

Getting The Most From Your Campus Visit

Questions to ask during your campus visit:

- What are your most popular or distinguished academic programs?
- How many students will be in my first year courses? How many are on campus?
- Describe the college's resources for first-year students (i.e. computers, library, access to special equipment, advisors, etc.)
- What kind of work-study jobs are available on campus?
- What are my chances of being admitted into your school?
- When will I learn if I have been admitted?
- What percentage of students receive financial aid and what does the typical package provide?
- Are there academic or talent scholarships available?

Questions to ask yourself when you leave the campus visit:

- Did the students and staff welcome me on campus?
- Can I see myself living in one of the dorm rooms I visited?
- Are the buildings on campus in good shape and secure?
- Are the computers and lab equipment plentiful and available?
- Do they have the academic program I am interested in?
- Is this school affordable for me?

After Your Visit

Usually, only the odd or wacky things stick out in your mind, so right after your visit, write down your impressions about the school. Some people believe in a grading system from 1 to 10 for categories like food, social life, academics, campus, student body, etc. Most often, these words will translate to a summary of your experience. Pay attention to what you write; that will give you insight into what you feel about the school. A college visit, done properly, can be the most useful tool you have in understanding what it is like to be a student at a given school, and, eventually, deciding if you want to go there.

30 Questions to Ask a College Representative

Academics

1. What majors or programs do you offer?
2. What is the average length of your programs?
3. What percent of your students graduate?
4. Do you have internship programs?
5. Will I have an advisor to help me with scheduling and program-related questions?
6. How difficult is it to get the class schedule I need?
7. Do you offer tutoring services if I need them?

Admissions

8. When is your enrollment deadline?
9. What standards do you use for acceptance?
10. Do I need to take an entrance exam?
11. When may I tour your campus?

Financial Aid

12. What type of financial aid is available to me?
13. How do I apply?
14. Do you have a financial aid application deadline?
15. Are there scholarships available through the college?
16. What is the total cost of my program including books, fees and tuition?

Student Life

17. What type of housing is available for students?
18. How many students are enrolled at your college?
19. What is the average class size?
20. How big is the largest class?
21. Do you have student organizations and activities?

Technology

22. What type of technology courses are offered at your college?
23. What equipment and software do you currently use?
24. Does each student have access to a computer during class time?
25. Does your college have a student Intranet?
26. Will I have an email account and access to the Internet?

Career Services

27. What type of career placement assistance do you offer?
28. Will you help me find a part time job while I attend school?
29. What is your placement rate?
30. What types of jobs are your graduates getting?

College Visit Checklist

College Name _____ City, State _____

Size _____ Tuition _____ Room and Board _____ Financial Aid Options _____

Before you go, don't forget the following:

- ☐ Get an unofficial high school transcript from the Counseling Office
- ☐ Bring your camera or phone to take pictures of what the campus looks like
- ☐ Bring your backpack (get a feel for walking around campus like a student)

Admissions Contact

Name _____ Email _____ Phone _____

To-Do Checklist

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Talk to professors | ☐ Read the college newspaper |
| ☐ Visit the library | ☐ Visit student housing |
| ☐ Tour campus | ☐ Check out compute labs |
| ☐ Eat at a cafeteria | ☐ Check out recreational facilities |
| ☐ Talk to students | ☐ Talk to admissions office |
| ☐ Sit in on a class | ☐ Check out student activities |
| ☐ Picture living here | ☐ Get an undergraduate bulletin |
| ☐ Tour city | ☐ Eat off campus at a student hangout |

Rate It.....

On a scale of 1-5 (5 being the best) rate the following:

People _____

Social life _____

Classrooms _____

Dorms _____

Town _____

Campus _____

Food _____

Ask a student.....

What is the best part about this college?

What is the worst part?

What is a typical day like?

What do the students do on weekends?

How are classes structured?

Why did you choose this college?

The best part of my visit was.....

The worst part of my visit was....

