

College Comparison Worksheet

College Name			
LOCATION *Distance from home *Size of Campus *Enrollment			
ENVIRONMENT *type of school (2 yr/4 yr) *school setting (urban, rural) *location and size of community			
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS *Deadlines *Tests required *Average test scores, gpa, class rank			
ACADEMICS *your major offered *accreditation *student-faculty ratio *typical class size			
COLLEGE EXPENSES *tuition *room and board *application fee, deposits *other			
FINANCIAL AID *deadline *required forms *% receiving aid *scholarships			
HOUSING *residence hall requirements *availability/comfort *food plan			
ACTIVITIES *clubs, organizations *athletics, intramurals *Greek life			
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS/ CAMPUS VISITS			

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN VISITING A COLLEGE

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Make observations about the campus
- What is the academic climate?
- How hard do you have to work to be successful?
- Do you feel you fit in intellectually?
- Do professors teach most courses or do graduate students?
- What is the attitude of most professors toward students?
- Are professors available to give help to students after class?
- What is the student attitude toward learning? Do students enjoy their courses?
- Does there seem to be an active exchange of ideas outside the classroom?
- What are the opportunities for independent study? Honors programs? Internships?
- Is your major overcrowded (impacted)? If so, what special requirements do you need to meet?
- If you are not accepted into your major, what are your options? Can you change to another major? Or have my application sent to another campus?

SOCIAL CLIMATE

- If possible, visit a dorm. Visit the student union and bookstore. Eat where students eat. Pick up the school and town newspapers. Notice bulletin boards and posters.
- Does social life revolve around the campus or do students leave on the weekends?
- What are the social and cultural activities provided by the campus? Are there informational ways to meet and spend time with people?
- Are groups in the college community involved in what's going on in the outside world? Is there evidence of political awareness, international relations, community service, and religion?
- Do students seem friendly and willing to help?

SURROUNDING COMMUNITY

- Does the appearance of the campus please you? What are the living accommodations for students, co-ed, on campus or off campus?
- What is the surrounding community like? How are relations between residents and students?
- What is the transportation like between campus and town?

COLLEGE PROGRAMS

- What is the student/teacher ratio? What is the average class size?
- How many students in last year's freshman class returned for their sophomore year?
- Are students successful in enrolling in classes they need and want?
- What percentage of entering freshmen complete their degree within four years?
- What percentage of graduates go on to professional or graduate schools?
- Are advanced degrees (master's, doctorate) offered?
- Is there a Career and Planning and Placement Center on campus?
- What kind of computer assistance or repair available on campus?
- Does the school have adequate computer facilities? What kind of computer capabilities does the school recommend for the students to have?

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- What are admission requirements for freshmen or for transfer students?
- Will I be eligible for admission?
- What is the admissions priority of transfer students from community colleges or from four-year colleges?
- If I go to a community college first, will my credits transfer? How many credits will the college accept?
- How do students apply for admission?
- When do students apply? Can students apply to more than one campus in your system?
- Can the application be transferred from on campus to another?
- When are transcripts submitted, test scores and other admission materials?

WHAT WILL IT COST?

- What are the costs of tuition, registration fees, books and supplies, housing, parking?
- Do you have to send in a deposit to confirm intent to enroll? How much? When
- Is there a deposit to reserve housing on campus? How much? When
- What are the chances fees will be increased and when will I know?
- Is financial aid available? What types?
- What scholarships are available from the school?
- How do I apply for campus scholarships? When will I be notified whether or not I will or will not receive assistance?
- What is the average financial aid award?