

Questions to Ask At a College Fair

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College fairs provide you with the chance to talk to representatives from multiple colleges under one roof. As a soon-to-be college applicant, this is a chance for you to learn more about the programs that are available, extracurricular opportunities, and get an overview of campus life at various institutions in the country.

<u>College fairs</u> can take place at your school, at your local conference center, or even online. Go prepared with a pen, notebook, and a positive attitude, and get ready to introduce yourselves and talk to the admissions officers. And most importantly, let them know you're curious about the college by inquiring about different aspects of the college that pique your curiosity.

List of Questions to Ask At a College Fair

The best way to prepare is to consider what you're looking for from your college experience. Is it a strong film major or a well-funded athletic program? Think about what resources you would like on campus to thrive and write down some of the topics that you're most curious about and that matter to you.

Use the ones listed below as a starting point to see some examples of what you can ask admissions representatives.

General Admissions Questions

- 1. What kind of student would not be a good fit for your school?
- 2. Is there something in particular that admissions readers look for when evaluating applications?
- 3. Do you recommend applying Early Decision/Early Action over Regular Decision?
- 4. What are some ways to engage with the admissions office as a prospective student (visit/ information session/social media etc.)?

Questions About Academics

- 1. What is unique about your school's XYZ department?
- 2. Can you tell me about this particular major?
- 3. What is the most common major at the school?

- 4. Do you admit based on which major an applicant has chosen? Are there certain majors that are more competitive than others for admission?
- 5. How is X major different at this college than at others?
- 6. What are some advantages and disadvantages to the average class size?
- 7. How accessible are the professors?

Questions About Extracurriculars and Student Organizations

- 1. What extracurricular options are there for students interested in XYZ?
- 2. How easy is it for students to start their own club at the college?
- 3. What are the options available for intramural and club sports?
- 4. How involved are students in volunteering in the local community?
- 5. Are the X clubs competitive to get into?

Questions About Campus and Social Life

- 1. Does the school have a big athletic culture? What is a typical game day like?
- 2. What is the availability of Greek life on campus?
- 3. What do students typically do on weekends?
- 4. Can you tell me what you enjoy the most about the city/town/area the school is located in?
- 5. What are the dorms like?
- 6. Do most students eat in dining halls? How are the dining services?
- 7. What kind of safety measures are there on campus?
- 8. What are some popular restaurants near campus?

Questions About Available Resources

- 1. What kind of support services are available to students?
- 2. How common is it for students to receive financial aid or scholarships?
- 3. Are there any program-specific financial aid or scholarship programs?
- 4. Is it easy for students to find jobs on campus?
- 5. What are career services like?
- 6. What are some examples of internship opportunities received by X majors?
- 7. What are the on-campus libraries like?
- 8. How would you describe the college gym/fitness center?
- 9. How big is the alumni network?

These are just a few example questions. There might be other issues that you particularly feel passionate about and want to ask, which is more than okay. However, make sure that you avoid yes/no questions and answers that you can easily find with a quick Google search. Show the school that you're actually interested in learning more.

College fairs are an effective way to get further acquainted with a school you've always had your eyes on or receive an introduction to an institution that may end up on your list. And as you think about the questions that resonate with you, make sure that you still work to develop other parts of your application, because when the time comes, a strong activities list or supplemental essay could be what ends up giving you the edge over the competition!