

Visiting Colleges

School holidays and family vacations are great times to visit colleges. Students should visit as many colleges as possible to determine their likes, dislikes and comfort with the environment. It is highly advisable to visit a college before making a decision to attend because it always looks different from the pictures. Be informed of travel routes and other transportation.

Here are a few tips to make the most of your visit:

Contact the college admission office about college visits.



A student should call the admission office, not the parent.



Information may also be found on the college web site.

If this is a serious visit ask about scheduling an overnight visit in a residence hall. The Admissions Office may also be able to assist with travel recommendations

Check the days and times for campus tours and information sessions.

It may be necessary to have an appointment.

Typically tours are offered on weekdays, sometimes twice a day, sometimes on Saturdays

Tours are free and usually given by students.

Tours usually last about one hour and includes a visit to the library, dormitory, classroom, sports or recreation facilities and dining hall.

Students should ask questions during the tour.

Try to visit colleges when classes are in session, be observant of the students and college environment.

Take pictures and keep a journal.



It will be very helpful to write your impressions of a school after the tour. When you visit more than one school, it will help you remember what you liked and disliked.



Take time to attend the Information Session.

Typically the Information Session follows the campus tour and is given by an Admission Officer.

This is a good opportunity to ask specific about the application and admission process.

Think about visiting during a different season, if outside of California.



Always fill out an information card and get on the mailing list!

Never visit a college "undetected" ...let them know you visited and "demonstrated your interest"! **Interviews** may also be scheduled when you visit. Call the Admission Office for more information.