

Sample questions to ask when visiting a college

Make observations about the campus.

What is the academic climate?

How hard do you have to work to be successful?

Do you feel you fit in intellectually?

Do professors teach most courses or graduate students?

What is the attitude of most professors toward students?

Are professors available to give help to students after class?

What is the student attitude toward learning? Do they enjoy their courses?

Does there seem to be an active exchange of ideas outside the classroom?

What are the opportunities for independent study? Honors programs? Internships?

Is my major overcrowded (impacted)? If so, what special requirements do I need to meet?

If I am not accepted in my major, what are my options? Can I change to another major?

Have my application sent to another campus?

Social climate

If possible, visit a dorm. Visit the student union and bookstore. Eat where students eat.

Pick up the school and town newspapers. Notice bulletin boards and posters.

Does social life revolve around the campus or do students leave on the weekends?

What are the social and cultural activities provided by the campus? Are there informal ways to meet and spend time with people?

Are groups in the college community involved in what's going on in the outside world? Is there evidence of political awareness, international relations, community service, and religion?

Do students seem friendly and willing to help?

Surrounding community

Does the appearance of the campus please you? What are the living accommodations for students, co-ed, on campus or off campus?

What is the surrounding community life? How are relations between residents and students?

What is the transportation like between campus and town?

College programs

What is the student/teacher ratio? What is the average class size?

How many students in last year's freshman class returned for their sophomore year?

Are students successful in enrolling in classes they need and want?

What percentage of entering freshmen complete their degree within four years?

Is my major offered? Is my degree program accredited? Can I create my own major?

Are advanced degrees (master's, doctorate) offered?

What percentage of graduates go on to professional or graduate schools?

Are there internship opportunities available on campus, in the community?

Is there a Career and Planning and Placement Center on campus?

What kind of computer assistance, repair available on campus?

Does the school have adequate computer facilities? What kind of computer capabilities does the school recommend for the students to have?

What will it cost?

What are the costs of tuition, registration fees, books and supplies, housing, parking?

Do I have to send in a deposit to confirm my intent to enroll? How much? When?

Is there a deposit to reserve housing on campus? How much? When?

What are the chances fees will be increased and when will I know?

Is financial aid available? What kinds of financial assistance are available?

What scholarships are available from the school? The departments?

How do I apply for campus scholarships? When will I be notified whether or not I will or will not receive assistance?

What is the average financial aid award on your campus?

What are admission requirements for freshmen or for transfer students?

Will I be eligible for admission?

What is the admissions priority of transfer students from community colleges or from four-year colleges?

If I go to a community college first, will my credits transfer? How many will the college accept?

How and when will I know?

How do I apply for admission?

When do I apply? Can I apply to more than one campus in your system?

Can I have my application transferred from one campus to another if I change my mind?

When do I submit my transcript, test scores, and other admission materials?