



CSI
COLLEGE SCENE INVESTIGATION

Top Ten Tips for College Hunting: Questions for Recruiters

1. What are the top three academic programs of your school? (Don't let them weasel out of answering by saying all the school's programs are good.) Which ones are stellar?
2. What makes your school unique? What is special about it?
3. How many of your freshman class graduate within in five years? Within seven years?
4. What are the most common reasons students drop out of your school? What percent of the students drop out for each reason?
5. What is the average amount of student loan debt your students have when they graduate?
6. What types of support services do you give new freshmen or transfer students? How large are these services? (What you are trying to find out is how many students take advantage of the services and the reasons why or why not.)
7. What is the financial aid application process for this school? How many students get aid? What type is it? (Grants and scholarships do not need to be paid back, but frequently have limited amounts of money and restrictions on who can get it. Student loans are much more common, but have to be paid back whether or not the student graduates.) Do the grant or scholarship financial aid packages of students increase each year as the cost of school increases?
8. What has been the percent of increase in tuition and fees over the past three years? Are there any new increases coming soon? (Be aware that tuition may be capped, but fees usually aren't and sometimes can be more than tuition. Get the difference explained to you.)
9. Do most of your students stay on campus for the weekend or do most go home? (This is a really important question if you are living on campus and are a long way from your home.)
10. How is campus parking?

Bonus question: What is the oddest or weirdest thing that has happened on your campus in the past year?