

Navigating College Visits

College Coffee February 2020



Setting up a College Visit

- Go to undergraduate admissions page on college website.
- Search for "visit" tab most colleges schedule tours and information sessions online – register for both.
- Can still call the admissions office to register.
- Some colleges allow interviews register for an interview online, if available.
- Do the online virtual tour as a preview.



Information sessions & Tours

- Video/Power Point with presentation by admissions counselor, usually 45 minutes to an hour.
- Questions & answers.
- Walking tour or bus/golf cart for large campuses led by trained student tour guides, usually 1 – 1.5 hours.



Special Arrangements

- Overnight visits usually seniors only, small colleges.
- Specific departmental visits schedule through admissions office.
- Class visits schedule through admissions.
- Athletic visits.



What to look for and questions to ask - Academic

- Most popular majors
- % employed/grad school after graduation
- Average class size
- Faculty : student ratio
- Library and academic resources
- Career services
- Undergraduate research opportunities



What to look for and questions to ask – Campus Culture

- Student Activities Center
- Dining Halls
- Student wellness/exercise facilities/outdoor opportunities
- Read bulletin boards
- Pick up a student newspaper read editorials
- Greek life
- Diversity of student body
- Political climate
- Cultural opportunities



More things to consider

- Club sports
- Intramural programs
- Size of campus walkability, bikes, bus transportation
- Housing options
- Urban, suburban, rural
- Distance to airport
- Food and shopping



College Cost

- Tuition
- Fees
- Books
- Transportation
- Housing
- Travel
- Financial Aid & Scholarships
- Employment opportunities on or near campus



Tips for visiting and interviewing

- Dress appropriately
- Arrive early
- Smile
- Firm handshake
- Know why you are interested in the school
- Be prepared to talk about your strengths, skills
- Give personal anecdotes and examples
- Be comfortable talking to adults
- Send thank you emails

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