



# Questions to Ask

## ACADEMICS

- ? Does this school have strong programs in the areas that interest me? Are the programs accredited?
- ? How difficult – or easy – is it to change majors?
- ? How many computers/computer labs are there? Are they up-to-date?
- ? What is the quality of the library and research facilities?
- ? Does class size permit interaction with the professor or are the classes held in lecture halls? What is the student/teacher ratio?
- ? What is the retention rate (how many students come back after their freshman year)? What percentage of the students graduate in four years?
- ? What percentage of graduates find jobs in their field of study?

## CAMPUS LIFE

- ? Is there plenty of dorm space or is there a housing crunch?
- ? What is campus life like? Does the social scene revolve around fraternities and sororities? Does everyone evacuate on the weekend?
- ? How is the food in the dining hall? What kind of meal plan is offered?
- ? Are laundry facilities easily accessible?
- ? Do I feel comfortable and at home here? Is the campus safe? What are the crime stats for the school and its surrounding neighborhood?
- ? What kind of recreational facilities are there? What varsity and intramural sports are there?
- ? What kind of health facilities and services does the college offer?

## FINANCES

- ? What kind of financial aid does the school offer?
- ? How easy is it to find a job on campus? Are there work-study programs?
- ? What kind of refund can you get if you have to drop out?
- ? Where do freshmen/sophomores/juniors/seniors live?
- ? How much does housing cost? Is it easy to get on-campus housing? How hard is it to find housing off-campus?

## SCHEDULING A VISIT

It's best to visit colleges and universities during a normal school day in order to get a true reading for what a typical day is like. On the flip side, avoid major campus events (such as graduation) as well as three-day weekends and scheduled open houses, when it will be more crowded. If you have to visit on the weekend, plan in advance to make sure someone is available to give you a tour and provide access to campus buildings.

For more information, visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

