



Campus Compact

<http://compact.org/>

# Campus Visit Checklist

A campus visit will allow you to see the college and learn specific information that will help you make an informed decision about the school. This activity can be found on and printed from the CPV website for K–12 students.

## Before Your Visit

### **Research the college to find out:**

- ✓ If they offer the major you want to pursue
- ✓ Where the school is located, i.e., in the city, the country, or the suburbs
- ✓ The size of the school
- ✓ The school's reputation; a number of reports are available online that rank colleges and universities based on a number of areas, i.e., cost, size, type, etc.
- ✓ Extracurricular sports and activities offered
- ✓ If there is a mentoring program with staff, adjunct faculty, administrators, or faculty to help undergraduate students succeed in college and their careers
- ✓ What kind of minority student and/or LGBTQ offices and support the school offers
- ✓ What type of student services are offered to help students succeed in college (e.g. tutoring, writing centers, computer labs, etc.)

- ✓ The background of its faculty in your field of interest
- ✓ Schedule an appointment with someone from admissions and/or financial aid and a representative from the department that offers the major you are thinking of pursuing

## During Your Visit

### **For Financial Aid/Admissions ask:**

- ✓ Would you be accepted to the school based on your grades and activities?
- ✓ Are there any specific programs that offer intensive academic and supportive student services for underrepresented/underprepared students (College Assistance Migrant Program, Supportive Services, etc.)?
- ✓ When should you apply? When and how will acceptance notifications be distributed?
- ✓ Are there any scholarship programs you can apply for or are qualified for? If so, how can you apply?
- ✓ What type of financial aid is available for students? When and how can you apply for that aid? When will notices of aid be distributed?
- ✓ Is there a designated financial aid advisor for each student or do you call, email, or set up an appointment randomly through the financial aid office?

### **For the department offering your major ask:**

- ✓ How large are class sizes (for general curriculum classes and in specific majors)?
- ✓ What is the student/teacher ratio?

- ✓ What is the graduation rate of students in the department?
- ✓ What types of jobs do students get after graduation? How many students get jobs after graduation?
- ✓ What are the types of courses you would have to take? Which ones do students find most difficult?
- ✓ Does the department offer tutoring for its students?
- ✓ Who should you go to if you need support for making class selections? May I choose my academic advisor within the department?
- ✓ Does the department offer scholarships specific to its students?
- ✓ Are there any opportunities to work as a teacher's assistant or research assistant with faculty of the department?
- ✓ Are there internships or work study programs you can participate in while in college that will help you gain experience in your field?

**While you are touring the campus:**

- ✓ Visit a dormitory
- ✓ Visit and dine in the cafeteria. Ask the Admissions Office if they supply visiting students with a ticket(s) or voucher to experience cafeteria dining on campus
- ✓ Visit the student center
- ✓ Visit the tutoring/academic success center
- ✓ Visit the library
- ✓ Visit the Study Abroad Office to familiarize yourself with opportunities to study in different parts of the world or Study Away programs exploring different parts of the U.S.

- ✓ Visit the volunteer center, which is where students go to sign up for volunteer activities. Getting involved will help you feel like a part of your college and local community. Additionally, staying connected helps encourage students to complete their college degrees
- ✓ Sit in on a class if possible; if not, visit classroom buildings
- ✓ Drive through the area surrounding the campus
- ✓ Talk to current students about what they do or do not like about the campus
- ✓ Get a copy of the student newspaper and other college brochures to refer to later
- ✓ Find out about on-campus recreational activities and student clubs
- ✓ Spend as much time as possible on the campus and ask LOTS of questions