

Marshall

MARSHALL SCHOOL OF BUSINESS,
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA

 MBA PROTOCOL

INTERVIEW INTELLIGENCE SERIES • QUICK GUIDE • 2026

The interview, decoded from real
client reports



AT A GLANCE **Relaxed, resume-led, conversational**

WHO INTERVIEWS

An admissions committee
member

FORMAT

Virtual (Zoom), one-on-
one

LENGTH

Scheduled 30 to 40
minutes

YOUR FILE

Blind in some, read in
others

What to expect

Marshall interviews are friendly, back-and-forth conversations with an admissions committee member. They open with a walk through your resume, and the interviewer builds follow-up questions from what you say, such as how a move between roles came about. Why Marshall comes up every time, followed by questions on your leadership style, a team challenge or a proud accomplishment. Interviewers have left time for your questions.

Questions to prepare

1. Walk me through your resume.
2. Why Marshall?
3. What kind of leader are you? What are three leadership traits you have?
4. Tell me about a time you worked in a team and had to overcome a challenge.
5. What are the three greatest qualities of a strong leader?
6. How have you engaged with Marshall?
7. What accomplishment are you most proud of?
8. What are your goals? Why an MBA?
9. What is the most challenging project you have worked on?
10. How do team members view you, good and bad?

CURVEBALL

The misconception question

One interviewer asked for the biggest misconception people have of you, and another asked about your hobbies. Interviews can also end earlier than scheduled.

PREP TIPS

Explain every move

Interviewers have walked through each position and asked why you took it. Know the story behind every step, and have specific ways you have engaged with Marshall.

FROM INTERVIEW HERO Own the resume walk-through



Marshall interviews open with your resume and follow your story wherever it leads. Interview Hero's resume frameworks help you pick a structure that makes each move feel intentional.

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

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