

How to Unlock the True Value of College Visits

Personalize your college visits & make them make a difference for you!

MODERATOR

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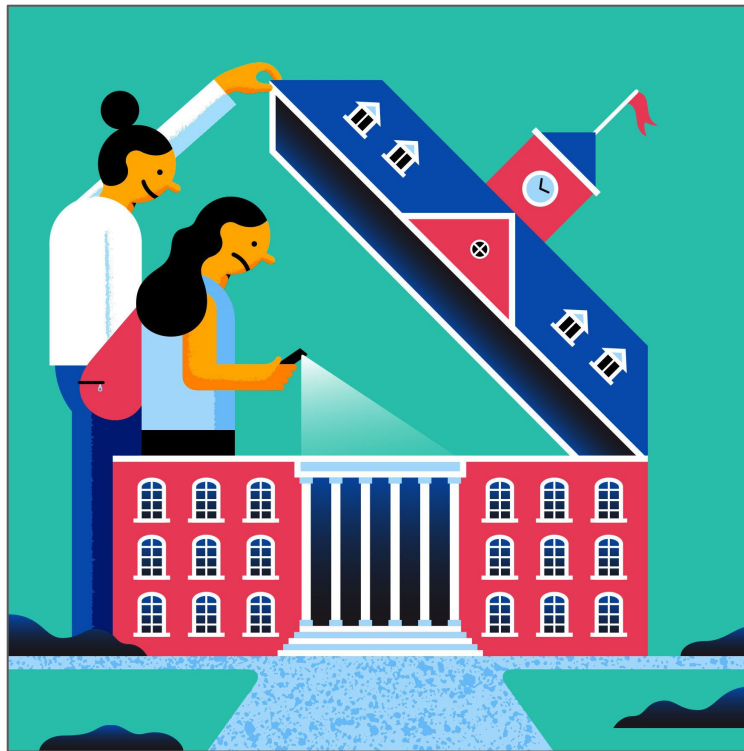
PANELISTS

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Welcome! The webinar will begin momentarily.
Thank you for your patience.

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Agenda for Today

- Why College Visits Matter
- Variables & Terms
- When: College Visit Timelines
- How: Resources & Tips
- Personalizing Your Tours
- Developing Your Voice
- Q & A



Large \longleftrightarrow Small



College Attributes to Consider

Athletics?

Extracurriculars?

Intramurals?

Popular Majors?

Urban \longleftrightarrow Rural

Greek Life?

Demographics?

Off-Campus Activities & Involvement?

Mentorship?

Private \longleftrightarrow State

Regular \longleftrightarrow Honors

College \longleftrightarrow University

Close to Home \longleftrightarrow As Far As Possible...

Politics?



Career Opportunities?

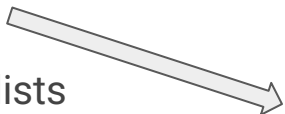
Student-Faculty Relations?



When: Early High School Timeline

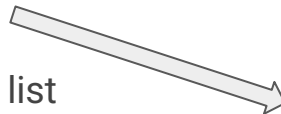
9th Grade

- Don't obsess over lists
- Convenience
- Wide variety
- Listen to your student
- Tastes change



10th Grade

- Working toward a (big) list
- Connections
- Athletic recruitment?
- Keep asking "Why?"
- Follow the fun / zero pressure

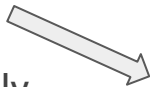


Summer after 10th

- Start if you haven't already
- Continue if you have
- Summer programs on campus?

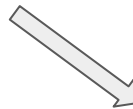
When: Later High School Timeline

11th Grade



- Tour intentionally
- Narrow down your list
- Look at specifics
- Meet people
- Recruiting Pre-Reads
- Demonstrate interest!

Summer after 11th



- Carry On
- Visit again?
- Don't derail other plans

12th Grade Fall



- Targeted visits
- Finalize your list
- Early vs. Regular
- Application deadlines

12th Grade Spring

- Deciding visits
- Unseen schools
- Admitted Students Day / Weekend

How: Official Visit Resources



- Tour Registration (Don't forget!)
- Admissions Office
- Information Sessions
- Scheduled official tours (and guides!)
- Digital tours
- Checklist:
 - Academic
 - Athletic (Gyms, Arenas)
 - Residential (Dorms & Dining Halls)
 - Cultural (Events, Quads, Traditions)
 - Commercial (Stores & Restaurants)
- School websites
- Social media

How: Professional Visit Tips

- Some days are better than others to visit
- Stay a while
- Ask questions (and write down the answers!)
- Record to remember!

