

CAMPUS VISIT TIPS

A campus visit is highly recommended. Before you visit, consider some of the options below. It is also important to develop a list of questions and plan specific activities in order to make the most of your time and come-away with enough information to help you make an informed decision.

- Meet with an admissions officer.
- Verify admissions requirements (such as required tests, high school classes, etc.).
- Discuss your current high school status with the counselor (such as classes taken, GPA) and talk about your chances for acceptance and academic success at the college.
- Obtain a school calendar and catalog (if you don't already have one).
- Determine all costs: Tuition, fees, room and board, etc.
- Ask about financial aid opportunities, as well as deadlines, forms required, etc.
- Meet with faculty in your academic area of interest.
- Ask questions about academic requirements and offerings.
- Attend a class to get an idea of a typical class size, teaching style, and general academic atmosphere.
- Inquire as to the job placement programs for graduates in your field and career planning services for undergraduates.
- Ask about internships and cooperative programs within your area of study.
- Tour the campus taking care to see dorms, dining hall, library, etc.
- Talk with current enrolled students about the general academic environment and the study-commitment necessary for success.
- Learn about available activities (clubs, organizations, club and intramural sports, etc).
- Inquire about campus life and social activities (find out if a majority of students go home for the weekends)
- Investigate transportation options (shuttles to local airports or train stations, etc.)

QUESTIONS TO ASK AT A COLLEGE VISIT

The following questions are recommended by the undergraduate admissions office of Harvard University:

ACADEMICS

- What percentage of freshmen return for sophomore year?
- Are graduate students used for instructing undergraduates? How?
- What type of research or publishing is going on in the departments I'm interested in?
- What sort of opportunities are there for students to pursue their own research and to assist faculty members in their research?
- What are the libraries like? Is the school a participant in a library cooperative with other schools in the area?
- Does the school have a liberal arts, technical, or pre-professional focus?

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- What is offered? What is the level of competition? Is there a fee to join?
- Are there cultural, political, or social organizations for students?
- What facilities are available for drama, music, dance, and athletics?

SUPPORT SERVICES

- What career-advising, job placement, and support services are offered?
- What companies or agencies recruit on campus?
- What jobs or graduate programs do most students enter upon graduation?
- What percentage of students applying to graduate/professional schools are admitted?
- Does the school assist students in finding summer jobs or internships? Are counseling/mentoring services provided?
- Are there support services provided for minority students? Why or why not?

FINANCIAL AID

- Is all financial aid need-based?
- Is the application process need-blind?
- Is full-need met? How? (What percentage of financial-aid packages include work study and student loans?)
- Is aid guaranteed for four-years?
- Does the school offer merit scholarships? If so, how is that decided and what is required to maintain a merit scholarship for all four-years.
- What percentage of students receive financial aid?
- What percentage of students work?

CAMPUS VISIT NOTES

Name of College: _____ Date of Visit: _____

Location: _____ Weather Conditions: _____

Surroundings: _____ Rural _____ Suburban _____ Urban (Check One)

Activity Level on Campus: _____ Very active, students in session _____ Empty, school-out

Names of people you spoke to, and their positions at the school:

Your Ratings:

The attractiveness of the campus:	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
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Technology available to the students:	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
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Sports and recreational facilities:	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
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Dining-hall comfort and food quality:	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
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Residence Halls:	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
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(consider space, cleanliness, distance to other building on campus, HVAC)

Quality of Academic Buildings:	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
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The library (the space and resources):	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
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Overall Impressions:

What did you like best? _____

What did you like least? _____

Other things you want to remember about this college:

Overall assessment of how well this college fits you:

Extremely Well

Very Well

Somewhat Well

Not Very Well