

# Hints for College Visits

- Try to plan your campus visits when the college is in session (spring of junior year or fall of senior year)**
- Before you visit the campus, call ahead to make arrangements (tour, meal on campus, and attend a freshman level class)**
- Develop a list of questions and plan specific activities to accomplish goals (catch a game, meet with a coach, meet with academic advisor, meet with department head, visit the rec center, visit housing options, etc.)**
- Plan on being on campus for at LEAST a half day (stay overnight if possible)**
- Attend a freshman class to get an idea of typical size, potential peers, teaching style, and academic atmosphere**
- Take a thorough campus tour and ask LOTS of questions**
- Meet with an admissions officer: verify admission requirements, discuss your chances for success, communicate your reason(s) for applying (take a copy of your transcript if possible).**
- Meet with a financial aid officer AND tour scholarship office.**
- Meet with faculty in your academic area of interest**
- Ask about placement record for graduates in the field you might study**
- Identify career planning services for undergraduates**
- Talk to students about the general academic environment and the study commitment necessary for success**
- Find out what student activities are available**
- Inquire about campus life and social activities**
- Record your impressions**
- Write a thank you note (especially if you met with a professor or coach)**

## QUESTIONS TO ASK DURING A COLLEGE VISIT

1. What are your school's most popular majors? (Check to make sure they have the academic programs you want.)
2. What is the typical size of a freshman course? What is the size of the school? The town?
3. Is there a transitions program available to freshman to help them get acquainted with the college?
4. Do you have scholarships available at your school for undergraduates? How do you find them?
5. What kind of academic support is there for students?
6. How tough is it to earn a degree four years? What percentage of students actually complete their degree in 4 years? What is your acceptance rate?
7. What is the student living/housing like there? How safe?
8. How much college credit can I earn from my AP courses, IB courses, AP tests, IB tests? (These credits can save you major money IF they accept them.)
9. Will my College Now credits count for college credit (transfers from Lane Community College) at your school?
10. What is the most important in getting accepted into your college?  
*GPA? SAT or ACT scores? Rigor of courses taken? Ranking?*  
*Are SAT Subject test's required? School involvement and/or community service?*
11. What is the surrounding city/town like?
12. Are there activities and programs going on during the weekends or do many of the students go home during the weekends?
13. Do you have a Greek System (fraternities/sororities)? If so, what is the percentage of students involved?
14. What are the chances of being accepted into your college?
15. What sports, clubs and activities are available?
16. Regarding sports; what division is your school?
17. How much is tuition?

# TIPS FOR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

1. If you need a recommendation, ask a teacher or counselor who knows you personally and is willing to write the recommendation. Ask this person for a deadline and provide them with the requested information (*See Letter of Rec file within Naviance*) well in advance. Counselors require two weeks of notice for a letter.
2. Make a copy of the original to use as a working application. If you are applying on-line you can print a copy to use as a draft. Keep an electronic working copy of all your Activities (See Naviance: Home page, left hand side, "Letters of Rec" to download)
3. Follow directions exactly and fill out the application completely. Read carefully whether you need to use black or blue ink or type your responses. Remember to sign the application if requested.
4. Make sure you enclose everything the application requests i.e., fees, recommendations, transcripts, OR make arrangements for these items to be sent.
5. If someone, like your counselor, is going to submit your transcript or recommendations, make sure you have completed what you need to on Naviance. If it's a paper application, give the person a stamped envelope addressed to the college where the additional forms are to be sent.
6. Have at least one other person carefully proof both the completed working copy and final application.
7. Keep a copy of the final application for your records.
8. Submit the application online, through Naviance or mail well before the deadline. Know when the schools begin accepting applications. The earlier you mail it in, the sooner you will find out if you are accepted.