



Name of College: _____

Date Visited: _____ Was school in session?: Yes ___ No ___

Attended Info Session?: Yes ___ No ___

Took Campus Tour?: Yes ___ No ___ tour guide name & email: _____

Met with Admissions Representative? Yes ___ No ___

Admissions Representative Name _____

Admissions Representative Email _____

Interview? Interviewer Name & Email _____

What is interviewer's status?: _____

Department or Faculty meeting?: Name, Title, Email: _____

Meet with a coach or take a lesson?: Name, Title, Email: _____

Sat in on class?: Subject & general impression: _____

As you look around the campus, take note of what you saw:

Weather: _____ Weekday or Weekend: _____

Were students around? Where? Did you speak with any of them? _____

Did you visit a dining hall? Cafeteria or A la carte? What did you think of the food? ___

What did you think of the dorms? _____

What did you think of the library or classrooms? _____

What is it like to get around campus? _____



What is the local surrounding area like? _____

What is there to do at night, on weekends? _____

What other schools did students consider, and what made them choose this one? _____

What activities do these students actually participate in? _____

Are the other students like me? _____



The college visit can be an exciting day. You may feel overwhelmed because so much information is coming at you all at the same time. You can make this process less intimidating by looking at the attached sheet, and thinking about several questions.

First of all, you picked this school to visit for a reason: maybe it has an amazing reputation for the field of study that interests you; maybe it is where your parent attended; maybe you already know someone attending; maybe it is convenient; maybe it is very affordable; or maybe it has a highly regarded athletic program and you can't wait to cheer from the stands. The idea seems to be that you should analyze whether you can "see yourself" attending this school. Some people "just know it" when they are walking around, other people just randomly realize it after an interesting conversation with a tour guide. But don't feel pressured to make up your mind the first time you visit, just start to get a sense of whether this school could be a possibility.

It is best to attend an info session and campus tour. Some campuses offer "informational interviews" or opportunities to spend time with a current student. It may be necessary to register for these through the admissions office. While they are designed to be helpful for you, bear in mind that for some schools, the admissions office keeps track of these things a student attends as proof of "demonstrated interested," and as such could also have an impact on the admissions decision. So always make sure the admissions office knows that you are there. And be sure to take a business card or at least write down the name, title and email address of *everyone* you meet so you can follow up with them with a note when you get home.

If you have set up a meeting with a faculty member or coach, or taken a musical lesson, be sure you have any important materials and know exactly where and when your appointment will take place. Remember to thank them with an email.

Info sessions and websites are great for general information about the school, the courses offered, as well as numerous clubs and activities. But your absolute best source of information is from students themselves. Start with the tour guide, as he or she typically applied for and earned this position based upon knowledge, enthusiasm & personality. Ask for specific details on current courses, how difficult it is to register for popular classes and what a typical



class day is like. Ask about which clubs/activities to which he/she belongs. Are they difficult to join or are they open to anyone? What is the nightlife like? Do most social activities occur on-campus, or off? What is the transportation like to get off campus, or to local airport or train station? What other schools did he/she consider and why pick this one? Tour guides often volunteer their email addresses—be sure to take note of this for any followup questions.

Parents also care about health and safety, so ask about health services—how difficult is it to be seen, what are particular past experiences? What safety procedures does he/she use at night?

Although it may seem awkward, you should absolutely talk to current students. Don't be afraid to walk over to kids at a table and introduce yourself as a prospective student. They remember what it was like to be visiting schools and most of them are excited to talk about why they picked this school. Remember to ask them about their experiences (same questions as for tour guide).

If you can, eat someplace on campus so you can get a sense of the food they offer and so you can witness the students' socializing. Sometimes a meal is part of the tour, so just ask about the other types of venues available.

Overall, try to write down your feelings and impressions as soon as you can after the visit while the information is still fresh in your mind. Don't panic if you don't remember every detail.

Use the reverse to take notes.

