



MENLO-ATHERTON CAREER CENTER

QUESTIONS TO ASK COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES

A college fair can be a great opportunity to learn more about colleges that interest you. Instead of just taking a brochure or catalog and moving on, consider asking college representatives one or two questions about areas that are important to you. While there may not be time for all of your questions to be answered in depth at a college fair, you should be sure to ask the most important question of all: "How can I learn more about your college?"

The following are some areas to explore:

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY

- Is your college located in an urban, suburban, or rural setting?
- How long does it take to get from here to your campus?
- Is your campus easily accessible by public transportation?
- Are students permitted to have cars on your campus? Is a car necessary to get around?
- What kinds of social, cultural, and recreational activities are available on your campus and in the community?

STUDENT POPULATION

- How many undergraduates are enrolled at your campus? How many graduate students?
- How many students are from the immediate area? from out of state?
- What is the racial/ethnic makeup of your student body?

ACADEMICS

- Do you offer my major?
- What is your college's academic calendar? (Semester, quarter, other?)
- What other programs do you offer that will support my major?
- Is my major impacted (overcrowded)? If so, what special requirements do I need to meet?
- Do you have an honors program? How can I qualify?
- Are there opportunities for undergraduates to do research, obtain internships, and study abroad?

EXTRACURRICULARS

- Do you offer my favorite extracurricular activities (sports, art, music, drama, ethnic associations, outdoor associations, community service opportunities)?
- What kind of activities do students participate in on weekends?

COSTS AND FINANCIAL AID

- What is the total cost of attendance for one year at your campus? (This total should include tuitions or fees, room and board, and an allowance for books, transportation, and miscellaneous expenses.)
- What kind of financial assistance is available?
- When and how can I apply for financial aid?
- How is eligibility for financial aid determined?
- Are there any special kinds of assistance for under-represented students?



- Is all of your financial aid based on need, or do you offer merit-based aid as well? Do you have scholarships based on talents in athletics, music, art, etc.?

HOUSING

- Do you have campus residence halls?
- Are students required to live on campus for the first year? for the following years?
- What percentage of students live on campus the first year? the following years?
- When and how do I apply for housing?
- Can I choose my roommate?
- Is off-campus housing easy to find and affordable?

ADMISSION

- What are your admission requirements (high school coursework, tests, etc.) for freshmen? for transfers?
- Where, when, and how can I get an application?
- What is your application deadline?
- When will I be notified if I am admitted?
- Do you have an early admission plan?
- Do you offer students an option to defer enrollment after acceptance?
- How do you look at my high school transcript? (For example, will you use the GPA that appears on my transcript or will you recalculate it? Which courses will "count"? Is a D considered a passing grade? Do you give extra credit for honors courses?)
- Do you have any special admission programs for students from under-represented groups?
- Will you consider credits I have earned from courses taken at a community college?
- If I have passed AP tests, will I be able to obtain college credit or placement in more advanced courses?
- (For colleges that are part of a larger system): Can I apply to more than one campus in your system? Can I redirect my application to another campus within your system if I change my mind?

MORE INFORMATION

- How can I be added to your mailing list?
- How can I make arrangements to take a tour of your campus?
- Do you have an Open House for prospective students?
- Whom can I contact for more information?