

What to ask a College Representative

Picking a college that is a great fit for you goes beyond what programs and majors they have to offer. Here are some questions you may want to ask the College Reps about their schools, to help you make an informed decision:

Classes

1. What is your average class size?
2. Who teaches the classes (Professors, Graduate students, Teaching assistants)
3. How accessible are your Professors after class if I need help?
4. Is there academic support (tutoring, mentoring)?
5. How rigorous are your courses?
6. Do you have a study abroad program?
7. Are classes participatory? Do students have chances to participate, discuss or debate ideas?
8. Do professors have opportunities to engage with the students beyond the classroom?
9. What percentage of liberal arts classes do you need to take in comparison to art related classes?

Social

1. Is the campus lively or quiet?
2. What are the dorms like?
3. Do students stay on campus to relax or hang- or is there a city/town nearby?
4. What is the campus like on the weekends? Are there interesting things to do?
5. What is the food like on the meal plan?
6. Are there good places to eat besides dining halls?
7. Is the surrounding community Urban or Rural?
8. What entertainment is available on and off campus? (movies, theater, concerts)
9. What is the transportation like to the surrounding community?
10. Do you have any clubs, groups, organizations, social events or other student activities?
11. What kind of help do you give to incoming freshman to adjust to college life?
12. What is the cost of living in the city/state that the college is in?
13. Do you guarantee housing for all 4 years?

Artistic Related

1. Do students have the opportunity to perform or display their work? What year does it start?
2. How often are performances given? Are they well attended?
3. Is there guaranteed casting for shows?
4. Are there opportunities to study and perform with professionals in my field of art?
5. Can students not in the art program of my choice take classes within this program?
6. How does your art get evaluated?
7. What range of courses are offered within the artistic curriculum?
8. How does the school help transition to a professional career?

Admissions:

1. What are the admission requirements?
2. What are your audition requirements?
3. What qualities do you look for in a prospective student?
4. Which standardized test (if any) do you look at?
5. How many students do you accept each year (by major, department, and total)?
6. Do you offer any special scholarships or financial aid programs? Are there special deadlines for applying to these programs?
7. Can students defer if they decide to take a year off?
8. Do you offer study abroad programs?

General Questions

1. How safe is the campus?
2. Are there on-campus work opportunities?
3. Are there career planning or placement programs?
4. Does your school help students find internships or help foster relationships with professionals in our field of study?
5. What is your school best known for?
6. What is your school mostly known for?
7. Do I need to bring my laptop with me to school?
8. Can I take a class or meet with a professor before I decide to come to your school?
9. Do you have an active alumni network?
10. Who are your famous alumni and or staff?
11. Is there academic and emotional support for students if they are struggling??
12. How do you support BIPOC students?

Covid Related:

1. Have in-person campus tours resumed? If so, how are they being conducted safely? If not, are virtual visits offered?
2. On campus: Is there signage about washing hands, cleaning measures, and maintaining social distance?
3. On campus: Are people wearing face coverings and is there plexiglass in dense spaces?
4. What do the virus outbreaks look like in that area?
 - a. Are case numbers dropping?
 - b. Is testing readily available on campus or nearby?
 - c. What is the plan if a second wave of outbreaks occurs?
 - d. How close is a major health system to campus?
 - i. What is the capacity of the hospital?
 - ii. Does the university have a partnership with the hospital?
5. When did first announcements go out in the spring — how clear and how frequent have communications been?
6. What were the spring 2020 refund policies regarding room and board?
7. Did the university offer student support or emergency funds?
8. When did the university decide to end in-person education and go online this spring?
9. Were faculty given any training to teach online classes?
10. Did the university extend the deposit deadline? Waive application fees?
11. How tech savvy is the university, and how long has it been technologically adept?
12. What is the average class size and how many classes are over 50? (Smaller sizes are better in this era of physical/social distancing.)
13. Did the university have growing enrollment and budget stability over the last four or five years?
14. How does the university plan to celebrate the return of students?