

CAREER AND COLLEGE FAIR
at WCCC FOUNDER'S HALL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2017 6:00 to 8:00 PM
FINANCIAL AID PRESENTATION at 5:30 PM

College Fair Tips

A college fair presents students with an excellent opportunity to interact with a representative from a particular college or university. It can help in the beginning stages of the search process or it can help in narrowing down college options. Either way, it is important to make the most of the fair and to leave the colleges with a favorable impression of you.

Here are some helpful tips & questions to get you started:

Before you head off to the fair:

- Dress in appropriate clothing. First impressions do count!
- Consider changing your email address or setting up an email address specifically for college applications. You will be asked to fill out inquiry cards by the colleges which will add your information to the school's mailing list and let the school know that you are interested in them. Since this information will follow you through the application process (should you choose to apply), it is important that the email address is appropriate. A good suggestion is to pick something with a combination of your first name or initial and last name or initial.
- Consider making self-stick labels that contain your legal name, mailing address, email address, year of graduation, and intended area of study. This will speed up the process of filling out inquiry cards, allowing you more time to talk to the college representative.
- Plan ahead! Look over the list of colleges and universities that are participating in the fair and make a list of which schools you definitely want to visit at the fair.
- Bring a small notebook and pen to jot down information about schools you want to remember.

At the Fair:

- When you approach a representative, introduce yourself.
- Ask questions! (See below for a sample list of questions.)
- Get the contact information of the representative at the fair if you are very interested in attending their school. Follow up with them after the fair with an email.
- Speak up. College fairs can be loud and you want the representative to be able to hear you.

After the Fair:

- Go through the materials you received from the schools and any notes you may have taken.
- Get rid of the materials on schools that will not be a good fit for you.
- Research the colleges that interested you to learn more!

Sample Questions to Ask at a College Fair

- What are your admission requirements?
- What is your enrollment?
- What are your application deadlines?
- What is the total cost of attendance for 1 year (tuition, room & board, fees, books, misc.)
- How is financial aid eligibility determined?
- What percentage of financial need do you meet for families?
- Are there any merit scholarships available? Is a separate application required for these?
- What is the makeup of your student body? (male/female ratio, racial/ethnic makeup, geographic diversity)
- When must I choose a major?
- Are there specific application requirements for my major?
- Will I have a faculty advisor?
- Are there any special placement tests that entering freshman can/must take to place into or out of certain courses?
- Do you have an honors program? What are the requirements?
- Is housing guaranteed for all four years?
- Are freshman required to live on campus?
- How are roommates selected?
- Is your school a “suitcase” school?
- What is there to do on the weekends?
- What is your campus safety like?
- What is the biggest complaint of students?
- What do students say is the best thing about your school?
- What is the political climate of campus?
- Do students get involved in intramural athletics? Clubs and student organizations?
- Do the students support the athletes?
- What type of academic support is available on campus? Is this available to everyone free of charge? (Tutoring, Writing Centers, etc.)
- If I am a varsity athlete, what is the balance between athletics and academics?
- What are the dining options? How late are the dining facilities open?
- Do many students hold jobs in addition to attending school?
- Are students permitted to have cars on campus?
- Is a car necessary to get around?
- Is there public transportation close to your school?
- Do you have study abroad options?
- Do students have the opportunity to do research or obtain internships?
- What is your retention rate?
- What is your graduation rate?
- What percentage of students who graduate go directly on to graduate school?
- What does your job placement look like?
- Is there a Career Office that supports students in their internship and job search?
- Are your alumni well connected to the school?