



Department of Housing & Residence Life

Tips for the Interview

The selection process to become a Student Staff Member (SSM) is one of the greatest experiences to have before entering a search for a job after college. You are evaluated on your ability to work with a team, problem-solving skills and prior experience.

Below are some tips to help you succeed through our process as well as what the formal spring process will entail. RAs and PLs are hired through Mid-Year selection will typically only experience an interview with a Hall Director, Area Manager and a current SSM.

- **Dress:** Presentation of yourself is sometimes half the battle of getting any desired outcome. It is recommended that candidates attend any interview with the intention to "dress to impress." What this means may look different to each candidate, but above all, make sure that no matter what you're wearing, we still get a glimpse of the REAL you.
- **Preparation:** The first step to a successful interview is preparing yourself for what is to come and understanding the organization you're interviewing with. A great resource is your current RA or PL or another trusted member of the Housing staff. They can give you their perspective on what happens in the daily life of a SSM.

Another great resource is the Housing website. The website outlines our values, our mission and our philosophy about residence life at Georgia Tech. Reading through this material and being able to draw connections about how you would fit in that picture as a SSM will make you a stronger candidate.

Georgia Tech Career Services is also another strong source for tips for your interview.

- **What are we looking for?** In any interview it is important to give examples of your experience, thoughts, values, or projections of behavior. Focus on your STRENGTHS, but recognize your weaknesses and how you are working on improving them. Be sure to be honest about who you are and what you believe in. Getting coached on what to say or do is helpful, but unless you're being true to yourself, we'll notice the act.

We are not looking for the perfect leader in every candidate but rather the potential and desire for greatness. This may be your first leadership experience, but that doesn't mean you won't make a great SSM!