

Things To Do:

1. Sign up for a Tour of Campus ahead of time. Know where tours leave from what time they depart. A college student will show you around – ask questions! Be on time and dress appropriately – no jeans with holes, but dress slacks aren't required either. Dress neatly but comfortably. You can also **request to sit in on a class** ahead of time too.
2. Take along a copy of your high school transcript. Obtain an unofficial copy from your counselor several days in advance. You should also bring a copy of your Activity Sheet (*) to share. Know your SAT or ACT scores, or at least your PSAT or PLAN scores.
3. Interview with the college. Even if it's optional, set one up. It's as much an opportunity for you and your parents to interview the school as it is for them to interview you. Interviews are rarely available to walk-ins, so book the interview when confirming your campus visit. You should interview alone and then typically your parents will have a chance to speak to the Admissions Counselor afterwards. Not all schools will allow you the chance to interview, but never be afraid to ask. A good interview can demonstrate your level of interest in a college. For those students "on the bubble" as far as acceptance, a good interview could make a positive difference in their decision. Some schools that offer interviews will also offer the student a fee waiver for your application after the interview.
4. Bring stamped thank you notes. Write a thank you note to each person you met with from the college. They usually give you a business card so you will have their address and the correct spelling of their name. Write it before you leave and drop it in the nearest mailbox so it gets there while you are still fresh in their memory!
5. Get lost. Venture to where the real action is. **Talk to students. Attend a class. Eat in the cafeteria. Read the school newspaper and visit the Student Center.** Parents and students can split up and plan to meet again in an hour or two.
6. Be realistic. Seek comfort, not perfection. Before you leave campus, take a last glance around and ask yourself this question, "Would I feel comfortable here?"
7. Take good notes. Don't trust anything to memory, especially if you're planning on visiting a number of colleges. Even if you don't take notes during the visit, write your thoughts down while the experience is still fresh in your mind, like on the drive home.