

Campus Visit Questions

Courtesy of educationquest.org

To find the right college, visit places that interest you, and ask LOTS of questions.

Ask the admissions representative:

- What are admission requirements and deadlines?
- What is the cost of tuition, fees, room & board, and books?
- What are housing options? Will I be required to live on campus? Is there a waitlist?
- Are meal plans required?
- What is the average class size? Are classes taught by professors or graduate assistants?
- I don't know what I plan to study yet; how easy is it to change majors?
- What are "general education" requirements?
- How easy is it to transfer credits from a community college?
- Is there an honors program, and how do you qualify?
- Is there a campus career center? Are internships available? Job placement services?
- Are there study-abroad opportunities?
- What percentage of students return after their first year?
- What percentage of students graduate and what is the average length of study?
- How diverse is the student population?
- What percentage of students are commuters?
- What is the student-to-faculty ratio?
- What kind of tutoring/support systems does the college have?
- If you have a disability, ask to meet with the school's disability services coordinator.

Questions about student safety:

- Is there an on-campus health clinic? (Tip: Ask your insurance provider if the campus clinic is "in-network.")
- Where do you refer students who have a serious medical issue?
- How safe is the campus, and what security systems are in place?

Ask the financial aid counselor:

- What applications are required for scholarships and financial aid, and what are the deadlines?
- Are academic and departmental scholarships available?
- Will scholarships from other donors affect the amount of aid I receive from the college?
- What types of payment plans does the college offer?
- Can I get a refund if I have to drop a class or drop out suddenly?

Ask your student tour guide or a current student:

- Why did you select this school?
- Are the professors accessible?
- How easy or hard was it to get the classes you wanted?
- How many hours a day or week do you study?
- What kind of tutoring/support systems does the college have?

Campus life:

- What is the Greek system like?
- Where have you lived on campus?
- Can first-year students have cars on campus? What is the fee for parking on campus?
- How easy is it to get around on campus? Can I walk anywhere I want to go?
- Is there a free campus shuttle?
- What do students do on weekends? What did you do last weekend?
- What are the big campus traditions? Do a lot of students go to athletic events?
- What kinds of activities, intramural sports, or clubs are popular on campus?
- Is there a campus recreation center for students?
- How is the food in the dining halls? What are the hours?

Life off campus:

- How easy is it to get to places if you don't have a car? Are bikes a good option?
- Is there a grocery store nearby?

Ask YOURSELF after your campus visit:

- Was the campus a good size for me?
- How were the residence halls? Too loud or too quiet? How large were the rooms?
- Was I comfortable with the level of security?
- Is there enough to do on and off campus?

Additional questions for a visit to a community college:

- Will I be required to take placement exams? If so, what are they?
- What is the two-year graduation rate?
- Tell me about your academic transfer program.
- Do you have student housing? Is there a waitlist?