

SAMPLE COLLEGE FAIR QUESTIONS



SURFACE QUESTIONS (i.e. googleable)

- What's your biology major like? (too general; what are they going to say: "Terrible!"?)
- Do you have political science? (yes, likely, but what do you actually want to know about it?)
- Do you have study abroad? (of course they do, but do you actually want to know about countries they have programs in, whether they only go with other students from that university, whether they have dorms or homestay, or whether they require language-study before you go? What about "STUDY AWAY" opportunities in different parts of the country— D.C. is an example)

INTERESTING QUESTIONS (that help you get beyond the surface)

Academics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who are the most popular faculty members and what do they teach/ research? - Would you consider any majors or programs "hidden gems"? If so, which ones? - Are there interdisciplinary majors? - Is there anything different about your academic calendar? (Quarters, 4-1-4, Jan term)
Unique Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are there any particularly awesome opportunities designed for first-year students? - Is there money offered to encourage students who take unpaid internships? - Can you give any examples of students who are doing interdisciplinary research? - What's one thing about your college you wish students would take advantage of more?
Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is there anything unique about your advising system I should know? - Is there an emergency fund for students who have a crisis at home? Need a coat for an unexpectedly cold winter? What about when activities have extra fees attached? - When students seek mental health counseling, how long is the wait to meet with a therapist?
Campus Diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How diverse is your faculty? How young is your faculty? - How many women teach in the STEM fields? - Are there first-gen faculty members who serve as mentors for the Gen1 group? - How large, visible, or active is your First-Gen, Limited-Income population on campus? (FGLI is only one of the many acronyms used)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How many students come from out of state? How many from NM? - I see you have ___% international students on campus. Is that number heavily representative of just 2 or 3 countries, or are students from a wider range of nations? - Are there international cultural spaces or events? How engaged is the rest of campus?
Identity & Belonging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is there a Native student club and how big is it? Are any tribes more well-represented? - Is there a relationship between Indigenous students and local tribal elders? - Are there Native faculty members on campus and how many/in what departments? - Is there a dorm or community space designated specifically for Indigenous students? - What support and resources are available for the LGBTQIA2S+ community? How welcoming is the campus to trans individuals? How visible and open are LGBTQIA2S+ faculty/staff on campus? - Is there a center for multicultural life, or are there dedicated spaces or houses for specific ethnic/racial groups? What about for first-generation or low-income students? - How active are faith and spirituality on campus? How accepted and welcomed are people from differing faith traditions? [Especially important to ask at colleges which are religiously affiliated] - Are there lots of kosher or halal food options? (Or ask about vegan, vegetarian, or allergen-free food accommodations)
Campus Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How many students live on campus all 4 years? (what does that say about community?) - What clubs are popular on your campus that most high schools might not have? - How involved in campus life are professors? Is it hard to form relationships w/ mentors? - What is a typical weekend like? (great if the rep is a graduate) - For entertainment, do students leave campus often, or is it more of a “bubble”?
Student Body Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who are the “rock stars” on your campus? (for some, it’s athletes, some, professors) - What sets the pulse in terms of school spirit? (for many, this is football or basketball, but at some colleges it’s the Improv comedy troupe, a food festival, a robotics competition, a funky tradition, or service in the local community) - What is the stereotype of the students at your school? How accurate is it? Who really feels like they belong? Why do some students not fit in? - What’s the biggest issue/controversy that raised student activism on campus last year? (could be as simple as the dining plan, could be an incident involving harassment or cultural insensitivity) - How much ownership do students feel of the college? Do the students feel like the administration listens to their concerns, and what vehicles are there for this dialogue? - What’s the dating culture like? What’s the conversation on your campus about consent?

Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How politically engaged is your campus? Is there a feeling of open discussion or division regarding politics? Do politics from the campus conflict with the surrounding area? - How strong is your student connection to the surrounding community? Examples of impressive service projects? Are there classes that collaborate with local service orgs? - How authentic is the local Mexican food? Are there local stores that cater to people of color? (i.e. black hair care, culturally-specific spices) - Are there lots of guest speaker events open to the public? Who have you seen on campus recently? What about concerts? - Do students use public transportation? Are there lots of bikes or skateboards? How connected is it to a nearby city? How close is the airport?
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How important is energy sustainability or carbon neutrality? - Is your school a Tree Campus? How much green space? - Is there a sustainable garden or student-run farm? - Does the cafeteria use locally grown produce?
Study Abroad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do your faculty members go with students on study abroad? - Do I need to learn another language before going, or are there other options for English speakers in non-English speaking countries? - Do some study abroad locations have unique opportunities I should consider? (i.e. some can help you get internships if you go in the spring and stay for the summer) - If I have a work study job but want to study abroad, is there anything to help offset that cost (and the money I'm not earning for the semester)? - Are there any Alternative Spring Break opportunities I should know about?
Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What's the newest building on campus? (Where are they excited to put their \$\$\$?) - How new are the dorms? What kind of bathroom set up do they have? - Are there gender-neutral housing options for first-year students? - Is there a substance-free dorm? - Are there dorms where you can be immersed in a foreign language? - Are there dedicated study spaces in the dorms? Is there a 24-hour study space? - Are there campus safety concerns? If I feel uncomfortable away from my dorm at night, how could I get across campus safely?
Higher Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What's something about your school you think it should be more proud of? - If you could change one thing about your school, what would it be? - What's one thing that you think makes your school different from most of the others here at the college fair?

