

Travel Tips for College Admissions Counselors:

What You Should Know Before You Hit the Road!

Every fall college admissions counselors across the country spend 2-4 months on the road. Travel can be local, national or even international, but no matter where you go, being prepared will help along the way. Below are some fun and interesting tips to help you get through a long travel season, with a smile on your face!

Pre-Travel Planning Tips

What to Pack, the Necessities

- Recruitment materials
- Hand sanitizer
- Cold/Vitamin pack
- Emergency work/personal contact list (you might break/lose your cell phone)
- Chargers, GPS, technology needs. If you forget your cell phone charger, ask someone the hotel. They often have “found” chargers.
- Tide/laundry soap stick for spills
- Small umbrella (you never know!)

How to Get There

- Flights: Pick one airline, sign up for their reward program and stick with it. The more you travel with one airline, the more reward points you’ll earn for free flights, free upgrades and more.
- Rental cars: Pick one rental agency and sign up for their reward program. If you want to listen to an iPod/iPhone, ask for AUX outlet and Satellite radio is a plus. Consider getting full car insurance coverage and GPS, if your institution will cover the costs.

Where to Stay

- Pick a hotel chain and sign up for their reward program (i.e. Hilton, Marriott, Starwood). The more you stay with one hotel chain, the more rewards you receive. Free breakfast, Internet, parking and more!
- If you recruit in areas where you have family and friends, consider staying with them. This can make the trip easier and saves your campus money on hotels bills.

Travel Itineraries

- Print out copies of your travel itineraries. Map out fastest routes, plan travel times between events (consider traffic) and include phone numbers, emails and addresses of all contacts that you plan to visit. Leave copies with colleague at work in case you need it.

Please send any additional tips to Stacie Lyans at Stacie.Lyans@humboldt.edu

On the Road Tips

Driving

- Know your recruitment state's cell phone laws. And, if needed, don't forget to bring your headset.
- Always carry quarters for metered parking and \$20 cash for tolls.
- Invest in a GPS system (less than \$200), if you can't get a navigation system with your rental car. Program your GPS before you go and be sure to print directions in case the navigation system loses service or is stolen.
- If you have to go through a tollbooth without paying (because you don't have any cash on hand), on online immediately to pay the toll. You generally won't need to pay a fine.
- If you are running late to an event, don't speed. The ticket or accident is NOT worth it!

Food/Entertainment

- Research restaurants on Yelp.com ahead of time or ask school counselors for their food recommendations.
- Go to the grocery store to stock up on healthy snacks like protein bars, water and fruit.

At College Fairs/Events

- Arrive early. Traffic is always heavy in cities before events, so plan accordingly.

Staying Healthy Tips

- Exercise. Don't let life on the road kill your workout routine. Make sure your hotel has a gym or an outdoor place to get a run in.
- Eat healthy. Try not to overeat (even with food given at ALL events) and avoid too much fast food.
- Drink lots of water and liquids.
- Wash your hands constantly. Especially after college fairs and visits.

Safety Tips

- Avoid staying on the ground floor of the hotel. You can often request a high floor when making your reservation.
- Avoid hotels/motels with exterior corridors. If alone, these places might not be as safe.