

How To Apply To College

Step 1: The Search

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- Do you want a big school, mid-size or small school?
- Do you want to be near a big city or in a small town?
- Do you know what you want to study?
- What's important to you - diversity, academics, social?

Tip: Ask your network (friends, family, social media) for recommendations of schools you might not know.

COLLEGE	LOCATION + SIZE	COST, AID, SCHOLARSHIPS	STUDENT PROFILE GPA, TEST SCORE	MAJORS I LIKE

PAY ATTENTION

- How does it "feel"? What does your gut say? Is it too big, too small?
- Notice flyers for clubs and involvement. See anything interesting?
- Do students look happy and engaged?

ASK THE TOUR GUIDE

- Where do students hang out on campus?
- What do you do for fun - on campus and off?
- How big are the classes? Are they taught by a professor or a TA?
- What makes this school unique?

SEE THESE PLACES

(Tip: If they are skipped on your tour, see them on your own.)

- Student Commons - walk around a bit, notice how students use the space.
- Food Options - have a meal in the dining hall (ask at admissions) or a snack at an on-campus restaurant or coffee shop.
- Fitness Center.
- Library - be sure to see the inside as well.
- Student Life Offices - clubs, greek life, multi-cultural centers. As your interest dictates, walk into the offices and ask questions.

TOUR THE DORMS

- Are the floors co-ed or single sex?
- Are the dorm rooms single, double, triple or apartment-style?
- Are the bathrooms in the hall or in the room? Are they single sex or co-ed?
- Ask - is housing available all four years?

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO GET TO KNOW THE CAMPUS

- Before leaving home, arrange to attend a class or lecture.
- Meet with a current student (ask friends and school counselor for contacts).
- Explore the surrounding area; walk around town, have a meal.
- If you already know your major, tour that school or department.

How To Apply To College Step 2: The Campus Tour

TOUR NOTES + THOUGHTS

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Step 3: The Applications

HELPFUL TIPS

- Start the applications as soon as they are available.
- Give yourself plenty of time to write and edit essays.
- Ask for teacher recommendations late summer.
- Inquire early about admission interviews.
- Email or call the admissions rep with any questions.

COLLEGE	APPLICATION DUE DATE + FEE	TESTS + RECOMMENDATIONS	SUPPLEMENTS (writing, portfolio)	ANYTHING ELSE?