

## QUESTIONS TO ASK AND/OR KEEP IN MIND WHEN CHOOSING A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY:

### **General Questions about the school:**

1. What is unique about this school?
2. Is it a 2-year or 4- year school? What degrees are offered? Are graduate degrees available?
3. What is the average class size? How large is the largest freshman course (how large are the required classes)?
4. Are the classes taught mainly by professors or do graduate assistants teach them?
5. What geographic areas are the students from? (% in-state, out of state, international)
6. How diverse is the campus (% of minority students)?
7. What is the male/female ratio?
8. Where is the school located (rural, urban, etc)?
9. How many undergraduate students attend the college? How many graduate students?
10. Does the college have a specific religious affiliation?

### **Admissions, Graduation, and other “Educational” Questions:**

1. What are the general requirements for admission? What are the deadlines?
2. What are the general requirements for graduation?
3. What is the percentage of students who graduate in 4 or 5 years?
4. What are the current graduates doing (how and where are they employed)?
5. What is the job placement percentage in your major? Does the school have a job placement office? What percentages of seniors directly enter graduate school?
6. Does the school use a semester, trimester, or quarter schedule?
7. What are the core courses (if any) required for all students regardless of major?
8. What is the student/faculty ratio? What is the student/faculty relationship like? Generally, how available are the professors for office hours and/or extra help?
9. What are the honorary and professional societies?
10. What “special” academic programs are offered? (For example, some colleges offer an Honors Program and others let you design your own curriculum)
11. If you decide to switch majors how difficult is it likely to be?
12. Is there a freshman advising program? If so, how extensive is it?
13. What is the library like? Are all library facilities available to undergraduates and commuters?

### **Housing, Commuting, and Meal Plans Questions:**

1. Is there guaranteed on-campus housing?
2. What percentage of the students live on campus? What types of dorms are available?
3. How are roommates selected? Can you choose your own roommate?
4. How many students live in each room?
5. Are there computer hookups available in each room? If so, for each student, or one per room?  
Are there computer labs in the dorms?
6. What meal plans are available? Can special diet accommodations be arranged (i.e. vegetarian)? Are dining facilities available to commuters?
7. Is public transportation available to commuters?

### **Costs of Attendance/Financial Aid Questions:**

1. What are your tuition costs? Room and board?
2. What other fees are mandatory?
3. What kinds of financial aid are available?

4. How many students receive financial aid?
5. Are athletic and academic scholarships available?

**“Life on Campus” Questions:**

1. What cultural events are on campus?
2. What equipment/facilities are available to students?
3. What jobs are available to students? (work-study/non work-study)
4. What support services are available for the student: career planning, personal counseling, health care, tutoring? Is there a fee for any of these services?
5. What forms of public transportation are available to students?
6. Can students have cars on campus? Can freshman? What fees are associated with a parking permit?
7. What is campus security like? Are there “blue lights” around campus? Are there campus shuttles or security escorts available?
8. What extra-curricular activities are offered: clubs, organizations, intramurals, fraternities and sororities?
9. What percentage of the student body joins clubs, organizations, etc.? How will this relate to your social adjustment?
10. What are the facilities for religious worship on campus? Off campus? What religious organizations are there?
11. What volunteer organizations are offered?
12. What is the ATMOSPHERE? (College Visit!!!!)

**Other Internet Sites For College Searches and Planning:**

- \* [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- \* [www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com)
- \* [www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)
- \* [www.MyCollegeOptions.com](http://www.MyCollegeOptions.com)
- \* [www.collegeapps.about.com/blus/htm](http://www.collegeapps.about.com/blus/htm)
- \* [www.mapping-your-future.org](http://www.mapping-your-future.org)
- \* [www.eCampusTour.com](http://www.eCampusTour.com)
- \* [www.collegeview.com](http://www.collegeview.com)
- \* [www.collegexpress.com](http://www.collegexpress.com)
- \* [www.collegedata.com](http://www.collegedata.com)
- \* [www.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool/](http://www.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool/) (College Opportunities On-Line)
- \* [www.google.com/options/universities.html](http://www.google.com/options/universities.html) (Google’s University Search)
- \* [www.univsource.com/region.htm](http://www.univsource.com/region.htm) (U.S. Colleges and Universities by State)
- \* <http://getin2college.com>
- \* [www.collegeview.com](http://www.collegeview.com)
- \* [www.nycolleges.org](http://www.nycolleges.org)

**For testing information:**

- \* [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)
- \* [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

**For financial aid/scholarship information:**

- \* [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- \* [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org) (financial aid)

