



Occupational Culture Survey

Date _____

Interview Method (in person, phone, video, etc.) _____

Name of Interviewer _____

Name of Interviewee _____

Relationship to Interviewer _____

Occupation or job _____

Place (town and state) _____

Yes, I have asked permission to share this interview _____.

1. Place and Space. Ask interviewees about their place of work.

Where does the job happen?

What is the relationship of the job site to the environment? Is it in a big building, in the suburbs, the country? Is there parking? How do people get there?

What are the overall workspace arrangement and decoration?

What is your individual workspace arrangement and decoration?

Describe spatial relations and movement patterns of people and equipment.

2. Training. Ask what skills are needed and how they are learned.

What formal training is required?

What have you learned informally—by observing others, tricks of the trade, practice?

How do you help others with their jobs?

Do you use special terms or language on the job?

What special techniques, skills, and practices do you use?

3. Work culture—the cool stuff. Ask about the sometimes invisible elements of a job.

What are the lines of authority? Who is in charge?

Do you have special equipment, gear, or clothing?

What are the roles of men, women, and different age groups?

What are some customs—celebrations, meeting etiquette, initiation pranks?

Do you know any jokes about your job?

What are some work stories—funny, hard, good, or dangerous experiences?

What do you like most/least about your job?

4. Then and Now. Ask how the pandemic has changed work.

Have you been working during the pandemic? On site or remotely?

What is different about your job during the pandemic? The same?

What new customs are part of your work?

What changes do you think will influence your work in the future?