

College Visit Checklist



1. What academic elements are considered in the admissions process—courses, grades, test scores, rank, interests, institutional needs, essays, recommendations, and interviews? How important are each of these factors? Some of these factors can be assessed by using numbers and some can't.
2. Which academic programs on campus are the most popular?
3. What are the largest classes you could have as a freshman or sophomore? How many large classes can you expect?
4. Who teaches the freshman classes? Teaching Assistants and Graduate Assistants can be fine teachers—just know who you are getting for teachers.
5. (If this applies to you) Are there any special support services if you are a special needs student (ADD, ADHD, LD, etc.)? How do these support services function and any additional cost charged for these services?
6. Is there an Honors Program for talented students? How do you qualify?
7. What activities do students participate in during their free time—on campus (school sponsored) and in the community?
8. Is the campus Greek? (In other words, does it have fraternities and sororities?) If so, what percent of the student body participates in Greek life? Are parties open? How do students who elect not to participate in the Greek system fit in?
9. What are the most popular extracurricular activities? Are there any particularly notable activities?
10. What portion of the student body lives on campus? What portion of the student body remains on campus for the weekends?
11. What transportation options are available—to and from campus both for trips to the mall and for treks to transportation centers for trips home?
12. Can freshmen have cars on campus? What is the fee for having a car on campus?
13. Where do students go if they have a medical emergency?
14. What tutoring, counseling, and support services are available on campus and how are they accessed? Is there a fee for these services?
15. What computer access will you have? Do you need to bring your own computer? Are the dorms wired for Internet/e-mail services?
16. What laundry facilities are available?
17. What are the safety issues on campus? How are they addressed? Ask for a crime report.
18. Is campus housing guaranteed for all four years? What percent of students live on campus all four years?
19. What housing options exist? (Honors housing? Theme housing? Single sex? Coed? Greek? Honors?)
20. What meal plans are available? Are freshmen required to purchase a specific type of meal plan?
21. What hours may students access food services?
22. What is the yearly cost of attendance, including books, tuition, fees, housing, meal plans? In other words, what is the all-inclusive cost?
23. Which financial aid forms are required? The most common two are the FAFSA and the CSS PROFILE, but some schools have institutional or school specific forms and some states have special forms—just ask to see what you need!
24. What percent of entering freshman received aid? What was the average freshman aid package? Is there a way aid is packaged—loans first, for example? **If you are unhappy with your aid package, is it negotiable at all?**
25. If you demonstrate need, will the school be able to prepare a financial aid package that will meet 100% of your demonstrated need?
26. What types of payment plans exist for paying the Estimated Family Contribution?