

Campus Visit Questions

Academics

- **Do professors or graduate assistants teach the following classes?**
 - **Freshman classes:**
 - **My major upper division classes:**
 - **Lab classes:**
- **How accessible are professors? Are they happy to talk to students and to help them? Do they have posted office hours?**
- **How many students does each professor advise?**
- **Do students have the same academic advisors for all 4 years at this college?**
- **Does my major dept. have extreme competition between students?**
- **How easy is it to get the classes you want?**
- **What is the size of the largest class students attend? What is the smallest size? What is the average student to teacher ratio?**
- **What is the advantage for students to be accepted into the Honors Program?**
- **Are all buildings on campus wireless?**

Academics (Cont.)

- Are there tutoring and academic counseling services available? How do you find out about them?
- Which study abroad program do most students go on?
- Are there research opportunities for undergraduate students? Can research be done by all undergraduate students regardless of their major?
- When students apply for admission, does this college split the SAT scores or split the ACT scores? In other words, do they take the best test SECTION score from each sitting and add them together? Or do they only use the best TOTAL score from one sitting?

Additional Notes:

Graduation / Internships / Jobs

- What is this average time for students to graduate? 4 years? What percentage of students graduate in 4 years?
- Does the college help students get internships?
- Does this college offer work experience Co-op's? If not, how do students get real world experience and summer internships?
- Does this college assist students in getting a job upon graduation? What percentage of students get placed after graduation or get accepted to graduate school?
- Does this college have a career planning and placement center? Where is it?
- Do businesses come onto campus to interview students for jobs and internships? Which companies and organizations?

Additional Notes:

Campus/Social

- Where is the student center? Where do students “hang out” on campus?
- Does this college have a freshman advising center? Where is it and by whom is it staffed?
- Are there other student support groups? How do you find out about them?
- How do students spend their time? Studying, socializing, partying or doing something else?
- What activities do students participate in when they have free time?
 - On Campus:
 - Off Campus:
- What do students do on weekends?
- How many students go home on weekends? Does the campus look empty or lively on weekends?
- What percentage of students participate in athletics, visual and performing arts, clubs and organizations?
- How many active organizations and clubs are there at this college?

Campus/Social (Cont.)

- Are there student organizations and clubs involved with events in the outside world, such as community service, local politics, and international events?
- Do bands, musical groups, theater groups and outside lecturers come on campus?
- Are there good social and cultural opportunities available in the surrounding community?
- Do you have to be in a specific major to participate in:
 - Theater or drama productions?
 - Campus radio or television stations?
- What's the weather like in the winter?
- Is it easy to get around campus? Can I walk to and from classes without a problem?

Additional Notes:

Transportation

- What transportation is available to students? Is there bus service to take students to town and to the nearest airport?
- Should students have a car at this college? Is parking free?

Housing / Residence Halls

- What percentage of students live on campus?
- Are the residence halls co-ed?
- Are there theme floors? (science majors, drama majors, wellness, computers, etc.)
- How many students live in a dorm room?
- Are bathrooms shared between just a few dorm rooms or by all rooms on an entire dorm floor?
- Are there residence halls for freshman only?
- Is housing available for sophomores, juniors, and seniors?

Housing / Dorms (cont.)

- Is housing guaranteed for freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors?
- Can students change rooms if they don't get along with their roommate? How long does the process take?
- How is residence hall room selection prioritized?
- Are there security measures to keep outsiders from entering the residence halls?
- Are there sororities and fraternities available to students?
- If you choose not to live on-campus after your freshman year, what are the housing options available close to the campus (apartments and house rentals)?

Additional Notes:

Student Health and Safety

- Where is the campus health center? Who staffs it?
- What services are offered by the health center?
- Is there a doctor or nurse always on call in the health center?
- What are the operating hours of the health center? What about 24-hour emergency care?
- How close is the nearest hospital?
- How safe is the campus? What is the crime rate on campus?
- How safe is the area surrounding the campus?
- Is there a blue light system on campus to help students get protection when their safety is threatened?
- Are escorts available for students when they walk to their dorms late at night?
- Do campus police patrol the campus on a regular basis? How large is the campus police force?

