



# COLLEGE TOUR CHECKLIST

College tours are a great way to learn more about a college no matter what point in the application process you are in. However, discovering a new campus can be as confusing as it is fun. Make sure you're prepared so that you can enjoy this exciting stage of your college search!

## BEFORE YOUR TOUR



### LOCATION AND CAMPUS

- **Campus setting** can tell a lot about a college's culture. Is it an urban campus, or is it more residential?
- **Where do students live on campus?** Some commuter schools have limited housing, and some colleges only offer apartments to students.



### DISTANCE FROM HOME

- **How will you get home?** Will you have to fly, or is there a bus route that you can take? Knowing how often you can come home sets realistic expectations before college starts.
- **How many students are commuters?** Commuter campuses tend to have lots of parking available—something to keep in mind if you are planning on bringing a car.



### PRELIMINARY RESEARCH

- **Stats about the school** can be helpful in recognizing where different opportunities can be found on campus.
- **What programs are available?** Not every college has every major, so check and see what's available. You may even learn about a program that you did not know existed.



### ACCEPTANCE STATS

- **Does the college require exam scores?** Some colleges offer holistic, test-optional applications.
- If you are interested in joining **extracurriculars**, be sure to ask your Tour Guide about it! Chances are they themselves are involved on campus.

## DURING YOUR TOUR



### SEE HOUSING OPTIONS

- **Should I stay in a dorm or apartment?** Some universities and colleges do not allow freshmen to live off-campus during their first year.
- **Proximity to classes** is good to know. Certain dorms or apartments may be closer to the building where your classes are.



### STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- **Read flyers/posters that are displayed around campus.** These can give you an idea of what campus happenings are common.
- **Ask students about their involvement** and learn about what organizations or groups they enjoy.



### VISIT FACILITIES

- **The dining hall** is a central location on most campuses. Where else nearby can you get food if the hall is closed?
- **The Library** is another good resource to ask about. Visiting them during the school year can give you an idea about student study habits.
- Get familiar with the **classrooms** where you will be taking classes. They should be clean, accessible, and easy to find.



### TALK TO STUDENTS

- **Meet people on campus!** You never know who you might be talking to, so stay open minded and try to gain insight on the campus' culture.
- **Ask students about their likes/dislikes.** Students are usually very open to express concerns that they have. But they might also point you to a location on campus that you did not get a chance to visit on your tour.

