

Interview Questions :

Renee, Nurse Practitioner

- **How long have you been at the job?** I have been a Nurse Practitioner for 3yr 3 months. Nurse for 17 years.
- **What do you like about the job?** Helping people feel better and the pay is nice.
- **What is challenging?** Always learning something new. Dealing with difficult patients.
- **How is the job rewarding?** When you really help someone and they're appreciative of your service.
- **What has changed in the profession in the last 5-10 yrs?** NP field has blown up in the last 5 years. It has become very popular. We are part of the solution with the issue of access to health care.
- **What is continuing to change?** Not having to practice under the supervision of a physician.
- **What do you expect to change in the next 5-10 yrs?** More autonomy.
- **What sort of training/education did you need for this job?** I have 7 years of college. 5 yrs for my Bachelor's and 2 for graduate school.
- **Was it difficult to find work? If so, why do you think?** I had no problem finding a job.
- **Has the job market changed? If so, in what way(s)?** Yes, Cincinnati has become saturated with Nurse Practitioners since there are so many schools locally. It takes a while to find a job now but they're out there.
- **Do you think it will change?** Yes, as health care changes companies will realize the need to utilize NP's to fill roles not being filled by MD's.
- **What advice would you give someone just entering this field?** To get your bachelor's first. Work for a couple years in a med surg unit/ICU/Emergency department to get well rounded experience before going to get your NP.
- **How should I prepare to enter this field?** Get good grades. Start your pre-requisites right away.
- **What do I need to know in order to be successful in this field?** Just be a hard worker that is good at adjusting to change. Health care is forever changing and being able to go with the flow of things is an important quality to have.

- **What are the hours and days like?** I work in an internal medicine office. I have normal day hours. Monday- Friday 8-5, one late night until 7 and I work one Saturday shift every couple months from 8-3

I felt that the interview went well and it helped me prepare for the field I want to go in. The interview answered a lot of questions I had to help me decide if this is really what I wanted to do. I wasn't sure if I wanted to go straight for my masters degree or just get my bachelors degree and go back to school later. She gave me her input on how she felt about it, which helped me make a decision. She also gave me pros and cons of both a RN and NP, which helped me learn more about the field and the types of job opportunities I have to choose from.