

Campus Visits

No publication or website, no matter how thorough can give you a complete picture of a college or university. A campus visit is the best way to see for yourself what a college is like.

Advance planning is important to help you make the most of your visit. When you have decided to visit the campus, go to the college or university's website (admissions: prospective students) to establish the date and times of tours and information sessions.

Questions and Requests:

Are there group information sessions? Do I need to sign up? What times?

Request a tour of campus.

Are interviews available? (Most schools do not offer interviews)

Ask if there is a host program for your son to stay overnight in the dorm.

Checklist for Admissions office and tour

- Pick up : College newspaper Calendar of weekly events
- Course catalog Brochures on special programs, scholarships
- Tour guide's name and contact info
- Athletic coach's contact info (if interested in athletics on campus)

Make sure to have time to have a meal or a snack on campus, in the student center or a cafeteria to see how students in their free time relate to one another.

Keep in mind:

The sunshine factor: a beautiful sunny day can be seductive; a rainy day can dampen your interest. Try not to let the weather affect your judgment.

Campus guides are not all alike. Some are lively, interesting students who are reliable spokespersons for their school; others may not be well rounded or informed. Don't judge a school solely by the one student tour guide. Meet lots of students to get a true picture.