

Places to Visit on Campus

Admission Office

This is your chance to ask questions about getting that application in on time. These are the people who will look at your application and make the initial decisions about your qualifications. Make sure you are aware of deadlines and necessary documents you'll need to attach to your application, such as high school transcripts, letters of reference and essays.

Financial Aid Office

Not only can the financial aid office help you locate scholarships, grants, work-study and student loan opportunities, but they can also help you fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and answer important questions about ways to pay for college. Ask how and where you make your tuition payments.

Academic Advising

Each college or professional school has a different method for providing academic advising. Find out which departments offer the classes you'll need to achieve your degree.

On-Campus Child Care

Students who are also parents may want to inquire about child care. Even if you have already established care for your children while you're in class, you may find great deals on fees or hours that fit your class schedule.

Career Services

Knowing what classes to take is only one step in the process. Find the Career Services office and visit it frequently once you begin school. Here you can learn the many ways you can market your degree in the workforce.

Housing Office

If you're able to live on campus, be sure to stop by the Housing office to learn about the dormitories, meal plans and other important information. Ask the office what items are allowed in the dorms so you can begin stocking your dorm room ahead of time, stretching out the cost.

Parking and Transportation Office

If you plan to have a car on campus, you'll have to learn the procedures for parking. This may be an added expense you'll want to consider in your budget. Also ask about public transportation to and on campus, such as bus routes.

Student Life Office

If you're visiting a campus large enough to offer activities, events and clubs, don't miss the Student Life office. This a great place to learn how to get involved, meet new people and ask current students about campus life.

Student Union or Common Area

Many schools have a building designated for students to use in between classes. Typically known as the Student Union, this building often has restaurants, important offices such as the Student ID office, post offices and even some banking services. If you see a school newspaper, be sure to grab it so you can learn more about life on campus.

Library

Visit the campus library and take note of their hours. The library may offer free wireless and may be a resource for you during your time on campus. Also, take note of smaller, departmental libraries that may offer specialized resources for specific classes or assignments.

Health Clinic

Learn what options are available to you if you get sick while at school. Ask how much treatment costs. Many schools offer health insurance for students.

Surrounding Community

Explore off campus to locate important businesses and services you may need. Get a feel for the safety of the area and see if it's easy to get around.