

How to Visit a College Campus: Checklist

A great way to see if you “fit in” at a college is to visit it in person. **Make a copy of this checklist** and bring it with you, so you don’t forget to see everything you should. Some general tips: (1) go with your parents, (2) visit the campus when classes are in session, so you can sit in on a couple of classes and speak with students and faculty, and (3) allow at least 3-5 hours per campus.

College: _____

Date of Visit: _____

Tour Time: _____

Tour Place: _____

Contact/Phone: _____

Directions attached? _____

Parking Permit needed? _____

Places to visit and/or look for information:

- Student center/hangouts
- Library
- Classrooms
- Bulletin boards on campus
- Admissions office
- Dining facility
- Residence halls
- Career placement office
- Bookstore
- Off-campus stores
- The local community
- School/community papers
- Events calendar
- Campus map
- Places of worship
- Health center

Academic items to evaluate:

- Classes-quality
- Classes-size
- Pressure
- Competition
- Work load
- Freshman orientation programs
- Academic advisors for students

Library items to evaluate:

- Size
- Hours
- Study rooms/areas
- Comfort/lighting

Housing items to evaluate:

Dorms:

- Quality
- Neighborhood
- Security
- Noise level

Off campus:

- Quality
- Neighborhood
- Security
- Noise level

Laundry

Kitchen

Bathrooms

Eating items to evaluate:

- Dining hall
- Quality of food
- Cleanliness
- Nutrition
- Variety
- Special diet availability
- Local restaurants

Facilities to evaluate:

- Health center
- Student center
- Concert hall
- Classroom size, lighting
- Fraternity/sorority houses
- Counseling services
- Placement office
- Disability access/facilities

Sports items to evaluate:

- Gym
- Pool
- Track(s)-Indoor/Outdoor
- Stadium
- Skating/Hockey Rink
- Open spaces for jogging, frisbee, etc.
- Tennis courts

- Intramural sports
- Intercollegiate sports

Community/Area to evaluate:

- Overall impression
- Cleanliness
- Presence of crime
- Local entertainment
- Shopping
- Activities/entertainment
- Relationship with college
- Transportation to/from campus
- Unusual weather conditions
- Other colleges nearby

Computer facilities to evaluate:

- Number of PC's
- Hours accessible
- Software available
- Knowledgeable assistance
- Number of printers
- Quality of printers
- Network availability
- Fees for computer use

Impression of students:

- Academic attitudes
- Backgrounds/ethnic mix
- Results from conversations

Impression of faculty:

- Accessible
- Teaching styles
- Dedication
- Openness

My overall reaction to this college:

- Better than before I visited
- About the same as before I visited
- Not as good as before I visited