

# CONSULTING

CONSULTING IS A COMPETITIVE INDUSTRY WITH A HIGHLY STRUCTURED TIMELINE.  
 PARTNER WITH THE CAREER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE TO UNDERSTAND THE PROCESS.

## INTERNSHIP RECRUITMENT ROADMAP

### AUGUST

- Conduct research and join Consulting Association
- Understand role and skills needed
- Determine fit with lifestyle and hierarchy
- Outline your value proposition

- Talk to 2Y MBAs
- Attend info sessions and get contacts
- Start case prep

### OCTOBER

- Conduct coffee chats
- Further refine casing
- Start building behavioral interview stories

- Practice and master case and behavioral interview skills
- Apply, do not miss deadlines
- Firms select candidates before winter recess
- Continue practice during break

### DECEMBER

### JANUARY

- Interviews start first few weeks of January
- Send prompt thank you notes
- Discuss offers and acceptance deadlines with career advisor

## SOLVING BUSINESS PROBLEMS

Consultants provide management advice within a strategic, organizational, or operational context to help organizations improve their performance.

This industry appeals to many because it is open to diverse backgrounds and work experiences. However, you must demonstrate and articulate concrete examples of analytical and critical thinking skills. Understanding what consultants do and the transferable skills you have is key. Strong Excel and PowerPoint skills are a plus.

Firms will be assessing your ability to be in a client-facing role; you must be considered client ready from day one. Indicate your ability to manage relationships effectively and exceptional communication skills.

Taking ownership and showing initiative are also 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 to highlight teamwork and your contributions in interviews.

## RELATIONSHIP DRIVEN

Due to the client-facing nature of the role, firms highly value networking. It allows them multiple occasions to assess both your written and verbal communication skills in addition to your ability to be personable and manage relationships.

This is why info sessions, coffee chats (usually multiple per firm), and networking events are offered, and participation is expected. When you apply, they should already know your name.

While the CDO might facilitate some of the conversations, you are expected to reach out and network on your own, as well, so get your LinkedIn account ready and polish your stories so you can leave a strong impression.

# CASE INTERVIEWS

In addition to the traditional behavioral interviews, you can expect the majority of firms to do case interviews. You will be presented a scenario and given a set of data points with which to work. You are then expected to solve and present your case to the interviewer. It is designed to test your analytical skills in addition to your soft skills through your interactions with the interviewer.

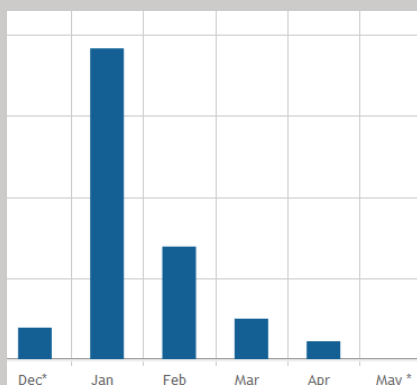
There are many ways to learn to case interview and there are frameworks as well as other tools you can use to prepare. This type of interview is difficult to "wing" - most students prepare for months in advance of a case interview, and many experts recommend participating in 60 live cases before interviewing.

We partner with the Consulting Association to bring experts to campus to prepare you for the case interview. Always start by connecting with the Consulting Association, but check out these additional resources in the meantime.

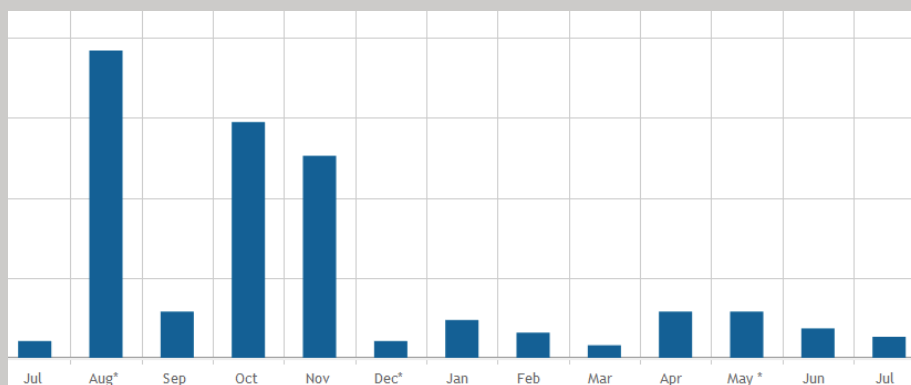
## CONSULTING CAREER RESOURCES

- CDO Career Community Page: <https://cdo.business.rice.edu/channels/consulting/>
- Consulting Association: <https://jones.campusgroups.com/consulting/home/>
- Prep Sites:
  - <https://www.caseinterview.com/>
  - <http://www.acethecase.com/>
  - <https://www.preplounge.com/en/>
  - <https://mconsultingprep.com/>
  - <https://www.rocketblocks.me/>

INTERNSHIP OFFER TIMELINE



FULL TIME OFFER TIMELINE



## RECRUITING AS A SECOND YEAR

### Didn't get your #1 company?

Refocus on other opportunities and build skills and experiences that add value. Use the summer to prepare for recruiting.

### Didn't do an internship?

Follow the above steps to network and learn casing, but prepare during your first year and the summer. Firms start recruiting in early fall, with interviews occurring typically in August and September.