Dedicated journal & notes

For students AND parents

Memorable quotations & moments

Take pictures

Grab a map

- Debrief afterward

First impressions? Last impressions?

- Don't overdo it





Personalized College Tours with TouredIt.com

Personalized Tours with TouredIt

- Customized
- Flexible scheduling
- Major-specific
- Activity- and Interest-specific
- More details; more answers
- Understanding student perspective

Group Tours

- Automatic demonstrated interest
- Professional information session
- Free tour
- Limited access
- Fewer questions answered
- Scripted and standardized (pro and con)

Email: joshua.bernstein@touredit.com with any follow-up questions

Visit: <https://www.bespoketouredit.online/?referral=friendsfrombespoke>

<https://www.bespoketouredit.online/?referral=friendsfrombespoke>



Discover your college, make it yours

Get ahead of the crowd with 1-on-1 personalized college tours or video chats with handpicked guides. Your campus, your tour, your connections.

[Learn more →](#)

How It Works



Step 1: Choose Your College

Select the college of your choice from our search menu.



Step 2: Find a Guide

Choose or get matched with a guide of similar interests!



Step 3: Schedule Your Tour or Video Chat

Set a date and time that works for you and your guide.

How to Develop Your Voice? Ask Questions:

Of Yourself...

- What's important to you?
Start with values
Proceed to logistics
- What do you love about where you are now?
- What don't you like about where you are now?
- What are you curious about?
- How did _____ make me feel?
- What about _____ was fun? (or not)?
- What about _____ was exciting? (or not)?
- How are my feelings & preferences changing?
- After visiting, what are you more/less curious about?

Of Students...

- Why did you choose _____?
- What makes _____ a good fit for you?
- What do you like most about _____?
- What did you find challenging as a freshman?
- What advice would you give to an incoming freshman?
- What would you would change about _____?
- What do you love most about _____'s community?
- What is something that surprised you about _____?
- What is your favorite class and why?
- What extracurricular activities/volunteer opportunities do you do?
- What do you do on the weekends?

Of Faculty & Staff...

- What do you like about your students here?
- What do you think makes _____ different from other schools?
- What is your favorite course to teach? Why?
- What is your favorite feature of campus life?
- How does your or your colleagues' work relate to _____ (a relevant interest of yours)?
- How could a student pursue their interest in _____ here and later in their studies?
- What have you seen students from your department go on to do after they graduate?

Sample Supplemental Essay Prompts

- Discuss an academic topic that you're excited to explore and learn more about in college. Why does this topic interest you? Topics could be a specific course of study, research interests, or any other area related to your academic experience in college.
- What academic areas most pique your curiosity, and how do the programs offered at _____ suit your particular interests?
- Students entering _____ often find that making their home in _____ naturally invites reflection on where they came from. Share how an aspect of your growing up has inspired or challenged you, and what unique contributions this might allow you to make to the _____ community.
- In one sentence, why _____?
- What aspects of our location are most compelling to you, and why?
- _____ values community and encourages students, faculty, staff and leadership to engage in respectful conversations that can expand their perspectives and challenge their ideas and beliefs. As a prospective member of this community, reflect on how your lived experiences will impact the conversations you will have in the classroom, the dining hall or other campus spaces. What lessons have you learned in life thus far? What will your classmates learn from you? How has your lived experience shaped you?
- What is it about _____ that has led you to apply?
- Describe the unique qualities that attract you to the specific undergraduate College or School (including preferred admission and dual degree programs) to which you are applying at _____. How would that curriculum support your interests?
- How will opportunities at _____ support your interests, both in and out of the classroom?
- Think about an ethical dilemma that you care about that our society is currently facing. This can be something happening in your local community or more globally. How can an _____ education help you prepare for and address this challenge?
- Describe why you are interested in joining the _____ community. Consider your experiences, talents, and values to illustrate what you would contribute to the _____ community if admitted.

Questions?



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