Additional Notes:

Dining Hall / Food

- Where is the dining hall? Is the food good?
- Will all meal plans allow students to buy food at places other than the dining hall - at on-campus deli's, coffee shops, and restaurants?
- How late are on-campus snack shops and restaurants open at night?
- Are meal plans based on the number of meals per week or on a dollar amount?
- Do students go off campus for late night snacks?
- Is there a grocery store nearby to buy snacks?

Additional Notes:

Financial Aid

- What percentage of students receive financial aid?
- What percentage of financial aid is composed of scholarships and grants (money you don't have to repay)?
- Are scholarships and grants renewable each year?
- Are financial awards renewed at the same level every year? Are they adjusted for inflation each year?
- Are there campus jobs available? How easy is it to get one?
- If you demonstrate financial need, will the college be able to provide a financial aid package that will meet 100% of your demonstrated need?

Additional Notes:

Questions to Ask Current College Students

- **Do you like being at this college? What would you change if you could?**
- **If you had to start over, would you choose this college? Why or why not?**
- **What do you like least about this school?**
- **When students get together, what is the one thing they complain about? Any other major complaints?**
- **What are the students like here? Are they competitive or supportive?**
- **How many hours per week do you study? Is that typical for all students?**
- **How hard do you have to work for good grades?**
- **What's the reputation of the department of my major?**
- **How difficult is it to change majors?**
- **Do professors know your name? Are professors available outside of class?**
- **How helpful is the career center?**
- **Do you feel safe walking around campus at night? What about the surrounding neighborhood?**

ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS YOU SHOULD NOTE:

- How does the admissions office staff treat prospective students who are waiting for an interview or for a campus tour?
- Are staff in the admissions office friendly toward each other and toward students entering the office?
- How do the students dress? What kinds of cars are parked in the student parking lots? Do students appear to be similar to you? Do you think the students are people you can live with next year?
- Does the campus seem too big or too small?
- Do the residence halls seem comfortable, quiet, crowded, or noisy?
- Do an extraordinary number of students wear sorority and fraternity t-shirts and jackets?
- Do the buildings and grounds look well cared for?
- Do you feel comfortable and safe on this campus?

Miscellaneous Information

Visual and Performing Arts Colleges **Supplemental Questions**

- **How many students** are in my program?

- **How many professors/instructors teach** in my program? **Are they currently practicing in their field?** *The best teachers are those presently working in their field that bring their expertise and knowledge to the classroom.*

- **What is my program's methodology?** *Make sure your program concentrates on the specialty or technique (acting or singing) you are interested in learning.*

- Does this school **feature artists-in-residence, guest artists or industry visitors** so I can meet practicing professionals? Do these people **give lectures, workshops, or offer one-on-one lessons** with students?

- Is there **adequate studio space for rehearsals?** Is the **audio/visual equipment state-of-the-art?**

- **Is there enough equipment available to students for their projects?** Can I rent the equipment from this school for a personal project at any time or only while enrolled in a class that requires use of that equipment?

- Are there opportunities to **perform or practice in front of a student audience?** In front of the **local community?**

Visual and Performing Arts Colleges **Supplemental Questions(cont.)**

- Are there opportunities / venues to screen / show your films / art?

- Is the school near theaters, museums or other visual or performing arts venues?

- How successful are the alumni in my program? Are they working in their chosen field?

- Is there a way to contact alumni to ask for advice, job opportunities, etc? *Some colleges have a database of alumni who are willing to have you contact them about your career, a kind of a mentoring program. The college can get you in contact with someone specific, if you know their name, or someone who is currently working in your field of interest.*

- How good is the career planning and placement services at this school? Are there internships available?

Additional Notes: