Sample Questions to Ask in an Informational Interview

- What do you do day-to-day in your occupation?
- What education or training does the occupation require?
- What skills does this occupation require?
- What credentials are most respected or most in demand?
- What personal qualities or abilities would help a person succeed in this occupation?
- How do people enter this field - both the usual and the unusual ways?
- How did you enter this field?
- What is challenging about this occupation? What is satisfying about it?
- What opportunities and challenges do you see for this occupation in the future?
- Would I be able to job shadow you to see if this is an occupation I might be interested in?
- Which professional, trade or industry associations should I contact?
- What publications should I read?
- What is one problem within your department/company/field that if solved would make your life a lot easier?
- Is there anyone else you think I should talk to as I continue to gather information?