Tips From Hiring Leaders
What makes a great Data Scientist?
Q. What’s the ideal educational background/degree for someone interested in entry-level Data Science roles at IBM?

A. We’ve found that those with a background in quantitative or business fields make the most successful Data Scientists:

- Math
- Statistics
- Computer Science
- Engineering
- Operational Research
- Business
Q. What roles does IBM offer for entry-level Data Scientists?

A. We offer two challenging roles:

- Entry-level Data Scientist
- Data Science Intern
Q. What types of skills do you look for?

A. We look for proven experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Good business acumen
- Leadership abilities
- Ability to use key analytic and cognitive tools to design, develop and apply appropriate statistical and mathematical techniques to solve business problems
- Strong communication skills and familiarity using visualization techniques and tools to tell the story
Q. What qualifications are essential to becoming a good Data Scientist?

A. Here’s what we look for and what we’d love to see: Minimum of a Bachelor degree; a preferred Masters in the previously mentioned quantitative degrees or business.

Extra credit for:
- Experience performing Data Analysis
- Experience manipulating large volumes of data
- Familiar with key external data sources and how they are gathered and retrieved
- Experience of languages and tools (data, analytics and data manipulation), along with the ability to select a suitable tool to work with data to achieve the analytics solution
- Able to create visual presentations of analytics results and translate quantitative insights for a non-technical audience
- Able to work with many types, forms and quantities of data, and with data of different levels of quality (both structured and unstructured/text data)
Q. What attributes or personality traits help make a good Data Scientist at IBM?

A. Here’s a few that we find consistently in top Data Scientists:

- Tells stories with big data
- Intuitive and insatiably curious
- Explorer of new ideas
- Investigator and independent thinker
Q. What’s the mindset of a successful Data Scientist at IBM?

A. While there’s no right answer, we’ve found people with the following ethos or way of thinking often do well:

- Someone who is always questioning and constantly curious
- Forever learning with a growth mindset
- Managing data is part of the fun
- My findings make an impact on my clients—driving decisions and optimizations
Q. What recommendations do you have to help improve my candidacy with IBM and to prepare for my future career?

A. Here are some recommendations:

- First, try Watson Candidate Assistance—a cognitive career guidance tool.
- Check out our Digital Badging opportunities for Data Scientists.
- Get an IBM Watson Machine Learning Digital Badge free!
- Learn about IBM Watson & Udacity’s Natural Language Processing Nanodegree.
Q. What recommendations do you have to help improve my candidacy with IBM and to prepare for my future career?

A. Here are more recommendations:

- Build Data Science and AI computing skills with Big Data University for FREE online skill building courses, open badging, experiential learning, and other credential building opportunities

- Test drive our Data Science tools like Data Science Experience or other industry standards

- Get involved in a Capstone project at your University or build your skills at a Bootcamp.

- Have general understanding of IBMs AI & Cloud Platform.

- Follow the Big Data & Analytics Hub.

- Familiarize yourself with our Strategy.

- Identify your strengths and unique traits using Watson Personality Insights.
Q. Where can I learn more about the entry-level and Intern Data Science roles at IBM?

A. You have several options:

1. Join our Talent Network and sign-up to receive Job Alerts when Data Science roles become available.

2. Check back on the IBM Career Website to learn more about our entry-level and intern Data Science roles.

3. Come out and meet us. Check with your Career Services for current 2018-19 calendar of events.
Thank you for your interest in a Data Science career at IBM. Visit ibm.com/jobs/us/entry-level for details.