

## College Visits

There are essentially two types of college visits. The first type usually occurs early in the student's high school career and is an opportunity to get a general idea of what different types of colleges are like. Visits of this nature may help a student determine what kind of school he/she would like to attend: two-year or four-year, large or small, urban or rural.

The second type of college visit is typically an opportunity for students to visit *specific* colleges that they may be interested in attending. A visit of this nature will afford the student the chance to examine dorm life, talk to students, sit in on classes, visit programs or departments of interest, and look at resources (like libraries, science labs, internet access, smart classrooms, etc.). Sometimes this type of visit is used to narrow down the list of colleges a student is considering for application. In other instances, students will conduct this type of in-depth campus visit after they have applied and been admitted. Then, based on the experience, they will make their college selection. In any case, if a student is seriously considering attending the college, an overnight visit is highly recommended.

### Tips for Visiting Colleges

- *Let the admission office know you're coming*
- *Visit a residence hall*
- *Eat a meal in one of the cafeterias*
- *Check out the Student Center*
- *Talk to students on campus*
- *Talk with a professor or sit in on a class*
- *Ask about campus safety*
- *Pick up a newspaper*
- *Can't do an actual visit, take a virtual tour ([www.campustours.com](http://www.campustours.com))*