

# Choosing a College

## Suggested Questions to Ask

- What are the GPA and SAT/ACT test score requirements?
- What is the cost of attendance? Are there other costs, such as lab fees or health fees?
- What applications and other documents are required to apply for admission and financial aid?
- Is there an admission application fee? When is the fee due? Is it refundable? If I can not afford to pay the fee, can it be waived?
- What are the applications deadlines for admissions and financial aid? Does the school award institutional scholarships? How do I apply?
- What housing options are available? Are there options to live in a sorority or fraternity house? Is there adequate housing for everyone? Are students required to live in the residence halls? Are the residence halls co-ed? Is there a deadline to secure freshman housing? Can you choose your roommate?
- Does the college offer a freshman orientation?
- What type of academic calendar does the school have?
- What is the retention rate?
- What is the placement rate? Do most students who graduate obtain a job in their field? Do they get admitted to graduate school? Do employers do on-campus job recruiting?
- How long, on average, does it take students to graduate? Is it difficult to get into the classes required for graduation?
- What is the student/faculty ratio? Does faculty include teaching assistants or do professors teach the majority of the classes? Are there tutors or academic support services available? Are these services free of charge?
- What is the average class size? Are the professors accessible to students?

- What is the academic advising system like? Is your advisor assigned or do you choose your own?
- How do you determine your major? How do you know which classes to take?
- What is the crime rate on campus? Is the campus security adequate? Does the college have safety procedures and precautions in place?
- How diverse is the student body? What is the male/female ratio? Do the majority of students come from inside the state or outside the state? Is there a mix of ethnic and racial backgrounds? Are there a large number of international students?
- How do you characterize the area surrounding the campus? Is the town or city safe? Are there places to eat and shop? What types of cultural events (music, theatre, art) are offered? Are there airports, bus stations etc. nearby for travel, if needed?
- What types of athletic programs does the school offer? Are the athletic teams important to the campus? Do a lot of students attend the events? Is there strong school spirit?
- Are there fraternities and sororities on campus? Do you have to be involved to have a social life? What other student activities are there?
- What clubs and organizations are available on campus? Are there intramural sports?
- Is there parking available, and if so, is there a charge to park? Do many students bring cars? What type of public transportation is available?
- Are there adequate computer labs? Are there computers in the residence hall rooms or are the rooms equipped for computers?
- Are the student facilities, such as the library, athletic center and health center adequate for your needs?
- Are there student employment opportunities available either on or off campus? Are there internship/co-op programs available?
- What types of meal plans are available? Are there a wide variety of foods? If you have special diet needs, can they be accommodated? What types of options are available besides the dining hall?
- What is the weather like?