

## HOW SHOULD YOU PREPARE FOR YOUR COLLEGE VISITS?

1. Arrange for your college visit by writing or telephoning the Office of Admissions of the college in advance for an appointment--two weeks or so in advance.
2. Read the college catalog so that you will have in mind the basic information require to ask intelligent questions when you arrive there.
3. Inform the college representative of the areas of your interests if you have decided upon one or more.
4. Have in your possession a Preliminary Transcript, which can be from one of the senior high school counselors.
5. Give careful attention to your appearance, grooming and conduct. Your visit and interview may be considered as a personal application by the college.
6. Allow plenty of time for your college visits. Do not hurry but rather plan to spend at least a half of a day there. Endeavor to do several of the following:
  - a. Sit in on a class (if possible)
  - b. Have a meal on campus
  - c. Talk to several college students - get their points of view about the academic and social life at the college
  - d. Take your camera and a notebook along - your chances of using them will be great
  - e. Take time to write a few notes as soon as possible after you have finished your visit and while the information gained is still fresh in your mind. These may include such items as:
    - (1) your impressions of the college (its personnel, student body, facilities, etc.) both favorable and unfavorable
    - (2) important items of information gained about the instructional program, regulations, etc.
    - (3) names and titles of the college officials you met while there. You may need them later for future correspondence.

## WHAT THE INTERVIEWER LOOKS FOR

1. Attractive personality -- this is based upon the first impression you make and on the total impressions made by the interview.
  - a. Your sincerity and interest. Be your self -- your best, natural; self; do not make an effort to be "different".
  - b. The way you dress. Good taste requires that you avoid extremes. Do not be too Not dressed up<sup>11</sup> or too informal.
  - c. Good manners. Do not slouch; do not be stiff. Avoid artificiality. Relax. Use good speech and voice quality.
  - e. Ability to express your self clearly and convincingly.
2. Maturity. The standard is the kind of maturity that may be expected of a seventeen or eighteen year old person.
3. Serious purpose. Why are you going to college?
4. Enthusiasm. Do you face college and life with eagerness, curiosity and "gusto"?
5. Modesty. You do not have to be boastful or aggressive to impress the interviewer.
6. Ability to do independent work. Have you been interested enough in any subject to pursue the study of it on your own initiative?
7. Capacity to solve problems and overcome obstacles.

## **WHAT THE INTERVIEWER MAY ASK YOU**

1. Your reading.
2. Your personal interests and hobbies.
3. What you have done in recent summers.
4. Your plans for college and for life.
5. Your reasons for applying to that particular college.
6. Unusual experiences in or out of school.
7. Any part of the application -- review it thoroughly before the interview, if possible.
8. Questions you may wish to ask about the college.

## **WHAT YOU SHOULD DO AFTER YOU RETURN HOME**

1. Write a brief "thank you" note to the person who interviewed you as well as to any others of the admissions staff or faculty who extended you courtesies.
  - a. This should be done promptly -- certainly when you have time within a day or two after you return home;
  - b. It should be legibly handwritten or neatly typed.
2. Recheck the college catalog and any other of the college's publications. These will be more meaningful after you have seen the college and its facilities.
3. Review your evaluation and impressions of the college from time to time with your parents.
4. Realize that you may change your "first, second, third" ranking of the colleges on your list as you visit them one by one.
5. Check with your counselor in the Fall to discuss your final college plans. This is very important. The counselor will help you pyramid your final choices.

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Visit \_\_\_\_\_

### CAMPUS VISITING CHECKLIST

Here is a checklist to help you plan wisely for your college visit. Remember that you and the college are going to live together for four years. Make your choice carefully.

- \_\_\_ 1. Does the college have adequate course offerings in your major field?
- \_\_\_ 2. Does the college have adequate instructional facilities to meet your needs?
- \_\_\_ 3. Do freshmen have an opportunity to take at least some of their courses with the major professors of the college or university?
- \_\_\_ 4. What is the typical size of classes for freshmen? Upper classmen?
- \_\_\_ 5. What library facilities are available on campus? How well equipped is the library in your intended field of study?
- \_\_\_ 6. What military training programs are offered by the college or university? Is this training required or elected?
- \_\_\_ 7. Are freshmen required to reside in the college dormitories?
- \_\_\_ 8. Are rooms in dormitories completely or only partially furnished?
- \_\_\_ 9. Are students permitted to choose their room-mates? If not, how are they assigned?
- \_\_\_ 10. Are the study facilities of the dormitory rooms satisfactory to you?
- \_\_\_ 11. How satisfactory are the dining facilities?
- \_\_\_ 12. Is there a good snack bar or other student "eating and meeting" place on or near the campus?
- \_\_\_ 13. Are medical, dental and nursing services available on the campus?
- \_\_\_ 14. What members of the college staff are available to counsel with you regarding personal problems, vocational plans, academic adjustments and choice of courses?
- \_\_\_ 15. What orientation provisions does the college make in acquainting freshmen students with the college both before and after arrival?
- \_\_\_ 16. Is there a religious center of your faith nearby? Are services of a chaplain of your faith available to you?
- \_\_\_ 17. Does the institution approve or sponsor the type of religious club in which you may be interested?
- \_\_\_ 18. Does the college have a social room, union or commons which is the center for student activities?
- \_\_\_ 19. Does the college have good indoor and outdoor facilities for both intramural and intercollegiate sports?
- \_\_\_ 20. Does the college or community offer such cultural opportunities as concerts, special lectures, art exhibits, etc.?
- \_\_\_ 21. What fraternities, sororities or clubs does the college have? What percentage of students belong to these organizations?
- \_\_\_ 22. What financial assistance is available? How does an entering freshman apply for financial aid?
- \_\_\_ 23. What is the opinion of college officials concerning the possession and use of automobiles by students especially freshmen?
- \_\_\_ 24. Do the members of the faculty seem friendly and helpful in their attitudes and relations with students?
- \_\_\_ 25. Do students seem to be business-like and serious about their work, or is there a "country-club" atmosphere?

- \_\_\_ 26. Are the students in general courteous and friendly to visitors? Does a "hello" tradition exist there as students approach you on campus?
- \_\_\_ 27. How well equipped and maintained are the buildings and grounds? Do the buildings appeal to you?
- \_\_\_ 28. Does the college campus in total appeal to you? Will travel from campus to your home present unusual difficulties?
- \_\_\_ 29. Do the students of the college apparently take pride in maintaining a clean and well-ordered campus?
- \_\_\_ 30. Is the campus near enough or far enough from the local community? Does the community environment appeal to you?
- \_\_\_ 31. Speaking geographically, what is the composition of the student body? Is it more or less difficult for students from your area to gain admission to this college?
- \_\_\_ 32. What are the typical costs per year for students attending this college, exclusive of travel to and from home?
- \_\_\_ 33. What are the estimated costs to the student for belonging to a fraternity, sorority or social club?
- \_\_\_ 34. What scholarships are available to students just entering? To whom and when should application be made for these? How about scholarships to upper classmen?
- \_\_\_ 35. Are there other ways of financing the college costs? Loan programs - college, state, or organizations? Deferred payment plan? Work opportunities?
- \_\_\_ 36. What are some of the important college regulations for all students? What special regulations are there for freshmen?
- \_\_\_ 37. In general, does the college appear to be relatively strict or fairly liberal in its regulations?
- \_\_\_ 38. Do the students seem to have any particular pattern or unusual mode of dress or appearance?