

PREPARATION FOR COLLEGE VISIT

Contact the college admissions office at least two weeks prior to your visit:

- **Visit the school while school is in session.** Even the most physically appealing campus can feel dismal without students. Do not visit during mid-term or end-term. Allow at least ½ day for each college so that you have time to reflect on each visit. If you visit campuses at different times of the year, account for the difference weather can make at a particular time of year.
- Register for information session, college tour, open house and/or interview.
- Inquire about attending classes, meeting with specific faculty and possible sleepovers in the dorms.

Research the college:

- Read all the literature the school has sent to you.
- Check out the school's web site.
- Check the college out in the college guides.
- Talk to students from your high school that attend the particular school.
- Talk to the representative of the college at a college fair or high school visitation.

From your research:

- Make a list of questions you have that you couldn't answer from your research.
- Make a list of places, people, activities, etc. that you discovered in your research that you want to know more about.
- Make a list of questions that relate to the areas you are interested in pursuing.

While you are on campus:

- Take a campus tour. Remember that the tour guide is only one member of the school community.
- Attend a class that is of interest to you.
- Meet with any faculty that are available.
- Have an interview if appropriate.
- Spend a night in a dorm if possible; be sure to eat a meal in the dorm cafeteria.
- Check out the school newspaper, bulletin boards, and radio station.
- Tour parts of the campus that were not on the tour, especially dorms
- Attend a sporting event, art show, musical show, play, etc.
- Talk to students you meet about their academic and campus life experiences.
- Take some pictures to remember the campus; take your first picture at each college with something that includes the name of the school so quick reference.
- Explore the community surrounding the campus.

Reflect on the campus visit:

- Complete the Comparative Chart of Facts & Impressions about Colleges. **Can you see yourself at this college for four years?**