QUESTIONS TO GUIDE YOUR 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.

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.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE’S REPUTATION

• What’s distinctive about the college? What are its strengths and weaknesses?
• What’s your favorite thing about the college? Describe the campus community.
• If you were to do it all over again, would you still choose this college? Why?
• Do you enjoy the food on campus? What meal plan options are there?
• What’s there to do on the weekends or short holidays? Do students go home on the weekends?
• Can freshmen have cars? What are the modes of transportation?

ABOUT RESIDENCE AND CAMPUS LIFE

• How is housing assigned? Can I select my own roommate? Are dorms single gender? What about the bathrooms? What are the dorm rules?
• Describe the environment for studying.
• Is housing guaranteed all four years? Can I live off campus?
• How safe is the campus?
• What activities can I participate in? (Student newspaper, orchestra, radio station, theater, etc.) What are the biggest clubs/organizations on campus? Are there dorm activities?
• What intramural sports are available? Do you have club sports?
• What are the leadership opportunities?
ABOUT ACADEMICS AND FACULTY

- Are classes taught by professors or teaching assistants?
- How much time do professors spend doing research vs. teaching?
- How accessible are the professors? Do they hold daily office hours?
- What types of research have students been involved with? Internships?
- Do students have any challenges registering for the classes they need?
- Whose responsibility is academic advising and when does it occur?
- What’s the average class size and student-faculty ratio?

QUESTIONS FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION REPRESENTATIVES

- What’s the size of the student body?
- 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 opportunities that will help finance my college education?
- What’s the average loan debt of your graduates?
- What are the majors, minors and graduate degrees offered?
- When do I have to declare a major? What lower division courses are required?
- What’s your track record for placing students into graduate or professional schools?
- What’s admission based upon? (Test scores, GPA, rank in class, etc.) What high school courses are necessary for acceptance?
- 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 test scores? What score do you require? What’s the maximum amount of units that one can earn?
- What are the costs? (Tuition, fees, room and board)
- What’s the retention rate of freshmen? What’s the retention rate of all students?
- Can your institution guarantee graduation in four years?

Now, you may have other questions to add to your list. If we have neglected anything, please be sure to tell us!

Our prayers are with you as you begin this very exciting journey!

*The Westmont Office of Admission*