

# Questions to Ask in Your College Search

<b>Specific Major</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What majors does the school offer?</li> <li>- Does it offer the major you want?</li> <li>- How easy is it to change majors?</li> <li>- Does the school offer career exploration classes?</li> <li>- What percentage of students graduates in their major?</li> <li>- What percentage of graduates in my major are employed in their field</li> </ul> <p>Also consider looking at the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Look carefully at the facilities and courses offered in the major</li> <li>◆ Ask to meet with a faculty member in your major. If they meet with you, this may be a good sign that faculty have time for you as a student.</li> </ul>
<b>Affordability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What are the costs? Tuition and room/board?</li> <li>- Will the school do a financial aid pre-estimate for me?</li> <li>- How much will the school cost after you subtract grants and scholarships?</li> <li>- Are their loans available?</li> <li>- Will someone in the financial aid office assist you with forms?</li> </ul>
<b>Class Access</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How many credits do transfer students normally take?</li> <li>- Are there online or distance learning courses I can take?</li> <li>- Are there options to show what I really know through writing, discussion, projects or performance rather than multiple choice tests</li> <li>- Are there evening classes?</li> <li>- Ask students about the availability of advisors, peer mentor programs, faculty office hours, faculty accessibility.</li> <li>- Can classes be completed through a study abroad program? Remember to speak to someone from the Study Abroad Office if you are interested in this opportunity.</li> </ul>
<b>Looking for a particular extra-curricular activity you want to participate in?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does the school have this activity?</li> <li>- How many students currently participate?</li> <li>- Could someone with your major participate?</li> <li>- If this activity isn't available, how easy would it be to create a group?</li> <li>- Are there events/programs for commuter students?</li> </ul>
<b>Personal Safety</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How is the school rated nationally and regionally for safety?</li> <li>- Ask students on campus how they feel about their safety (at night, weekends, etc.)</li> </ul>

<b>Size of the community – small town, large city, rural, etc.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If cultural activities are important to you, are there any you can participate in?</li> <li>- Is there public transportation available to these events?</li> <li>- How accessible is public transportation? Is there a discounted price for students?</li> </ul>
<b>Sports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are there any sport teams you can join?</li> <li>- What division are the sport teams?</li> <li>- Is it easy to get tickets to games?</li> <li>- How much do tickets cost for students?</li> </ul>
<b>Distance from home</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Can I bring a car to campus?</li> <li>- Where can I park?</li> <li>- Cost of parking?</li> <li>- Are there other types of transportation (trolley, bus, vans, taxi, etc.) available for students?</li> <li>- Is this a commuter school or do students usually stay on campus on weekends?</li> <li>- Are there events/programs for commuter students?</li> </ul>
<b>Residence Halls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ask to visit a residence hall (preferably when school is in session)</li> <li>- Ask if you can stay overnight with a host student in the residence hall of a school you are seriously considering.</li> <li>- How are residence halls monitored?</li> <li>- Safety – are doors locked at night, is there a key or key-less entry system during evening and early morning hours?</li> <li>- Is there wireless access in the dorm rooms?</li> <li>- Are there residence halls specifically for transfer students</li> <li>- Can the school assist you with finding off-campus housing?</li> </ul>
<b>Dining Options</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Find out what dining options you have – can you cook your own food?</li> <li>- Can you opt out of the dining plan, if so, what other meal options do you have?</li> <li>- What is the dining plan like? What are the dining halls like?</li> <li>- Ask if you can have a meal at the dining hall during your visit/tour.</li> </ul>
<b>What students say about their school</b>	<p>Ask several students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Why did you pick this school and are you happy with your decision?</li> <li>- What do I need to know about this school that isn't in the brochure?</li> <li>- What are the strengths and weaknesses of this school? Of the major you chose?</li> </ul>

For additional assistance please visit the Career and Counseling Center at the Marple Campus, room 1325 or Learner Services at all other campuses.