



College Fair Checklist & Questions

(Information from: www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org)

Get the Information You Want

What happens at a college fair?

A college fair is a gathering of college representatives who want to provide students with information about their college. College fairs may be held at your school, a conference center, a local community center, or virtually. The colleges may be local or from around the country. The representatives are usually set up at booths or tables and hand out brochures with information about their school and how you can contact them. They can tell you about everything from academics to campus life at their college and they can also answer any questions you may have.

College Fairs are a great opportunity for students to collect information and talk to many college representatives at ONE location. If you can, try to attend more than one college fair so you get information from a variety of colleges. The checklist below will help guide you so you can get the most out of each fair.

Before You Go

- There will be many colleges who will participate in the College Fair so try and find out which colleges will be there so you can make a list of the ones you want to visit.
- Make a list of any questions you have.
- Bring your list, a pen and paper.
- Most colleges will have inquiry cards that they will want you to fill out, which will place you on their mailing lists. You can save a lot of time at the fair by bringing along self-stick labels to place on the cards. Include your contact information, e-mail address, high school graduation date, GPA, and areas of interest. Make sure the email address that you give out won't embarrass you — remember, college admission officers will see it.

While You're There

- A map of the fair will be given to you when you arrive.
- Visit booths and ask college representatives questions. For example, you can ask, "What kind of student are you looking for?", "What size is the school?", "What size are the classes?", "What kind of programs do you have?", or "What makes your campus special?"
- Take a minute to jot down any information you think is important before moving on to the next booth.
- Check out some of the other booths when you're done with the colleges on your list. You may stumble onto a great college you hadn't considered.
- You'll receive a lot of college brochures, business cards and information to take home with you!
- College Fairs usually have information sessions or workshops where you can learn about financial aid, scholarships, the application process, etc. Don't miss out on these opportunities!!!

When You Get Home

- Organize the college material you collected and review it that week while it's fresh in your mind.
- Go over any notes you took during the fair. Ask yourself which colleges stood out and why.
- Throw out the pamphlets of colleges you've ruled out so you can focus on colleges you're interested in.
- Do more research on the colleges that interest you. Explore their websites, contact the admissions office, or plan a campus visit. If you liked what you saw at the fair, it may be time to see the college in person!!!

Some Questions You May Like To Ask

Questions About Financial Aid:

What percent of students receive financial aid? What are the filing date deadlines?
Are jobs available on campus? Work-study programs?
Are there other scholarships, grants, or loans available? How does one qualify or apply?
What is a typical financial aid package for freshmen?
When is a student notified about financial aid?
Are there other special scholarships for athletics? Arts? Leadership? Academics? Etc.?

Questions About Academics:

What is the average class size? Ratio of professors to students?
What percent of classes are taught by teacher assistants vs. professors?
What percent of students return sophomore year? What percent graduate in four years?
How difficult is it to get your classes? How does registration work? Can I double major?
How many credits/classes per term? Is a core curriculum required?
What kind of internet access is provided and where? In each room?
What are the most popular majors?
Is there an honors program? What are the requirements to apply for it?
Are there special exchange programs or opportunities to study abroad?
Are students recruited aggressively for jobs after they graduate? Are they offered internships?
What percent of the students are accepted to graduate schools?

Questions About Admission Policies:

What high school courses do you require?
What tests are required? What range of scores do you require to be admitted?
What grade point average and class rank are typical of your admitted students?
What emphasis is placed on extracurricular activities?
Do you offer Early Decision or Early Action?
If yes, what are the deadlines and what is the commitment?
Do you accept Letters of Recommendation? How many?
Are personal interviews offered? How do you obtain them?
Do some majors have additional admission requirements?
What percent of applicants do you accept? Is there a waitlist? An appeals process?

Questions About the College or University:

Where is the college located? Is the setting rural, urban, suburban, etc.?
What is the community like? College town? Relationship with the community?
Is the college public or private? Does it have a religious affiliation?
What is the current enrollment?
Are Freshman required to live on campus? Are Freshmen allowed to have cars? Types of off-campus housing?
Are there any special programs offered?
Does the college have a particular program it is known for or ranked in?

Questions About the Student Body:

Where do the majority of students come from?
What role does athletics play in campus life? Are there NCAA sports? Club? Intramural?
How would you characterize the student body?
How would you characterize the school in terms of school spirit?
What type of clubs are available?

For more information about College Fairs in the area visit:

<https://www.nacacfairs.org>