



Questions to Ask

A college admissions officer or tour guide should be able to answer the following questions, as well as any other questions you may have.

General Information

- ▶ What percent of first-year students return?
- ▶ How safe is the campus?
- ▶ What makes this college unique?
- ▶ How much does it cost to attend?
- ▶ What is this school best known for?

Academics

- ▶ What are your strongest majors?
- ▶ How large are most of the classes?
- ▶ Is it difficult for students to get into the classes they need?

Admissions

- ▶ Which admissions criteria do you consider most important (GPA, ACT/SAT scores, class rank)?
- ▶ Are there specific requirements for my major?

Student Life

- ▶ Where do students live?
- ▶ How do students get around campus?
- ▶ What activities are available for students?
- ▶ Do most students stay or leave on weekends?

College Visit Notes

College _____
Date _____

Location	
Size	
Admission Information	
Academics	
Costs and Financial Aid	
Campus Impressions	
Positives	
Negatives	



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College VISITS



Plan & Prepare for College



College VISITS

Making a college visit is the best way to find out if a college is going to be a good fit for you.

Plan Your Visit

► Learn about the college

Visit the college's website to learn about the campus, majors, programs, facilities, etc.

► Decide when to make your visit

The spring of your junior year is an excellent time to make a college visit.

► Check out all visitation options

Many colleges have open houses and visitation days designed specifically for high school students and their parents.

► Schedule your visit

Contact the admissions office and let them know when you would like to visit.

► Be prepared

Make a list of the things you want to see and learn about. Also list any questions you have.

How to Make the Most of Your Visit

Take a walking tour

A group tour is a great way to see the campus and learn about the college. During the tour, your guide (usually a student) will provide you with facts and valuable information. Your tour guide will also make sure that you see what's most important on campus.

On your tour, you're likely to see the following:

Libraries	Residence halls
Classrooms	Dining halls
Athletic facilities	Student Union
Recreation centers	Computer labs



Explore on your own

In addition to a formal tour, walk around the campus on your own. Note the cleanliness and atmosphere of the campus, and how the students look and act.

Eat in the Student Union and talk to students. Ask what they like (and don't like) about the college, how much they study, and what they do on weekends.

Check out the surrounding area

Learn about the city or town the college is located in. Remember, you won't just go to school there—you will also be living in that community.

Visualize yourself as a student

As you walk around the college, imagine being a student there. Do you feel comfortable on campus? Does the college feel like a good fit?

Attend an information session

Many colleges have group information sessions for prospective students and parents. These sessions can be very helpful.



Talk to an admissions counselor

Admissions counselors can answer questions about the admissions process and discuss admissions requirements.

If you'd like to discuss your academic record or your chances of being admitted, take an unofficial transcript with you.

Talk to someone in your major

If there's a specific major or program you're interested in, let the admissions office know that you'd like to speak to someone about that program or major.

Make notes

Make a note of anything you want to remember. After your visit, write down your impressions, and list the college's positive and negative aspects. To help you remember the campus, also take some pictures.

Talk to a financial aid counselor

Many students need help paying for college. If you have questions about financial aid, make an appointment with a financial aid counselor.

If you can't visit a college, visit their website to see if you can take a virtual tour online. To take a quick look at a number of campuses, go to campustours.com.