

Tips and Resources to Make the Most of Your College Visits

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Do Your Homework and Prepare in Advance

- Research colleges of interest. Before visiting, become familiar with academic programs, extracurricular clubs, athletic teams, campus events occurring during your visit, etc.
- Schedule appointments with faculty, coaches, college staff and include these meetings in your visits in addition to admission office tours, information sessions, and college interviews (when available).
- Review college admission websites for information about tours and information sessions, as well as suggestions for local lodging and dining options.

What to Expect in College Admissions

- **Participate in a campus tour** (advance registration may be needed)
Wear comfortable shoes and be prepared for the weather.
Tours take place rain or shine and last 1-1.5 hours.
- **Attend an information session and take notes.**
Arrive early. Seating may be limited.
- **Schedule an interview if available.**
Prepare questions in advance.



Get to Know the Campus Community

- Eat on campus. Prospective students should go to a meal with a current student if possible.
- Read student publications, such as a campus newspaper.
- Visit campus facilities of interest: the athletic center, student center, library, dormitory, places of worship, etc.
- Inquire about campus safety and crime statistics.
- Tour the surrounding area.



Recording College Visits

- Take pictures during your campus visit. They will help you to remember your college tour more clearly.
- Record your thoughts about the college visit. Include both positive and negative aspects. Document any meetings with faculty, coaches, etc. Take the time to write thorough and detailed notes; they will come in handy when developing your college list and writing supplemental essays.

https://www.iecaonline.com/PDF/IECA_campus-visit-journal.pdf



Resources for College Visits

- **Go See Campus-** This free online resource helps families plan college trips. Directions, campus maps, and even restaurant recommendations are provided as well.

<http://www.goseecampus.com>

- **Hedberg Maps-** This company makes wonderful maps for many purposes. My favorite map, which clients often purchase, features many 4-year colleges in the US. <http://www.hedbergmaps.com/store/catalog/10013>

- **Wintergreen Orchard House College Atlas & Planner-** This book is fabulous as it features easy to read state maps which include major colleges. One of the best features is that the book has spiral binding so it makes it very user-friendly.

<http://store.wintergreenstore.com/coatpl.html>

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