

COLLEGE FAIR

STUDENT CHECKLIST

The **2010 College Fair in Folsom**, sponsored by the Western Association of College Admissions Counselors is a rare opportunity to meet with college representatives without the time and expense of a road trip or plane ride! Much like a campus visit, to get the most from the College Fair, it is wise to do

BEFORE THE FAIR:

- € **Pre-register:** For priority access and to make quick information requests from colleges. www.WACACCollegeFair.com or www.TheCollegePlanningCenter.com
- € **Print out your Student Admittance Pass :** Bring it with you to the College Fair along with a pen and notebook to take notes.
- € **Develop Your Target List:** Check out the list of colleges attending the College Fair and build your Target List. Do a bit of research on college web sites to familiarize yourself with their offerings.
- € **Create your Criteria List:** Decide what is really important to you in a college.
 - Do you want to attend a two or four year school? Public or private?
 - What size school do you think you would thrive in?
 - What programs of study are you considering or exploring?
 - How far from home do you want to go?
 - Do you wish to participate in any specific extra-curricular activities or athletics?
 - Do you want to attend a school in an urban, suburb, or rural environment?
 - Do you require any special services?

DURING THE FAIR:

- € Review the list of sample questions on the back of the Student Checklist to develop a list of questions that matches your criteria.
- € Be open-minded and visit a variety of schools.
- € If the Fair is crowded, be prepared to ask your most important questions of college representatives and allow others a chance to do the same.
- € Keep your Registration sheet at hand for representatives to scan if you'd like additional information.
- € Collect college information, as well as business cards or contact information for the schools that you think could be interesting.

AFTER THE FAIR:

- € **Information overload:** By the time the fair is over, you should have a bag filled with information about colleges--and a possible case of information overload.
- € **Organize for success:** Find a place to organize your college data. Read through your notes, write down contacts, and scan the brochures and catalogs.
- € Follow up with schools you find interesting. Consider calling or emailing schools for more information, schedule a campus visit, or do some web research.



SAMPLE QUESTIONS TO ASK AT THE COLLEGE FAIR

Choose the ones that match your criteria. Remember that there are no trivial questions.

Academic Programs

- € What departments are considered to be the strongest at your school?
- € What programs are unique to your school?
- € As an undergraduate, how easy is it to do research and/or internships?

Athletics

- € What are your athletic facilities like?
- € Is tutoring available to athletes?
- € Is it difficult to play more than one sport?

Special Needs

- € Are there any programs that help new freshman transition to college?
- € Do you have services for students with ADD/ADHD or other Learning Differences?

Campus Life

- € What is the campus like on weekends?
- € How many students live on campus?
- € What are the campus traditions?
- € How safe is the campus and the surrounding areas?
- € Is there anything unique about your campus?

Admissions

- € Do you offer student interviews? If so when?
- € What qualities do you look for in a prospective student?

Greek Life

- € Is there a Greek system on campus?
- € If so, do you know? in the Greek system on campus?
- € Is Greek housing available?

Housing

- € What type of housing is available?
- € How are roommates assigned?
- € Is housing guaranteed for freshman?

Classroom

- € What is an average class size during freshman and sophomore years? Junior and Senior?
- € Will graduate students teach any of my classes?