

COLLEGE VISIT GUIDE

COLLEGE NAME

City

State

Tuition

Average Loan Debt Upon Graduation

ADMISSIONS OFFICER CONTACT

Name

Title

Email

Phone

CHECKLIST

What Did You Do?

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Talk to professors | ☐ Talk to students |
| ☐ Visit the library | ☐ Visit student housing |
| ☐ Information session & campus tour | ☐ Read bulletin boards |
| ☐ Sit in on a class | ☐ Tour the recreational facilities |
| ☐ Eat at the cafeteria | ☐ Check out student activities |
| ☐ Talk to an admissions officer | ☐ Tour the community around campus |
| ☐ Read the college newspaper | ☐ Eat at off-campus hang out |

RATE IT

On a scale of 1 to 5 (5 being the best) rate the following

	1	2	3	4	5
Community/People	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☐ 5
Social life	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☐ 5
Academic experience	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☐ 5
Dorms	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☐ 5
Surrounding city/town	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☐ 5
Campus	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☐ 5
Food	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☐ 5



QUESTIONS TO ASK

What is your typical day like?

What do students do on the weekends?

Why did you choose to attend?

What would you like to improve in this community?

What was your transition like to go from high school to college here?

What are the requirements for need-based aid and for merit-based aid?

THOUGHTS ON YOUR VISIT

The Best Part About My Visit:

The Worst Part About My Visit:



TIPS for Your Visit

1 **Students, take the lead.**

You are the one who will be attending college, so take the lead during campus visits. Your parents will probably be with you during the visit, but make sure you do most of the talking. Don't take the easy way out and let your parents do all of the work for you.

2 **Have an open mind.**

Treat every college the same when visiting. You may have a ranked list based on everything you know about the colleges, but your feeling may change after walking on campus and getting a real feel for the college.

3 **Do your homework.**

Do some research on the college in advance so that you have some basic information on the school before you visit. Don't waste your time on campus by asking questions that could have been easily answered by doing a quick search of a school's website, publications, blogs, or social media. You'll be able to get more out of a visit by asking specific questions.

4 **Schedule your visits well in advance.**

Group information sessions can fill up very quickly during spring and summer breaks. The general rule of thumb is to schedule your visit at least three weeks in advance. It's always best to visit a school while it's in session.

5 **Be thoughtful about logistics.**

Leave plenty of time for parking, info session, tour, a meal, and just walking around the campus. It's best to leave time for lunch after your morning

information session and tour. After a morning of walking and talking on campus, you're sure to build up an appetite!

6 **Take notes and pictures.**

Be ready to take notes and pictures of campus. Chances are you will be visiting more than one school on the same trip and it's easy to forget what you saw at each college or university. Colleges will start to blend together after visiting a few. We advise visiting a maximum of two colleges in one day.

7 **Pick up a student newspaper and look at bulletin boards around campus.**

See what the hot topics on campus are. Bulletin boards are a good indication of the types of activities happening on campus.

8 **Meet the students.**

Talk to (former Menlo) students enrolled at the college. Don't leave the campus without talking to students. They'll tell you the good, bad and the ugly about school you're visiting.

9 **Talk about it.**

Discuss your visit with your family, counselor, and/or other trusted sources—be specific about what you liked and didn't like about particular campuses.

10 **Have fun!**

Talk to currently enrolled students at the college. They'll be honest and tell you the good, the bad, and the ugly about the school you're visiting.