



MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR CAMPUS VISIT

READY TO TOUR COLLEGES? LET'S GO!

How to Prepare

What to do before, during, and after your college tour.

Before the Tour

- Research the school, and write down general information about academics, majors, campus life, and student support services. That background information will help you ask knowledgeable questions on the tour.
- Register for the tour. Pro tip: Tour on a weekday when class is in session.
- Make an appointment to sit in on a class, if possible.
- Make appointments to meet with admissions officers, professors, and financial aid staff, if possible.
- Sign up for a housing tour in addition to the campus tour.

On the Day of the Tour

- Dress for comfort (e.g., walking shoes, removable layers, and sunscreen).
- Have your phone handy to take notes, photos, and videos. Pro tip: Fully charge your phone before you go!
- Ask your tour guide personalized questions unique to your goals. Clarify information you couldn't find answers to online.
- Say yes to any "add ons," like tours of facilities or departments.
- Sit in on the class you signed up for. Talk with faculty and staff you arranged to meet with.
- Meet with an admissions officer. If you can't sign up for this in advance, some schools, like USF, allow walk-ins!
- Enjoy a meal in the cafeteria.
- Do a vibe check: Do you feel at home on campus?

After the Tour

- Spend time in the region around campus. Explore shops, restaurants, and public transportation. Could you see yourself living here?
- Review your notes and photos.
- Rank potential schools in a spreadsheet. Create different columns for financial aid, location, academic program offerings, extracurriculars, etc., and add notes on each.
- Follow up with a recruiter, asking any remaining questions.
- Consider attending future campus events like Open Houses, College Prep Nights, and Admitted Student Days.

Questions to Ask

Write down questions before your tour.

Before the Tour: Research These Questions

See how many of these questions you can answer for yourself using the school's website.

- What is the student-to-faculty ratio?
- What majors and minors are available?
- When do you have to declare a major?
- What size is the campus?
- What types of on-campus housing are available?
- What services (health clinics, study centers, career counseling, peer mentoring) are offered?
- How many student organizations/clubs are on campus?
- What is the freshman retention rate?
- How does the roommate process work?
- What's safety like on campus?
- What does the surrounding area offer in terms of jobs and entertainment?
- What is the cost of tuition, and what are financial aid opportunities?

On the Tour: Ask Your Tour Guide These Questions

Use the tour to ask more personalized questions or to get clarity on information you couldn't find online.

- Can you tell me about your experience with the professors on campus?
- Are there any professors you would recommend?
- What jobs and internship opportunities are available for [your academic program of interest]?
- Where should students look for work on campus?
- What's your favorite on-campus job?
- What's the best place to eat on campus?
- What do you typically do on the weekends?
- How do you get involved in campus life?
- Why did you choose USF?

Ready to explore Bulls Country?

Schedule your USF tour online! Visit usf.edu/admissions/visit