

Questions to Ask of College Representatives

The following questions help provide a basis for becoming a wise consumer in your discussions with college admissions personnel, instructors, and students on campus:

1. What are your admission standards? What kind of student are you looking for? What percent of the applicants are admitted?
2. What are the tuition, room and board, and total cost (in my program) at this school?
3. Are there admissions deadlines of which I need to be aware? For example, does your institution require a year of fine/performing arts?
4. What arrangements must I make to visit your campus? Are there special visitation days or programs for high school students?
5. How many students are at your institution? How many are graduate students? What is the male/female ratio?
6. What is the campus like (i.e. size, location to nearest city or downtown area)?
7. What is the makeup of the student body (i.e. from what states, commuter versus residential, religious backgrounds, cultural diversity, most popular majors)?
8. What is the housing situation? Where can freshmen live? What are the residence halls like? What percent of the students live on campus? What about meal service?
9. What percent of students return for their sophomore year? Remain to graduate? In how many years?
10. What are the strong majors at your college? Do you have the major(s) I am considering? What percent of the students are in that major? How difficult is it to change majors?
11. What are the sizes of the classes at each level? Are they taught by professors or graduate students? Are faculty accessible outside of class?
12. What opportunities are there for research, independent study, and study abroad? Are there internships or co-ops available? What percentages of students take advantage of these?
13. What kinds of clubs and activities are there? Are there fraternities and sororities on campus? If so, what percentages of students are in the Greek system?
14. Do you have an honors program or special academic programs such as a Residential College?

15. How extensive are the services in the job placement office? What is the placement rate in medical or law school? Do you have career planning and counseling services?
16. Is the athletic program large and diverse? Are you known for a particular sport? What division of the N.C.A.A. or N.A.I.A.? Are there athletic scholarships? How popular are intramurals?
17. Are there special facilities in my interest area (i.e., radio station, computer access, fine arts programs)?
18. Does your college require 7th semester transcripts be sent?
19. What kind of financial aid is available? What scholarships are offered? Will I need to fill out a separate scholarship application?
20. What differentiates this school over another similar one (you might even want to name other colleges you are considering) – what's really special about your school?
21. What kind of personal qualities do students tend to have? How can I tell if I would fit in?