

# Campus Visit Checklist



Visiting a college campus helps you get a sense of what a college — and life at that college — is like. This can help you decide whether the college is right for you.

## GATHER INFORMATION (Take Notes)

Find out what you need to do to apply, and see if the college's class and major offerings are what you want:

- Take part in a group info session at the recruiting office.
- Interview with a recruiting officer.
- Bring unopened transcripts for the Admissions office.
- Check out classrooms.
- Meet an instructor who teaches a subject that interests you.
- Talk to students about what they think of their classes and professors.
- Get the names and business cards of the people you meet so you can contact them later if you have questions.

## EXPLORE THE CAMPUS

Get a feel for student life, and see if this college is a place where you will do well:

- Take a campus tour.
- Talk to current student about the college and life on campus.
- Check out the dorms in Goodman, and spend the night with a student, if possible.
- Visit the dining hall, fitness center, library, career center, bookstore, and other campus facilities.
- Talk to the coaches of sports that you may want to play.
- Walk or drive around the community surrounding the campus.

## CHECK OUT CAMPUS MEDIA

Tune in to learn what's happening on campus and what's on students' minds:

- Watch LIVE streaming events.
- Read the student paper, The Growl.
- Scan digital boards to see what daily student life is like.
- Go to career center, counseling center and Trek Center.
- Browse the school's website, blogs and social media.
- Read other student publications, such as department newsletters, alternative newspapers, and literary reviews.

# GET THE MOST OUT OF A CAMPUS VISIT IN **6 STEPS**

## **1** DECIDE WHERE AND HOW

See if your school arranges group trips to colleges or if you could get a group of friends together and visit the campus. A family trip is another option and allows you to involve your family in the process.

## **2** PREPARE FOR YOUR VISIT

Call the college's recruiting office to schedule a guided tour of the campus.

## **3** TAKE YOUR OWN TOUR

Just wandering around the campus on your own or with friends can be the best way to get a feel for what a college is like.

## **4** EXPLORE THE FACILITIES

Find the spots on campus where students gather or ask a student where the best place to eat is to get a feel for the character of the college. Visit the library and check out the gym or theater. Ask a recruiting officer if you can tour a dorm and a classroom.

## **5** MAKE CONNECTIONS

Talk to current students. Ask the students at the next table or sitting nearby what they like best about the college.

## **6** TAKE NOTES

During your visit, write down some notes about your experience. What did you see that excited you? Are there aspects of the college that you don't like? If so, what are they?

## Questions to Ask During Your Visit:

### ASK TOUR GUIDES/STUDENTS

- What are the best reasons to go to this college?
- What's it like to go from high school to college?
- What do you do in your free time? On the weekends?
- What do you love about this college?
- What do you wish you could change about this college?
- Why did you choose this college?
- What is it like to live here?
- What does the college do to promote student involvement in campus groups, extracurricular activities, or volunteerism?

### ASK PROFESSORS

- What are the best reasons to go to this college?
- Can a student be mentored by professors or upperclassmen?
- How are professors rated by the college? Does the college think mentoring and meetings for project guidance are important?
- How does the college help students have access to professors outside class? Do professors join students for lunch, help with community service groups, or guide student organizations?

### ASK FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

- How much has your total college cost for each student risen in the past year?
- How much do your students usually end up owing when they graduate?
- Will my costs go up when your tuition goes up, or can we use the same tuition rate I started with so I'll know the costs for two years?

