

AN EFFECTIVE CAMPUS VISIT

A campus visit is highly recommended! Although catalogs and viewbooks introduce you to a college, nothing equals the experience of seeing it for yourself. Planning to visit during a school vacation is fine, but the best time to see a college is when students are on campus and classes are in session.

Before you visit the campus, consider some of the options below. It is important to develop a list of questions and to plan specific activities in order to accomplish your goals.

CONSIDER:

- ✓ a tour of the grounds and facilities.
- ✓ a meal in a college dining facility.
- ✓ a tour of a dorm or two.
- ✓ the names and locations of popular coffee shops or snack bars where you can meet students.
- ✓ permission to visit a particular class or to meet with a certain professor or coach.
- ✓ an appointment to meet with an admissions officer, a financial aid officer and possibly a representative from the department that offers the major you are interested in.

TYPICAL QUESTIONS YOU MAY WISH TO ASK ON A VISIT ARE:

ADMISSIONS

- What is the grade-point average required for admission?
- Do you require the ACT or SAT? What score is needed for admission?
- How is admission determined?
- Is there an application deadline?
- Is a deposit required? How much? Is it refundable?

GENERAL INFORMATION

- How many students are enrolled?
- How many are from other states or other countries?
- How large is the campus?
- What is the faculty-to-student ratio?
- What is the typical class size?
- How is the academic calendar set up? Is the school on semesters or quarters (terms)?
- What is the surrounding community like?
- What is the average graduation rate?
- What is the persistence rate of freshmen?
- Will I have a faculty advisor to go to for help with class selections?

COST AND FINANCIAL AID

- What amount should I estimate for books and supplies?
- How much should I plan to have for spending money?
- How much is a meal plan per semester/term?
- Are ATMs available on campus?
- What financial aid programs are available?
- How do I apply for financial aid? What forms do I need to fill out?
- What are the deadlines for financial aid?
- Are any special scholarships offered?
- Do you award athletic scholarships?
- Are there jobs for students on campus?

STUDENT LIFE

- Will I live in a residence hall?
- How are residence halls assigned?
- What are the halls like? How many students to a room?
- When can I move off campus?
- Do you have alcohol- and tobacco-free areas?
- Do you have quiet halls?
- What is your drinking policy?
- What should I bring with me when I move in?
- Can I have a car on campus my freshman year?

ACTIVITIES

- What activities are available?
- Are there sororities/fraternities?

ATHLETICS

- What varsity sports are played?
- What division are you in? What conference? What colleges do you compete with?
- Do you have an intramural program?

ORIENTATION

- When is orientation? What do you do at orientation?
- Do I need to attend?
- Is there a parents-only session?

PLACEMENT

- What is the school's overall job placement rate?
- What is the job placement rate for students in my major?
- What are the starting salaries for graduates in my major?
- Where are graduates getting placed and how many get placed?

WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR TOP PROGRAMS?
WHAT MAKES YOUR INSTITUTION SPECIAL?

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