

QUESTIONS TO ASK PROSPECTIVE COLLEGES

General

1. What is the mission, purpose, or philosophy of this institution?
2. How large is the campus? How many students?
3. What is the cost of tuition? Room and board?

Academics

1. What is the average class size during freshman year? Overall?
2. Do graduate students teach undergraduates?
3. Are certain courses hard to get into? What percent?
4. Can you cross-register at any other nearby colleges/universities?
5. Are there any required courses?
6. What type of academic advising is provided?
7. How much time do students have to switch majors and still graduate on time?

Location/Student Life

1. Are there study abroad programs and how much do they cost?
2. How far is the campus from the nearest airport/train/bus station/subway?
3. Does the college provide transportation locally? To airports/trains/shopping areas?
4. What percentage of students are housed on-campus? Off-campus?
5. Is housing guaranteed for all 4 years?
6. What kinds of off-campus housing are available nearby?
7. How are students assigned to a room and or roommate?
8. Are there co-ed dorms or single-sex dorms? How are they arranged?
9. What services are provided in the dorms ie. laundry, kitchen, air conditioning?
10. Are freshmen required to live on campus? In separate dorms?
11. Are students allowed to have cars on campus? Parking fees?
12. What meal plans are available? How many meals each day? Choice of entrees?
Vegetarian option? Salad bar?
13. What athletic teams do you have? Division? Can I meet one of the coaches?
14. Is there Campus Ministry? Where is the nearest place of worship?

Financial Aid

1. Will applying for financial aid have an impact on the admission decision?

2. Is financial aid based on need? On merit?
3. Do you offer scholarships? What types are available? How do I apply?
4. Do you offer work-study jobs? How do I apply for those? Is there off-campus employment available? Where are jobs posted?
5. What percentage of students receive financial aid?
6. What are the financial aid procedures and deadlines? Which forms?
7. When are financial aid packages awarded?

Admission

1. What information do you receive from applicants? SAT/ACT/SAT II? An interview? How many recommendations? From specific teachers? Essay?
2. What are your academic requirements? Foreign Language?
3. Do you have an application deadline? Or do you operate on a rolling admission basis? When are most applications received?
4. How much does it cost to apply?
5. When do students find out if they have been accepted?

Career Resources/Alumni

1. Do you offer internships? Are they required? Are they paid positions or for class credit? Are they available for all majors?
2. What career services do you offer? Resume writing? Counseling? On campus recruiting? Job listings? Alumni networking/mentoring? Graduate school information and advising?
3. What percentage of graduates go directly into the work force? To graduate school?

Office of Disability Services

1. What documentation is required to qualify for accommodations?
2. What accommodations do you offer?
3. How many Disabilities Support counselors do you have on your staff?
4. How many students use your services?
5. Will I have both an advisor in the Disabilities Services Office and a regular academic advisor? If both, how will the two advisors work with each other?
6. What is the procedure to get extended time on exams? How much notice is required? Do students arrange extended time with professors or through the Disabilities Services Office?
7. Where do students take exams? Who proctors?
8. Is tutoring available? How is it scheduled? Is tutoring one-on-one or small group? Who conducts tutorials (peers, professionals, learning disabilities specialist)? How often can a student see a tutor?

9. What do you consider the most difficult majors/classes for Disabilities Support students on this campus?
10. What is the four-year graduation rate for students with learning disabilities similar to mine?