



Questions for a Westmont College Visit

We realize how challenging and confusing the college selection process can be. We have learned that knowing what questions to ask will be important in gaining a broader knowledge base regarding the colleges on your list. So, the following questions are designed to assist you in the college planning process. We encourage you to review these questions prior to your visit to Westmont, as well as your other college visits. Some of these questions may seem redundant, but we think it's a good idea to ask the same question to different people! So, get prepared to 'stump' the tour guide or your admission representative! Our best to you as you proceed with this very important journey.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE'S REPUTATION – good questions for tour guide

- ❖ What is distinctive about the college? What are its strengths and weaknesses?
- ❖ Have you experienced any disappointments? If yes, explain?
- ❖ What is your favorite thing about this college?
- ❖ What aspect of this college surprised you?
- ❖ Has the college lived up to your expectations?
- ❖ If you were to do it all over again, would you still choose this college? Why?
- ❖ Is there anything special I should see before I leave?
- ❖ Do you enjoy the food on campus?
- ❖ What is there to do on the weekends or short holidays?
- ❖ Do students go home on the weekends?
- ❖ I live far away, are there things to do when others go home? Do the dorms and dining hall stay open?
- ❖ Can freshmen have cars? What are the modes of transportation?

ABOUT HOUSING/ RESIDENCE LIFE

- ❖ How is housing assigned as a first year student? Can I select my own roommate?

- ❖ How does housing work after my freshmen year? Can I pick my roommate, where I live, etc.
- ❖ Are all dorms single gender? What about the bathrooms?
- ❖ What are the dorm 'rules'?
- ❖ Are there dorm activities?
- ❖ Describe the studying environment.
- ❖ Where do the freshmen live?
- ❖ Is housing guaranteed all four years?
- ❖ How safe is the campus?
- ❖ Can I live off campus?

ABOUT ACTIVITIES

- ❖ What do students do to have fun?
- ❖ What activities can I participate in? (newspaper, orchestra, choral group, radio station, drama group, etc.)
- ❖ What intramural sports are available? Do you have Club sports?
- ❖ What kinds of activities does the student government organize? Do students attend the activities?
- ❖ What are the leadership opportunities?
- ❖ Can I join clubs, get involved, etc., as a freshman?
- ❖ What are the biggest clubs/organizations on campus?

ABOUT ACADEMICS AND FACULTY

- ❖ What were some social or academic issues that concerned students last year? How did the administration react? What was the result?
- ❖ Are classes taught by professors or teaching assistants?
- ❖ How much time do professors spend doing research vs. teaching?
- ❖ What types of research have students been involved with?
- ❖ How accessible are the professors? Do they hold daily office hours?
- ❖ Do the professors use student interns?

- ❖ Do freshmen and sophomores have any challenge registering for the classes they need?
- ❖ Is the campus wireless? Do you have good computer access and technical support?
- ❖ What is the average class size for freshmen?
- ❖ Describe the relationship between the faculty and students.
- ❖ Whose responsibility is academic advising and when does it occur?
- ❖ Are professors willing to give extra help and support when needed?

QUESTIONS FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION REPRESENTATIVES

- ❖ What is the size of the student body?
- ❖ Describe your campus community.
- ❖ What characteristics of a student are important to the admission staff?
- ❖ What is the student-faculty ratio?
- ❖ When do you begin accepting applications? Do I need to include recommendation letters from teachers and administrators?
- ❖ How do I find out about scholarships, financial aid, grants, student work programs or other programs that will help finance my college education?
- ❖ What is the average loan debt of your graduates?
- ❖ Do the majority of students commute or do they live on campus? Are there coed dorms? Do students leave campus on the weekends?
- ❖ What are the majors, minors and graduate degrees offered at Westmont?
- ❖ When do I have to declare a major? What lower division courses does Westmont require?
- ❖ What is your track record for placing students into graduate or professional schools?
- ❖ How difficult is it to change your major or add a minor?
- ❖ What are the basic requirements to enter this college/university?
- ❖ What is the average class size for a freshman?
- ❖ What is admission based upon? (Test scores, GPA, rank in class etc.) What high school courses are necessary for acceptance?
- ❖ Is housing guaranteed for first-year students?

- ❖ Describe the process of transferring into this institution after attending a two-year community college or from another four-year college?
- ❖ Does this institution specialize in a certain field? Are there “popular” majors?
- ❖ Do you accept Advanced Placement/IB tests? What score do you require? What is the maximum amount of units that one can earn?
- ❖ What would be the typical course requirements for the first year at a college/university?
- ❖ Is this institution on the semester, quarter, or trimester system?
- ❖ What is the normal college course load during a fall or spring semester? How much homework can I expect?
- ❖ What are the costs? (tuition, fees, room and board)
- ❖ What forms do you require for Financial Aid?
- ❖ Describe your Career Center on campus for grad schools, jobs and internships?
- ❖ What is the meal plan?
- ❖ What is your endowment? Do you rely heavily on student tuition?
- ❖ What is the retention rate of freshmen? What is the retention rate of all students?
- ❖ Can your institution guarantee graduation in four years?

Now, we are sure you have others to add to your list. If we have neglected anything, please be sure to tell us!

***Our prayers are with as you begin this very exciting journey!
The Westmont Office of Admission***