

College visits are the best part of the college application process. This is your opportunity to really get a feel for what it is like to attend a college/university. No website, guidebook, or virtual testimonial will give you a better feel for the schools you are considering and whether it feels like “home.”

### **Key essentials to get the most out of your campus visit**

1. Schedule a visit during a time that students are on campus
2. Request a guided tour, but also take time to explore the campus on your own
3. Participate in a college class and speak with a professor in a subject that interests you
4. Schedule additional meetings with coaches, honors college professors, or other extracurricular advisors that you may want to participate
5. If time allows, ask to stay on campus.

**Ask thoughtful questions during your campus visit** - This will help you determine whether the campus is the fit you are looking for. Campus visits allow students to gather valuable information not found in brochures. On campus you get a firsthand view while getting important questions answered that will help you make your college choice.

#### Ask Tour Guides/Students on Campus

What do you love about this college?

What do you do during your free time? On the weekends?

How are the food options on campus? What meal plan did you choose as a freshman?

What types of activities are available on campus – student campus groups, extracurricular activities or volunteer opportunities?

#### Ask Professors/Academic advisors

What are the best reasons to go to this college?

What supports are in place for students to get academic assistance?

What is your #1 tip to succeed in college for incoming freshman?

Do students have the opportunity to talk with professors outside of the classroom?

What research or other kinds of projects are available for students?

#### Admissions/Financial Aid

What scholarships do you offer that I may not know about?

How much do your students usually end up owing in loans when they graduate?

Will my costs go up when your tuition goes up, or will my tuition be frozen once I enroll?

Is there a requirement to live on campus? If so, how long?

Are there any fees on campus that may not be reflected in the cost of attendance (Parking or sports facility fees, etc.)

**Consider what you have learned during your college visit** – does this school provide a good fit for you academically, financially, and socially?

**Follow-up** – Write a thank you note to each representative you met (admissions, financial aid, professor, etc).

### **Talk it over with your family**