



Questions to Ask College Reps

When attending a college fair, touring a college campus, or meeting with admission representatives that visit your high school, you should always ask questions. This shows that you are truly interested in their school and have given some thought to applying there. In addition, this is a way for you to find out if the college is the right fit for you. Below are some questions to add to your toolbox and to help you think of others that are important to you.

1. What reasons do students cite for choosing your college/university?
2. What do students say is challenging about your college/university?
3. What would you change about the college if you had the chance?
4. Are there any direction shifts in academics/programs or new initiatives on campus?
5. How has the college changed or grown through the last years?
6. What is an interesting fact that you could tell me that I might not find on the website?
7. What are the strengths? What are the challenges? E.g.: Location, fraternities, professors, food, dorms?
8. What are examples of collaborative academic events/opportunities? Can you tell me about popular social activities on campus?
9. How would you describe the student body/the campus community?
10. What three adjectives would you use to describe the college?
11. How do students feel about the advising & career planning and opportunities?
12. Are some majors or departments considered stronger or more popular than others?
13. How large are the classes?
14. Are the classes more lecture-based or discussion-based?
15. Are the professors accessible outside of class?

16. How much freedom do freshmen have in choosing courses?
17. Are students usually able to take their first choice courses?
18. Is it easy to change your major?
19. How would you describe the freshman experience, in terms of advising or any classes that everyone has to take?
20. Can undergraduates work with professors on research?
21. Are there honors programs or capstone classes? If so, what are they like?
22. How many hours of class do students typically have each week? How much homework outside of class?
23. What kind of internships are available? Do a lot of students get internships?
24. Are study abroad programs popular? Any ones in particular?
25. Do most students study abroad on a program through the school or an external program?
26. What are some of the most popular extracurriculars and why?
27. What clubs or other opportunities exist for community service?
28. Do sports play a large role on campus? What divisions are the sports teams? What about intramurals or exercise classes?
29. Can you talk about the fill-in-the-blank club? (Examples might include the student newspaper, student magazine, international relations clubs, art groups, science clubs, musical performances, plays, bands, ensembles...whatever you're interested in!)
30. What are the dorms like? Are there lounges, laundry, and kitchens? Shared or private restrooms?
31. Do certain dorms appeal to students with different interests, like a "healthy living" dorm?
32. Do most students live in the dorms? What about after sophomore or junior year? If they move off campus, do they live in apartments or shared houses?
33. What kind of food does the dining hall serve? Are there different options? How is it, really?
34. Does the dining hall accommodate special dietary restrictions?
35. Where do students tend to hang out on and off campus?

36. Are there movie theaters and concert venues? What about good cafes for getting work done or finding the perfect pumpkin spice latte?
37. How would you describe the presence of Greek life? Do a lot of students belong to fraternities or sororities?
38. How ethnically diverse is the campus?
39. How many international students are there? What countries do they come from?
40. Do students stick around or go home on weekends?
41. What are some big campus events, like homecoming or alumni weekend?
42. Is it easy to get around campus or get off campus without a car?
43. What transportation options are there around campus?
44. Is it a safe area to walk around at night? What kind of safety measures are in place?
45. Do many students work on or off campus? How easy is it to find a part-time job?
46. What's unique about this college?
47. What leads most students to choose this college?
48. What qualities and experiences are you looking for in applicants?
49. Can you tell me more about the application evaluation process?
50. How large of a role do SAT scores play in admissions?
51. Do you have any advice for applicants? Does this differ for early versus regular decision applications?
52. What percentage of students graduate in four years?
53. What are the college's most important values, and how does it demonstrate this to students?
54. What sort of student would succeed here?
55. What sort of student might not be happy here?
56. Can you tell me about career placements or grad school acceptances for graduates?
57. How do you help students prepare for post-grad employment?
58. Do you have an active alumni network?
59. What kind of need-based financial aid do you offer?
60. How many students receive merit-based scholarships? How much is offered?
61. Are there other scholarships that students can apply for at the time of application?

According to an article by Rebecca Safier on PrepScholar, “A final good rule of thumb to follow is to avoid asking basic questions that can be easily answered via Google or a quick search of the school's website. For instance, questions like the following fall into that category:

Do you have a psychology major?

When was the school founded?

How many students are in the freshman class?

What was last year's rate of acceptance?”

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