

WHAT TO ASK AT THE COLLEGE FAIR

You can get general information about a college or university from its Web site or from college guidebooks. If possible, gather this information ahead of time about the colleges that interest you the most. That will give you the background to dig deeper with your questions. At the college fair, you can talk one-to-one with admissions representatives. This is your chance to go beyond the general information and ask questions that are unique to **your** interests and situation. To help you get started, here are some questions you might ask at the fair. Remember, though, to concentrate on questions that address your specific interests.

CAMPUS LIFE

- What percentage of students live on campus the first year? In subsequent years?
- Is off campus housing easy to find?
- How safe is the campus and its surrounding neighborhoods?
- What recreation facilities and student organizations are there for the activities that I enjoy?
- How long does it take to get from here to your campus?
- Is your campus easily accessible by public transportation?
- Are there weekend activities on campus or do students tend to leave for the weekend?

ACADEMICS

- Do you have an honors program? How can I qualify?
- Are there opportunities for undergraduates to do research, obtain internships, and study abroad?
- What other programs do you offer that will support my major?
- How many students are in first year classes? Upper division classes?
- When must I choose a major?
- How are advisors assigned?
- What services are on campus for career planning?
- What programs make the school unique?
- Are there special opportunities for premedical, pre-law, or pre-business students?
Is there a separate business school for undergraduates?

EXTRACURRICULARS

- In what kind of activities do students participate?
- Does the school offer/organize community service opportunities?

FINANCIAL AID

- Is all of your financial aid based on need or do you offer merit-based aid as well?
- Do you have scholarships based on talents in athletics, music, art, stage design, etc.?
- Is there any special kind of assistance for under-represented students?

ADMISSION

- Do you have an early admission plan? Early Decision?
- Will you consider credits I have earned from courses taken at a community college?
- Do you give AP credit?
- Can I defer my admission for a year to work, do missionary work, travel?
- Do you have any special admission programs for students from under-represented groups?
- How do I arrange a tour of your campus?

This information was gleaned from the Associated Colleges of the Midwest website as well as handouts from high schools throughout the US.