

QUESTIONS TO ASK PROSPECTIVE COLLEGES

During tours, interviews, visits, college fairs, etc

General

1. What makes your school different or special?
2. What is the mission, purpose, or philosophy of this institution?

Academics

1. What is the average class size during the freshman year? Overall?
2. What are the smallest class sizes? The largest?
3. Do graduate students teach undergraduates?
4. Do faculty maintain office hours?
5. Are students involved in the evaluation of instructors?
6. Are certain courses hard to get into? What percent?
7. Can you cross-register at any other nearby colleges/universities?
8. Are there any required courses?
9. What type of academic advising is provided?
10. Do you give credit for AP courses? Is a certain test score required?

Location/Student Life

1. How large is the campus?
2. How far is the campus from the nearest airport? Train/bus station? Subway?
3. Does the college provide transportation locally? To airports/trains/shopping areas?
4. What percentage of students are housed on-campus? Off-campus?
5. Is housing guaranteed for all 4 years?
6. What kinds of off-campus housing are available nearby?
7. How are students assigned to a room and or roommate?
8. Are there co-ed dorms? How are they arranged?
9. What services are provided in the dorms ie. laundry, kitchen, air conditioning?
10. Are freshmen required to live on campus? In separate dorms?
11. Are there telephones in each room?
12. Do you have your own food service or an outside caterer?
13. What meal plans are available? How many meals each day? Choice of entrees?
Vegetarian option? Salad bar?
14. What athletic teams do you have? Division? Can I meet one of the coaches?
14. Can students have cars on campus? Freshmen? Parking fees?

Financial Aid

1. Will applying for financial aid have an impact on the admission decision?
2. Is financial aid based on need? On merit?
3. Do you offer scholarships? What types are available? How do I apply?
4. Do you offer work-study jobs? How do I apply for those? Is there off-campus employment available? Where are jobs posted?
5. What percentage of students receive financial aid?
6. What are the financial aid procedures and deadlines? Which forms?
7. When are financial aid packages awarded?

Admission

1. What information do you receive from applicants? SAT/ACT/SAT II? An interview? How many recommendations? From specific teachers?
2. What are your academic requirements? Foreign Language?
3. Do you have an application deadline? When? Or do you operate on a rolling admission basis? When are most applications received/
4. How much does it cost to apply?
5. When do students find out oif they have been accepted?

Career Resources/Alumni

1. Do you offer internships? Are they required? Are they paid positions or for class credit? Are they available for all majors?
2. What career services do you offer? Resume writing? Counseling? On campus recruiting? Job listings? Alumni networking/mentoring? Graduate school information and advising?
3. What percentage of graduates go directly into the work force? To graduate school?
4. What percentage of your alumni donate?