

The Campus Visit

Making the appointment

1. Have the dates and times you plan to visit written down in front of you.
2. Make the appointment on-line at the school website, if possible. If not, call the Undergraduate Admission Office at the college number listed at the website. (Many schools will arrange for you to meet with a coach or a department chair or teaching assistant, if you request far in advance)
3. Get specific instructions to the place where the admissions tours begin.

Getting ready for the visit

1. Read over all the college material. Familiarize yourself with programs of study, activities and special aspects of the college.
2. Talk with Cheri and your guidance counselor about your visit to the college.
3. Discuss the college and visit with your parent(s) – brainstorm for questions/concerns.
4. Make a list of questions you would like to have answered either in an interview or information session. It is ok to bring your list to your visit!

The day of the visit

1. Allow yourself plenty of time to get ready to make the trip.
2. In most cases the college interview is not a formal affair. However, keep in mind that how you present yourself is important. Dress nicely and neatly. Use common sense.

At the college

1. Remember to take the mature initiative. If you are with parent(s), introduce yourself to the admissions receptionist.
2. Sign yourself in and fill out any paperwork or inquiry form.
3. Be observant. Watch the students you see, read the posters and flyers on the walls and bulletin boards. These are important things that help make up a college environment. If there are students in the admission office, take the opportunity to speak with them about the school. College students love to talk about their experiences.

4. Try and pick up a copy of the school newspaper. It is a great source of information. Keep in mind, however, it does not always portray the whole picture (see #6 below)
5. Ask students: What are you most proud of here? Most dissatisfied with? Has the school met your expectations? Your personal and academic needs?
6. Look at the condition of the campus/grounds/buildings. Are they well kept?
7. What is on the bulletin boards
8. See how classrooms are arranged, look at average size classes
9. Where are professors offices located? Are their doors open? Look at appointment sign up sheets. Are they available?
10. Support services? Are they available to all students?
11. How are people interacting with one another? Do they walk in groups? Do they greet one another? How do they react to visitors?

The interview

1. Be yourself. The purpose of the admission interview is to give the college representative a chance to get to know you better. It also gives you the same opportunity to get to know the college better. Take advantage of it!
2. Now is the time to clarify information about yourself, your activities and your high school transcript. In many cases, information derive from an interview has benefited a student's admission decision.
3. Do not answer questions with one or two word responses. Be informative.
4. Be enthusiastic and upbeat.
5. Don't forget any questions you might have.
6. Don't be afraid to ask for clarification regarding things that you may have seen on your visit. If something concerns you, it is important to get more information from a staff member.