Don’t be afraid to ask questions

- It is a big decision, one of the more important you’ll ever make.
- You will need to ask many questions when making a college choice. May this list be helpful as you research and find the college that will be your best fit.

Campus Environment

- What do students like about this campus?
- What services are available to help new students adjust?
- What do students do on the weekends?
- What do students do for fun?
- What types of public transportation are available on campus or in the area?
- What is the surrounding area (town/city) like?
- What is student housing like?
- Where do students eat? Are there flexible meal plans?

Academics

- How much time do students spend on homework each week?
- What types of assignments are given (papers, exams, problem sets, rehearsals, research projects, etc.)?
- How much writing is expected?
- How much reading is assigned per class?
- What are exams like?
- What types of tutoring resources exist on campus?
- What types of honor courses, learning communities, weekend or night programs, or other unique academic programs are offered?

Active Learning

- How and when are majors selected, and can they be self-designed?
- How do students receive help selecting classes?
- Who do students talk to about career plans? Is there guidance available with this?
- What types of internships are available, and are they required to graduate?
- How frequently do students make class presentations?
- How is technology incorporated into the curriculum?

Student-Faculty Interaction

- Are classes taught by professors or teaching assistants?
- What is the average class size freshman year?
- Do undergraduate students have the opportunity to research with faculty?
- How often do faculty meet with students outside of class?
- What does the school do to promote student-faculty contact?
- What kind and how often do students get feedback/grades on coursework?
- In what ways do students, faculty, and staff work together on campus committees?
- How long does it take professors to reply to emails?
1. Research your options
2. Finance your studies
3. Complete your application
4. Apply for your Student Visa
5. Prepare for your departure

Out-of-Class Experience

- What activities are available to help students apply classroom learning to real life?
- What opportunities are available for spiritual expression and growth?
- What types of support services (academic and non-academic are available)?
- What kind of community service opportunities are available?
- What kinds of special projects, seminars, or other experiences are offered or required of first-year students or seniors?
- What types of athletic and intramural activities are available?
- What kinds of musical, performing, and fine arts events are available for students to participate in?
- What kinds of musical, performing, and fine arts events come to campus?
- What types of summer classes or summer internship programs are available?
- What types of study abroad programs are available?

Choosing the right college

To get a sense of how much you are likely to learn, grow, and develop at a given institution, these are some of the important questions to ask. Talk to admissions representatives, tour guides, faculty, and students if possible. In addition, consider:
- taking a campus tour,
- attending a class or two,
- eating a meal on campus,
- looking through recent issues of the student newspaper

Diversity

- In what ways are students exposed to multiple cultures or diverse perspectives?
- Where are students from, and how many are from other countries?
- What types of support services are there for students from other countries?
- Do Third Culture Kids (Global Nomads) have similar support?

Other

- What are the major courses of study for which your school is known?
- What types of financial aid or scholarships are available?
- What percentage of students work on or off campus?
- Is financial aid available for students from other countries?
- How extensive are the library services, such as books, magazines, reference materials, computers, and other on-line resources?
- What safety services are available for students?
- What types of health and counseling services are available on campus?
- What would you change about the school?

Excerpted from National Survey of Student Engagement