

Questions to Ask College Representatives

Academic questions

1. How many students apply? How many are accepted?
2. What is the average GPA, ACT or SAT I score(s) for those accepted?
3. How many students in last year's freshman class returned for their sophomore year?
4. What is the school's procedure for credit regarding Advanced Placement high school courses?
5. As a freshman, will I be taught by professors or teaching assistants?
6. How many students are there per professor?
7. When is it necessary to declare a major?
8. Is it possible to have a double major or to declare a major and a minor?
9. What are the requirements?
10. How does the advising system work?
11. Does the college offer overseas study, cooperative programs, or academic honors programs?
12. What is the likelihood, due to overcrowding, of getting closed out of the courses I need?
13. What kind of technology is used in the classroom?
14. How well equipped are the libraries and laboratories?
15. Are internships available?
16. How effective is the job placement service of the school?

If you have already chosen a major

1. What is the average class size in my area of interest?
2. Have any professors in my area of interest recently won any honors or awards?
3. What kind of teaching methods are used in my area of interest (lecture, group discussion, and fieldwork)?
4. How many students graduate in four years in my area of interest?
5. What are the special requirements for graduation in my area of interest?

Social Questions

1. What is the student body like? Age? Sex? Race? Geographic origin?
2. What percent of students live in dormitories? Off campus housing?
3. What is the percentage of students going home for the weekend?
4. What are some of the regulations that apply to living in a dormitory?
5. What security precautions taken on campus and in the dorms?
6. Is the surrounding community safe?
7. Are there problems with drug and alcohol abuse on campus?
8. Are dorms available which are free of any use of drugs and alcohol?
9. Do faculty members and students mix on an informal basis?
10. How important are the arts to student life?
11. What facilities are available for cultural events?
12. How important are sports to student life?
13. What facilities are available for sporting events?
14. What percentage of the student body belongs to a sorority/fraternity?
15. What is the relationship between those who belong to the Greek system and those who don't?
16. Are students involved in decision making at the college? Do they sit on major committees?
17. What other activities can students get involved in?

Financial questions

1. What percentage of students receives financial aid based on need?
2. What percentage of students receives scholarships based on academic ability?
3. What percentage of a typical financial aid offer is in the form of a loan?
4. If my family demonstrates financial need on the FAFSA (and FAP, if applicable), what percentage of the established need is generally awarded?
5. How much did the college increase the cost of room, board, tuition, and fees from last year?
6. Do opportunities for financial aid, scholarships, or work-study increase each year?

Admission questions

1. When is the application deadline?
2. When does the school notify you of the admission decision?
3. Is a deposit required? Is it refundable?