



When Visiting Colleges: *Ask These Questions*

When you're on a college campus, it is a great idea to slow down, take it all in and ask a lot of questions. Ideally, you'll want to talk with more than just the admission staff. Stop a few students during your visit and ask them what they like and don't like about their school. If you can talk to a professor or two, take the opportunity to ask them what they enjoy about their job. Here are a few questions you can ask while you are on a college visit:

QUESTIONS FOR YOUR STUDENT TOUR GUIDE

Academics

- How much time do students typically spend on homework?
- How much writing and reading are expected?
- What is the average class size?
- How widely used are teaching assistants on your campus?

Student Life

- What kind of residence hall choices are there?
- What percentage of students live on campus?
- How long are residence hall accommodations guaranteed?
- How many students live on campus?
- Do most students go home on the weekend?
- What percentage of the study body belongs to a sorority or fraternity?
- What activities are offered to students?
- What clubs do you have on campus?

QUESTIONS FOR THE ADMISSIONS TEAM

Academic Perks

- What opportunities are there for undergraduate research?
- How many students participate in undergraduate research?
- Is there a culminating senior year experience?
- Do you have an honors college?
- Do you have a learning community or other freshman experience?

Graduation Track Record

- What is your four-year graduation rate? What does it take to graduate in four years?
- What is your five-year graduation rate?
- What percentage of freshmen return for sophomore year?

Academic Support

- What type of tutoring programs do you have?
- How do you provide academic advice to students?
- Do you have a writing center and how do I access it?
- What kind of learning disability resources do you have?

Outside Opportunities

- How many students at the college get internships?
- What percentage of students study abroad?
- What type of career services do you have?

QUESTIONS FOR THE FINANCIAL AID TEAM

Financial Aid

- What is your average financial aid package?
- What is the typical breakdown of loans versus grants?
- What percentage of financial need does the school typically meet?
- What is the average merit award?
- What percentage of students receive college grants?
- What is the average college debt that students leave with?
- What work-study opportunities are there?