

CAMPUS VISIT CHECKLIST

Make the Most of Your Trip

Here are things you shouldn't miss while visiting a college. Take a look at this list before planning campus trips to make sure that you allow enough time on each campus to get a sense of what the school -- and the life of its students -- is really like.

- ◆ Obtain a school catalog and calendar
- ◆ Take a campus tour
- ◆ Find out how to apply
- ◆ Determine actual college costs
- ◆ Ask about financial aid opportunities and scholarship
- ◆ Verify admission requirements
- ◆ Have an interview with admissions officer
- ◆ Get business cards and names of people you meet for future contacts
- ◆ Pick up financial aid forms
- ◆ Participate in a group information session at the admissions office
- ◆ Sit in on a class of a subject that interests you or what you intend to major in
- ◆ Talk to a professor in your chosen major or in a subject that interests you
- ◆ Talk to coaches of sports in which you might participate
- ◆ Read the student newspaper
- ◆ Eat in the cafeteria
- ◆ Interview students on campus *Ask why they made this choice, what do they like/dislike? *What do they do on the weekends?
- ◆ Wander around the campus without a guide
- ◆ Read for a little while in the library and see what it's like
- ◆ Walk or drive around the community surrounding the campus
- ◆ Listen to the college's radio station
- ◆ Try to see a dorm that you didn't see on the tour. (Sometimes only the nicest dorm is on the tour)
- ◆ Imagine yourself attending this college *Does it meet your needs? *What are your needs?
- ◆ Discuss your chances for success in certain programs
- ◆ Ask about the placement record for graduates in the field you might study
- ◆ Identify career services for undergraduates
- ◆ Find out what student activities (clubs, organizations, intramurals, etc.) are available and about social atmosphere and activities
- ◆ Investigate transportation options
- ◆ Attend a campus activity or sporting event

Questions To Get Answered:

- Do professors teach most freshmen courses, or do graduate students do much of the teaching?
- Are professors friendly? Accessible? Willing to give extra help?
- Does the school have wireless internet facilities? Are you expected to bring a computer or are there computers in the dorms?
- Does the college offer career counseling services?
- What percentage of graduates got jobs last year?
- What percentage went on to graduate school?
- Are there problems with students drinking or taking drugs?
- Are there any good places to eat, aside from the official dining halls?
- How important are fraternities and sororities in campus life?
- Do theatrical companies, orchestras, and other musical groups or outside lecturers come to the campus?
- Are groups in the college community involved in the outside world - politics, international relations, and community service?
- What is transportation like between the campus and the town?
- What kind of assistance is available - academic, personal, psychological - in case you need it?
- Are there rules and regulations on dress, conduct, etc., that must be observed?
- Are there special restrictions on freshman?
- What intercollegiate and intramural teams are represented on campus?
- What kinds of clubs and societies are represented on campus?
- How well are the campus and its facilities maintained?