

Bioinformatics Specialist Interview Questions

1. What kind of experience do you have designing research studies in collaboration with physicians, life scientists, or other professionals? Share an example.
2. Walk me through how you would analyze clinical or survey data using statistical approaches such as longitudinal analysis, mixed effect modeling, logistic regression analyses, and model building techniques.
3. Name a time where you monitored clinical trials or experiments to ensure adherence to established procedures or to verify the quality of data collected.
4. How often do you read current literature, attend meetings or conferences, and talk with colleagues to keep abreast of methodological or conceptual developments in fields such as biostatistics, pharmacology, life sciences, and social sciences?
5. Name a time when your advice to management led to an improvement in your company or otherwise helped your employer.
6. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.
7. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the candidate has open lines of communication.)
8. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.
9. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?
10. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?
11. Share an effective approach to working with a large amount of information/data. How has your approach affected your company?
12. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?
13. Name a time when you identified strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions to problems. What was

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the impact?

14. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.

15. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)

16. How well do you write program code to analyze data using statistical analysis software? Share an example.

17. When is the last time you prepared articles for publication or presentation at professional conferences?
How often should you publish articles?

18. What method do you use to determine project plans, timelines, or technical objectives for statistical aspects of biological research studies?

19. Share an example when you prepared statistical data for inclusion in reports to data monitoring committees, federal regulatory agencies, managers, or clients.

20. Tell me how you draw conclusions or make predictions based on data summaries or statistical analyses.

21. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?

22. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

23. Share an experience in which your attention to detail and thoroughness had an impact on your last company.

24. Please share an experience in which you successfully taught a difficult principle or concept. How were you able to be successful?

25. In your experience, what is the key to ensuring your company was compliant with all laws, regulations and standards that were applicable to your area of responsibility?

26. What have you found to be the best way to monitor the performance of your work and/or the work of

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others? Share a time when you had to take corrective action.

27. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)

28. Name a time where you taught graduate or continuing education courses or seminars in biostatistics. How did it go?

29. In your opinion, how important is it to collect data through surveys or experimentation? Why?

30. What kind of experience do you have planning or directing research studies related to life sciences? Share an example.

31. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.

32. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and can demonstrate some initiative.)

33. Share an example of when you established and accomplished a goal that was personally challenging. What helped you succeed?

34. Share an experience in which you successfully coordinated with others. How about a coordination effort that was not as successful?

35. Share an experience in which you used new training skills, ideas, or a method to adapt to a new situation or improve an ongoing one. (Look for the candidate's ability to learn.)

36. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve them?

37. Tell me about a time when you developed your own way of doing things or were self-motivated to finish an important task.

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38. How do you balance cooperation with others and independent thinking? Share an example. (Try to determine if the candidate has a cooperative attitude or is otherwise good-natured.)

39. Provide a time when you worked in a rapidly evolving workplace. How did you deal with the change? (Make sure the candidate is flexible.)

40. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.

41. Provide an example of when you set expectations and monitored the performance of subordinates. What guidance and direction did you find most effective?

42. Tell me about the last time you oversaw the work of someone else. How did you effectively motivate, develop, and direct the worker(s)?

43. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?

44. Walk me through how you apply research or simulation results to extend biological theory or recommend new research projects.

45. Describe an experience where you developed or used mathematical models to track changes in biological phenomena such as the spread of infectious diseases.