'd love to contribute" to specific clubs, events and resources. Even after naming activities, expect to be asked which clubs, exactly.

Expect a glitch or two

Technical problems can delay the start. Join early and stay composed if the call goes sideways.

FROM INTERVIEW HERO Own the first two minutes

Every Anderson interview opened with your resume, and the clock is tight. Interview Hero's Walk Me Through Your Resume chapter gives you eight frameworks for a crisp opener that sets up why MBA and why Anderson.

Chapter 11: Walk Me Through Your Resume • [Get it on Amazon](#)



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