

QUESTIONS FOR COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES

Introduction

An important step in the process of selecting the right college to attend is to visit with representatives of colleges. By doing so, you will have factual data upon which to base your final decision about which college is “right” for you. Ideally, the college you attend should meet your needs in several ways:

1. It should be a place where you fit in socially and scholastically.
2. It should be a place where you will be able to prepare for the future and at the same time pursue other interests.
3. You should feel comfortable with its course of study, faculty/staff, and atmosphere.
4. You should be able to visualize yourself being successful there.

By getting answers to the questions listed below, you will be well on your way to deciding whether a particular college will meet your needs. Although many of these questions may be answered by reading literature from colleges or visiting their web site, you will get answers to all of them by visiting with college representatives at your school’s college visits, planning a campus visit, or attending a college fair.

Significant Questions You Want to Ask College Representatives

1. What is the average GPA of an entering freshman? Average ACT or SAT score?
2. What is the faculty to student ratio?
3. What is the average class size for an introductory course? Are they taught by professors or instructors?
4. What percentage of faculty members have a Ph.D?
5. How is the academic calendar year set up?
6. How is admission to the college determined?
7. Can I receive a campus tour? Sit in on a class? Have lunch on campus? Stay overnight in a residence hall?
8. When is the application deadline? Is there a non-refundable deposit?
9. What is the average drop-out rate?
10. What percent of students graduate in 4-5 years?
11. What’s the school’s overall placement rate?
12. What type of career services do you offer?
13. What kinds of financial aid programs are available? What forms should I fill out? By when? Are there any special scholarships offered by the school?
14. Are jobs available on campus?
15. Can I have a car on campus during my freshman year?
16. What types of college housing do you offer? Can I live off campus?
17. How many students are there per room?
18. What kind of extra-curricular activities are available?
19. What percentage of students are from other states?
20. What is the surrounding community like?
21. What varsity sports does your college offer?
22. What percentage of your students are in the Greek system? What is their importance to college social life?
23. Are there opportunities to study abroad?

Other Sources of Information

As you move toward deciding which college will be “right” for you, valuable information about colleges can be obtained from:

1. Your school’s guidance counselors.
2. College web sites.
3. Your parents.
4. Friends who are familiar with colleges you are considering.
5. Graduates of your high school.