

One of the benefits of going to college is meeting students from different backgrounds. *Diversity on a college campus* can mean differences in race, religion, ethnicity, gender, geography, etc. When thinking about diversity, consider the following...

Research First

☐ Check out the "About" or "Fast Facts" sections on a college's website to learn the demographic breakdown of students attending the institution.

Ask the Admission Office

- Is enrolling a diverse student body part of your institution's mission statement?
- ☐ How will I find people like me and/or faculty and administrators who will understand my experience?
- □ What does diversity look like to this college/university (e.g., race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and religion)?
- What does diversity look like in the surrounding off-campus community?
- ☐ What places of worship are available on and near campus (e.g., mosques, synagogues, churches, and prayer rooms)? Are professors supportive of students who may need to miss class for religious purposes?

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My Questions / Notes

Ask the Admission Office is a series of six checklists to guide your conversations with colleges or universities before you apply.

To download the other lists, visit nacacfairs.org/askadmission.



ASK THE ADMISSION OFFICE DIVERSITY ON CAMPUS

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My Questions / Notes
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Find an organization or issue that captures your current interests or piques new ones. When thinking about your next step, ask the following about services and resources available to help you navigate the transition...

Research First

- College websites frequently include links to student organizations on their campuses.
- Most college websites offer information about a wide range of support services on campus.

Ask the Admission Office

- Is enrolling a diverse student body part of your institution's mission?
- ☐ What student organizations on campus recognize and celebrate my interests (e.g., academic, cultural, service)?
- ☐ How can I connect with students to learn more about organizations (e.g., individualized tour, sit in on a class, fly-in program, overnight experience, shadow a student for a day)?
- What specific support services are available on campus for someone like me (e.g., mental health counseling, disability services, financial advice)?

My Questions / Notes

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Paying for college is big piece of the admission process and can be a concern. There are many financial options that help make *college more affordable*. Consider the following when inquiring about paying for college...

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Research First

- ☐ All colleges must offer a net price calculator on their websites, which can help you estimate costs. You can also find tuition costs there.
- □ US Department of Education's Federal Student Aid website, studentaid.ed.gov.

Ask the Admission Office

- Who can walk me and my family through the financial aid process and types of assistance (e.g., scholarships, grants, loans)?
- ☐ Can someone explain what the actual cost of attendance may look like once financial aid is taken into consideration?
- ☐ What is the process for applying for a scholarship at your institution?
- What employment opportunities are available on campus?
- If I am unable to pay the application fee, does your institution accept fee waivers?
- Is financial aid available to undocumented students or students with DACA status?
- What financial aid is available if I am a transfer student?



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Learning in high school is very different from learning in college. In college, the most successful students are the ones who seek help before they need it. Ask the following about the *support programs to help you succeed*...

Research First

- ☐ View majors/degrees via the Department of Education's College Navigator website at nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator.
- ☐ Share your interests with an admission representative so they can connect them with majors.
- Most college websites offer information on average class size, as well as department information.

Ask the Admission Office

- ☐ What academic support services are available (e.g., advising, tutoring)?
- Does your institution have academic flexibility? How will your institution support my academic goals?
- Are there opportunities to experience classes/campus life?
- ☐ How does your institution support undecided students?
- Can you speak about outcomes? First-year to second-year retention rates? Graduation rates?

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ASK THE ADMISSION OFFICE ACADEMIC SUPPORT

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Being a member of a campus community means ensuring you *feel welcomed* and safe. Be sure to ask the following questions regarding your safety, comfort, and more to determine if this is a community you want to join...

Research First

☐ The Department of Education maintains a campus crime database containing information about the crime rates on all college campuses.

Ask the Admission Office

- Is your institution committed to keeping campus safe? Can you explain your policy for notifying the campus community when an incident occurs?
- ☐ After an incident occurs, how do administrators address it with the campus community?
- □ Is there a process to report discrimination?
- Are campus safety officials trained in cultural sensitivity?

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Colleges and universities offer a *variety of housing options*. When exploring options, such as location, cost, amenities, and programming, here are important factors to consider...

Research First

■ Most college websites offer housing option information.

Ask the Admission Office

- □ Does your campus offer living and learning communities for people who have similar identities or interests similar to mine (e.g., LGBTQ, honors, community service)?
- ☐ How are roommates matched? Am I able to choose my roommate?
- What is the room set-up of your campus housing (e.g. single, double, triple, quad, single bathroom, or community bathroom)?
- ☐ What does campus housing look like if I am a transfer student?

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