

# THE COLLEGE CONNECTION

## I. COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Apply only to colleges you would seriously consider attending if accepted. Check to see if the institution has any type of early-action deadlines for applications. It is recommended that applications be done prior to Thanksgiving of your senior year.

### Application Process: Applications Consist of:

- Fill out application on line or paper form neatly (blue or black ink)
- Fill out Transcript Request Form for High School transcripts
- Allow at least 2 days for process/ mailing
- *Transcripts are not given to students or parents but are mailed directly to the school!*
- If applying by web site, be sure to request a transcript from the school office

## II. SELECTING A COLLEGE

Consider various criteria when selecting a college. After narrowing choices, consider these guidelines:

Importance of each criteria varies per individual: • Fulfilling eligibility for admission

- Academic level - class rank
- Curriculum - standardized test scores
- Cost - specific high school course work
- Fraternities and sororities • Taking any required standardized tests
- Geographic location
- Size of community
- Size of school
- Sports and extracurricular activities • Visiting campuses

## III. QUESTIONS TO ASK COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES

**Your time with visiting college representatives is limited, so it is important to use the time efficiently. Below are some suggested questions to ask:**

1. How many students are there at your institution? How many are graduate students? What is the male/female ratio?
2. What is the campus like (i.e. size, location to nearest city or downtown area)?
3. What is the makeup of the student body (i.e. from what states, commuter versus residential, religious backgrounds, cultural diversity, most popular majors)?
4. What is the housing situation? Where can freshmen live? What are the residence halls like?  
What percent of the students live on campus? What about meal service?
5. What percent of students return for their sophomore year? Remain to graduate? In how many years?
6. What are the strong majors at your college? Do you have the major(s) I am considering?  
What percent of the students are in that major? How difficult is it to change majors?
7. What are the sizes of the classes at each level? Are they taught by professors or graduate students? Are faculty accessible outside of class?
8. What opportunities are there for research, independent study, and study abroad? Are there internships or co-ops available?  
What percentage of students take advantage of these?
9. What kinds of clubs and activities are there? Are there fraternities and sororities on campus?
10. Do you have an honors program or special academic program such as a Residential College?
11. How extensive are the services in the job placement office? What is the placement rate in medical or law school? Do you have career planning and counseling services?
12. Is the sports program large and diverse? Are you known for a particular sport? Are you NCAA or NAIA? Are there athletic scholarships? How popular are intramurals?
13. Are there specific facilities in my interest area (i.e. radio station, computer access)?
14. What are your admission standards? What kind of student are you looking for? What percent of the applicants are admitted?
15. What is the tuition, room and board, and total cost (in my program) at this school?
16. What kind of financial aid is available? What scholarships are offered?
17. What arrangements must I make to visit your campus? Are there special visitation days or programs for high school students?
18. Are there admission deadlines of which I need to be aware?
19. Does your college require that transcripts be sent in the middle of the year?
20. What differentiates this school over another similar one? (you might even want to name other colleges you are considering)  
- what's really special about your school?