

Tips on Visiting Colleges Questions to Ask

1. Take the formal tour; don't just do a "drive through".
2. Call in advance. Find out where the tours originate.
3. See a typical freshman dorm room.
4. Is housing guaranteed for each of the four years?
5. What are the meal plan options?
6. What about off-campus housing?
7. Stop students randomly and ask why they selected the school you are visiting.
8. Look at posters, notices and graffiti.
9. Get a copy of the Campus newspaper.
10. What services are available at the career placement office?
11. Have a meal on campus.
12. If you know your major, visit that department and its facility. If possible, talk to students and professors there.
13. Campus culture...what is the rapport between professors and students?
14. Bring a pen and notepad or a pocket recorder so that you can remember specific information from school to school for comparison.
15. Campus size and location? Visit campuses of different sizes and locations if open to a variety of settings.
16. Investigate clubs, activities, and service and outreach opportunities of interest.
17. What factors are considered in making admissions decisions?
18. What is the average GPA, SAT, ACT of entering freshmen?
19. Are SAT II's required? Recommended?
20. Are interviews required? Recommended? Available?
21. What is the total cost of education for a year at this school?
22. What percent of entering freshmen receive financial aid?
23. What is the average amount of financial aid freshmen receive?
24. What percentage of freshmen complete their first year in good academic standing and choose to return their sophomore year?
25. What scholarship opportunities are available?
26. What on-campus or off-campus jobs are available?
27. Does the school have the major in which you are interested?
28. What are considered the "top programs" in this school?
29. What is the job placement rate for recent graduates?
30. What percentage of graduating students go directly to graduate school?
31. What is the male/female ratio of students?
32. What percentage of students lives on campus?
33. Are there fraternities and sororities?
34. To what degree are professors available to students for assistance?
35. Question to yourself... "Can I imagine myself waking up here every day for the next four years?"