

Bioengineer Interview Questions

1. Share how you devise scalable recovery, purification, or fermentation processes for producing proteins or other biological substances for human or animal therapeutic use, food production or processing, biofuels, or effluent treatment.

2. How often do you read current scientific or trade literature to stay abreast of scientific, industrial, or technological advances?

3. Name a time when you designed or conducted studies to determine optimal conditions for cell growth, protein production, or protein or virus expression or recovery, using chromatography, separation, or filtration equipment, such as centrifuges or bioreactors.

4. What is the most challenging part of conferring with research and biomanufacturing personnel to ensure the compatibility of design and production?

5. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the candidate has open lines of communication.)

6. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

7. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?

8. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.

9. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?

10. Share an effective approach to working with a large amount of information/data. How has your approach affected your company?

11. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?

12. Provide a time when you were able to identify a complex problem, evaluate the options, and implement a solution. How did the solution benefit your employer?

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13. Name a time when you identified strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions to problems. What was the impact?

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

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

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

17. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?

18. Explain methods you use to develop methodologies for transferring procedures or biological processes from laboratories to commercial-scale manufacturing production.

19. Walk me through how you design or direct bench or pilot production experiments to determine the scale of production methods that optimize product yield and minimize production costs.

20. What have you found to be the best way to prepare technical reports, data summary documents, or research articles for scientific publication, regulatory submissions, or patent applications?

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

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

23. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

24. Share an effective way to communicate with bioregulatory authorities regarding licensing or compliance responsibilities.

25. What kind of experience do you have maintaining databases of experiment characteristics or results?

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26. Share an example where you designed or conducted follow-up experimentation, based on generated data, to meet established process objectives.

27. Tell me how you advise manufacturing staff regarding problems with fermentation, filtration, or other bioproduction processes.

28. Why is it important to consult with chemists or biologists to develop or evaluate novel technologies? What have you found helpful?

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

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