



RICE | BUSINESS CONSULTING

Consulting is a competitive industry with a highly structured timeline.
Partner with the Career Development Office to understand the process.

<https://bit.ly/2sPOKKT>

FIRST YEAR TIMELINE

AUGUST

- Research areas of consulting that interest you
- Read the Vault Guide
- Join the Consulting Club
- Attend the CDO Career Conference
- Determine fit with the role, lifestyle, hierarchy, etc.
- Start outlining your value proposition

SEPTEMBER

- Attend Consulting Club's 101 sessions
- Info sessions start - RSVP, attend, learn, and network
- Do company research and develop networking targets
- Talk with second years to learn and avoid mistakes
- Do a practice case with a Consulting Club Case Coach
- Start a case group - master frameworks and concepts

OCTOBER

- Continue with info sessions and case prep
- Conduct coffee chats - these relationships can be crucial
- Build behavioral interview skills by scheduling a mock interview with a CDO advisor or use Big Interview
- Complete a minimum of 5 full practice cases by October

NOVEMBER

- Coffee chats continue, but slow with the holidays
- Continue to refine behavioral and case interview skills
- Participate in Alumni Mock Interviews for consulting
- Attend "Crack the Case Level I & II" (Ohrvall) workshops
- Complete a minimum of 10 full cases by November

DECEMBER

- Continue behavioral mock interviews with advisors, mentors, peers or Big Interview until you are confident
- Complete 20 (minimum recommendation) cases by December - utilize the Consulting Club Case Coaches
- The majority of firms will select candidates
- Take some time and recharge over the holiday

JANUARY

- Interview well and send thank you notes
- Report all offers to CDO and update OWL-Careers
- Didn't get your #1? Refocus on other opportunities and build skills and experiences that add value. Use the summer to prepare for second year recruiting

SECOND YEAR TIMELINE

SUMMER

- Research companies and build case interview skills if you are newly considering consulting for fall
- If at a consulting internship, have a discussion with your manager about your performance and possibly converting your internship into a full time offer
- Learn transferable skills to be competitive for fall
- Continue with networking and interview preparation

AUGUST

- If you have an offer, report it in OWL-Careers and decide if you want to accept or continue recruiting
- Talk to your advisor about your fall recruiting strategy
- Update your resume and refresh interview skills - attend "Crack the Case Level II" (Ohrvall)
- Attend info sessions and apply by the deadlines

SEPTEMBER

- Participate in Alumni Mock Interviews for consulting
- Interview with companies
- Talk with an advisor if you need help weighing offers or need to ask for a deadline extension
- Report all of your offers in OWL-Careers

CONSULTANT PROFILE

Strong Metrics

680+ GMAT and 3.5+ GPA scores are highly desirable. Some firms may have higher requirements. GMAT typically preferred over GRE.

Communication Skills

Firms will be assessing your ability to be in a client-facing role and present confidently from day one. Display skills that indicate that you will be able to manage relationships effectively and communicate well at every interaction.

Analytical Skills

Consulting is open to many backgrounds and past work experiences. However, demonstrate and be able to articulate concrete examples of analytical and critical thinking skills. Strong Excel and PowerPoint skills are a plus.

Leadership and Teamwork

Taking ownership and showing initiative is important to firms. Think of past examples or volunteer to take the lead on projects while at Rice. You will also be working in a team setting, so be sure you can talk about this ability in interviews.