

## Questions To Ask While Interviewing Potential Caregivers

As ALS progresses, you may need someone who can help you with activities of daily living. This person should be someone you and your loved ones can trust and feel comfortable around. Consider using the following questions as a starting point when interviewing potential caregivers so you can find someone with the skills, personality and values to best fit your needs.

**Candidate Name:** .....

**Candidate Contact Information:** .....

1. Please tell me about your experience caring for ALS patients.

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2. Have you completed any specialized training in ALS or similar neurodegenerative diseases (i.e. certifications, training classes, coursework)?

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3. I am no longer able to perform activities of daily living such as [examples: dressing, bathing, eating, toileting]. Have you cared for others who are unable to complete these tasks independently?

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4. An ALS diagnosis means that I may require several pieces of equipment to help me through the day. Which of the following do you have experience with: wheelchair, patient lift/sling, feeding tube, NIPPV, tracheostomy, suction device, etc.?

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5. This position requires heavy lifting. Are you able to lift, transfer and position appropriately?

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6. I may have difficulty communicating. Are you comfortable with learning about alternative communication methods or devices?

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7. In what skills do you feel most qualified to be a caregiver? What skills do you think you would need to learn to appropriately care for a person with ALS?

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8. Would you be open to doing light housework such as changing bed linens, laundering towels and sheets, restocking supplies, vacuuming, sanitizing commode and bathroom?

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9. Imagine that you're finding an in-home caregiver for one of your loved ones. Describe the kind of caregiver you would want. How well do you think you meet this criteria as a caregiver?

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10. Would you be available for respite care or to stay over for a long weekend?

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11. Do I have your permission to run a background check?

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12. Can you please provide 2-3 professional references?

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13. Is there anything in the job description that you are uncomfortable with doing?

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Write down other questions you have:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

*I AM ALS does not provide medical advice. Please discuss questions and decisions related to your diagnosis and medical care with your health care team.*

