

Questions to Ask a Tour Guide during a Campus Visit

General Tips

- Review your high school transcript so you can compare your GPA and SAT scores to the averages of students recently admitted to the college. This information will be shared in the admissions information session.
- If you participated in an interview or had a special personal contact with someone at the college, you should follow up with a personal thank you note.
- If an athlete, visit the field house, gymnasium and athletic fields.

General Questions

- Have you been happy here? What do you like best? What would you change if you could?
- What are your favorite courses? Why?
- What are the most popular majors?
- Who are your favorite professors, what do they teach, and why do you like them?
- What percentage of first year students return to this college for their second year?
- What is the graduation rate for students? How much does that rate vary if students are low income, Latino, from rural high schools or from inner city schools?
- What is the average amount of time it takes students to graduate?
- If a student is having trouble in a course, what kind of free help is available? Can you get that help without a faculty referral?
- What is the average size of a general education course? (Ask about individual fields – an introductory English course is likely to be smaller than an introductory science course.)
- Do classes often fill before the first year students are allowed to register for classes? If so, what accommodations are made for first year students having a hard time being admitted into classes?
- What is the average size of a lower level course (first or second year course) in____? (name the major that interests you)
- What is the average amount of time it takes a student in _____ to graduate?
- What type of support services are available for students having problems? (This could be physical, mental, academic, roommate related etc.)
- Is this dorm room we are seeing typical for a first year dorm room? How many people?
- For how many years are students guaranteed campus housing?
- What kind of extracurricular activities are available to students?
- What assistance do you offer to help students choose appropriate courses?
- Are there admission requirements for any specific program (like engineering, education, or pre-professional programs)? You may need to talk to someone in your specific department of interest for this one.
- How many office hours are professors required to keep? Do they post them on their doors? How do you find out what their hours are? How easy is it to find a professor outside of class?

Campus Life

- What do students like about this college? What is their biggest complaint?
- What are the hot topics on campus right now? What are students talking about?
- What do student do for fun?
- What kinds of stores/restaurants are within walking distance?
- What kind of public transportation is there?
- May freshmen bring cars? Where is parking and how much does it cost?
- How many students typically stay on campus for the weekend?
- How many students live on campus and what percent are full time students?
- What steps are taken to ensure students' safety?

Financial Aid

- Do you award any merit based aid?
- What fees do you include in your "estimated expenses: when you determine "demonstrated need"? Ask to see breakdown of tuition, fees, room board, etc.
- What percentage of this year's freshman class received financial aid? (% gift, % self help)
- What percentage of upper class students received financial aid this year? (What % was gift aid? Self help aid?
- Do you guarantee to meet 100% of demonstrated need? If not, what percent is typical? (Is this percent the same for freshmen as it is for other classes?)
- What kind of payment plans (monthly, quarterly, etc.) do you offer? What fees are associated with those?

Job Search Assistance

- What percentage of students find a full time professional position within 6 months following graduation?
- What kinds of things does the college do to help prepare for a job fair? help with resume/portfolio development? workshops on interviewing skills?

Graduate/Professional School Assistance

- What percent of students enroll in graduate and/or professional schools immediately after graduation? within two years after graduation?
- What kinds of things does the college do to help with the application process?