

Interview Questions (Math Education Positions)

- 1) Discuss your research program. (I had two versions of my response ready, one for elementary positions, and one for secondary positions)
- 2) What are the future directions of this program? Where do you see it going?
- 3) Discuss your teaching experience. (I had two versions of my response ready, one for elementary positions, and one for secondary positions)
- 4) Describe your teaching philosophy.
- 5) Have you worked with K-12 students? If so, what did you learn from this experience?
- 6) Why do you want to work at this university? Why would this position be a good fit for your professional goals? (they always ask this one!)
- 7) Who do you think your closest colleagues/collaborators in the department would be? (research faculty before interview)
- 8) Describe yourself as a mathematician, and how this contributes to your career as a mathematics educator.
- 9) Discuss your service activities.
- 10) What courses would you be interested in teaching at our university? (review course offerings prior to interview)
- 11) How does your teaching address issues of diversity?
- 12) How does your research address issues of diversity?
- 13) How does your research inform your teaching?
- 14) Describe your commitment to teacher education.
- 15) What do you see as the current issues in teacher education?
- 16) Describe what success would mean in your career.
- 17) Where do you see yourself in 5 years?
- 18) Describe your commitment to partnerships with schools.
- 19) Describe yourself as a collaborator. What roles do you take?
- 20) How would others describe you as a collaborator?
- 21) How do you integrate technology into your teaching?

Questions for you to ask:

- What types of courses would I have the opportunity to teach?
- Would I have the opportunity to teach doctoral-level courses? Mentor doctoral students?
- What kind of mentoring do you provide for new faculty members?
- What is the collaborative atmosphere like within your department?
- What collaborations exist between your department and local schools?
- What collaborations exist between Natural Sciences and Education?
- What collaborations exist between Psych/Ed Psych/Learning Sciences and Education?
- Would I have the opportunity to design any courses?
- Is the teaching load in the first year of employment reduced?
- Can course time be bought with research money?
- What is the relative emphasis on research, teaching, and service in the tenure process?
- What is the publication expectation?

- What's the course load? How do you support new faculty in preparing to teach courses for the first time?
- Is formal support (e.g., a mentor) provided during the tenure process?
- What is the university's track record for tenure (i.e., success and timeline)?
- What research opportunities (e.g., internal funding) are available for new faculty?
- Is travel money provided? How much and how often?
- What health plans are provided/available? Ask for information packet.
- What are the educational opportunities for one's spouse and children (e.g., free tuition)?
- Are any additional appointments [in your area] expected in the near future?
- What sorts of pathways do your students who graduate with PhDs typically follow?
- What kind of funding do PhD students in your department typically have?
- What do faculty typically do with their summer months?
- What travel support do you provide for faculty attending conferences?
- What is your timeline for interviewing and filling this position?

Other Things to Negotiate upon receiving an offer (might be discussed during campus visit)

- Reduced teaching load during first 1-2 years (2/2 reduced to 1/1 or 1/2)
- First 1-2 summers paid for writing
- Start-Up Money (\$10,000-\$50,000)
- Typical Salary: \$50,000 - \$80,000 for 9 months (5-10% wiggle room)
- Doctoral student assistant for first 1-2 years
- Lab and storage space
- Moving expenses (\$2500-\$7500)
- House hunting trip
- Employment assistance for spouse