INTERVIEW PREPARATION TIPS

Preparing for your candidate interviews is one of the most important things you can do for yourself during this process. Here are some tips to assist you in presenting yourself before the interview panel:

- Read the Resident Assistant job description at www.loyola.edu/studentlife and make sure you are very familiar with the Office of Student Life's Core Values, position, and requirements.
- Spend time talking with current Resident Assistants about the position. Our info sessions will also help you find out more about the position and what to expect in this role.
- ❖ Know yourself as an RA applicant! Figure out what you personally offer as an applicant in terms of your experiences, strengths, and weaknesses. Education, summer jobs, hobbies, clubs, residence hall activities and personal aspirations should all be considered. Be prepared to talk about how the aspects of these areas have prepared you for the RA role.
- ❖ Dress appropriately for your interview. You do not need to wear a suit, but you should be dressed business casual. For women, a skirt/dress pants and top or a dress is appropriate. For men, khakis/dress pants and a dress shirt or sweater are appropriate. Do not wear jeans/tee shirts/pajama pants/sweat pants to your interview. You want to be comfortable and presentable. You only get one first impression, make the most of it. Imagine if you are the interviewer, how would you expect to see a candidate dressed?
- ❖ At the end of your interview, you will be given the opportunity to ask any questions about the RA position. Asking good questions to the interviewers indicate that you are well-prepared for the interview and that you are really interested in the position!
- Get a good night of sleep before your interviews, and eat balanced meals the day of your interviews.
- During an interview, relax and BE YOURSELF! The interviewer wants to see who you really are, and he or she will also be looking at general traits such as poise, the ability to communicate, basic social skills, personal qualities, and general personality.