



BYHS College Planning and Placement

Talking with the College Representative

When you talk to college representatives, it's important to remember that they are salespeople. There are things they want you to know about their school, and there are things they don't. Here are some things you **SHOULD** know, and you can probably find out by reading about the school. Don't take this list with you when you talk to the college representative, but if something here strikes you as important, don't be afraid to ask.

Questions about Admission Policies

1. What high school courses are required?
2. Are entrance tests required? Which ones? What range of scores is acceptable?
3. Is there a required grade point average or class rank?
4. Are personal interviews or letters of recommendation required?
5. Are there special requirements for certain majors?
6. Will involvement in extra-curricular activities be considered?
7. Is there an essay on the application?
8. What factors are most important in the selection process?
9. Is there an early decision or early action plan?
10. What percent of applicants are accepted?
11. Can admission denials be appealed?
12. What are the application deadlines?
13. What is the notification date?
14. By when must an accepted student make a decision? How much of a commitment is involved?
15. If a student is accepted and then decides to spend a year in Israel, will the acceptance be deferred automatically?

Questions about the College

1. Where is the college located (city, suburb, small town, rural)?
2. What is the surrounding community like? Is it safe? What provisions are made for student security?

3. Is the surrounding community supportive of the college?
4. What cultural, entertainment, and shopping facilities are available?
5. Is transportation available on campus? Off campus?
6. Is the college public, private, or church affiliated?
7. What is the current student enrollment?
8. What special or unique programs are offered?
9. Does the college have general education or course distribution requirements?
10. What is the academic calendar (semesters, trimesters, quarters)?
11. What provisions are made for Jewish holidays?

Questions about the Student Population and Social Life

1. Where do the majority of the students come from? What is their average age?
2. What is the male/female ratio?
3. What is the size of the Jewish population? Are they observant?
4. Do most of the students commute or do they live on campus?
5. What types of student activities are there?
6. Are there fraternities or sororities on campus? How important is it to be a member?
7. Is housing available for freshmen? Is it guaranteed? Is it available all four years?
8. Are dormitories accessible on Shabbos without an I.D. card? How many stairs to climb?
9. Are the dormitories coed? What are the

- procedures for selecting a roommate?
10. What is the quality of food in the dining halls? Is Kosher always available? Can other special dietary needs be accommodated?
 11. How strict are the rules regulating campus and dormitory life?
 12. Is there a Hillel Foundation? A Young Israel eating club? A Chabad House?

Questions about Academics

1. What is the average class size? How large is a typical freshman class?
2. Who teaches freshman classes (full professors, instructors, graduate assistants, etc.)?
3. How many students from last year's freshman class returned for their sophomore year?
4. What was the grade point average for last year's freshman class?
5. What is the procedure for orientation, class placement, and scheduling?
6. Are classes guaranteed?
7. How are faculty advisors assigned? How accessible are faculty members?
8. What percentage of students complete a degree in four years?
9. What are the most popular majors?
10. Is there an honors program? What are the qualifications?
11. How intense is the academic pressure?
12. What are the library hours? Are there study areas? A student computer center?
13. What opportunities are there for study abroad?

Questions about Costs

1. What is the tuition? Room and Board? Fees?
2. By how much did the total costs increase between last year and this year?
3. Is there a difference in cost for in-state and out-of-state students?
4. Are accepted students required to make deposits for tuition and housing? Are they refundable?

5. Are deposits required each year of returning students?
6. When do bills have to be paid?

Questions about Financial Aid

1. Are admissions decisions made independently of financial aid considerations?
2. What percent of students receive financial aid based on need?
3. What percent of students receive scholarships based only on academic ability?
4. What is the typical financial aid package for a freshman?
5. What percent of those who apply for financial aid actually receive it?
6. Will financial aid be increased if need increases?
7. What are the procedures and deadlines for financial aid applications?
8. When are financial aid applicants notified of their awards?
9. Is there a tuition payment plan?
10. Are there jobs available on campus? Off campus?

Questions about Student Services

1. What facilities are available for career guidance?
2. How much assistance is given to students in finding jobs after graduation?
3. What proportion of last year's graduating class was successful in finding jobs related to their major fields of study?
4. What proportion of students go to graduate or professional schools? What is the acceptance rate into graduate programs at other schools?
5. What types of additional services are provided by the school at no additional cost to the student (tutoring, study skills, personal or academic counseling, etc.)?