

How to Pick a School

Campus visits are an important part of deciding which campus is the right fit for you. As you are taking tours of these campuses the following are sample questions to be asking your tour guide or admissions representative. It is best to take notes either during or right after the visit when things are fresh in your mind. Once you have toured a few schools it may be necessary to do a chart comparison of all the schools you have visited to see which will be the best fit. The easiest way to set up a college visit is to either call the admissions office of the prospective school or consult the school website for visit times and days.

Questions to ask before picking a college

1. Is the major I want offered?
2. Are there internship opportunities available?
3. What is your graduation/job placement rate?
4. What is your application procedure?
5. Do you have a grade point average or test score cut off?
6. How do I apply for financial aid? Any deadlines?
7. What is your student enrollment?
8. How many students live on campus?
9. What types of services are available for health care, academic and personal issues?
10. What on and off campus activities are offered?
11. How will my roommate be chosen?
12. If I would decide to transfer, are my credits transferable?
13. How much does tuition increase every year?
14. What is the average cost of books and materials?
15. What happens if I need to withdraw after a deadline?
16. What are some on campus employment opportunities?
17. What is the school policy on dorm wear and tear?
18. What do I need to do if I want to switch roommates?
19. How will AP/previous college/IBcredits transfer over?
20. How far away from home do I want to be?
21. How big of a city do I want to live in?
22. What opportunities do I want available in the town where the college is located?
23. What scholarships are available for incoming and continuing students?

You should also check out dorms, cafeterias, computer labs, student centers, attend a class, talk to current and former students, etc. to see if they meet your needs. If possible stay overnight and visit during the week. You can get a better feel for a campus environment while school is in session.