

Greater Essex County College & Career Fair

Questions for students to ask and things to be prepared for.

Before the Fair:

- Find out which colleges/universities and community organizations will be attending.
[List attending](#)
- Make a list of colleges and universities you want to be sure to talk to at the fair.
- Prepare some questions to ask the representatives:
 - What is the enrollment? How large is the campus? What is a typical class size?
 - Is the school in an urban, suburban, or rural setting?
 - What majors are available? When do I have to choose a major?
 - What are the admission requirements? DO I need a foreign language? Do you require SAT's or SAT II's? Achievement tests? Is the college test optional?
 - What percentage of students get accepted?
 - What is the college's retention rate from 1st year to graduation?
 - How much is tuition, room, and board?
 - Is financial aid available? What types of scholarships are available?
 - What percentages of students receive financial aid?
 - Do you require interviews? What types of visit programs are available? Can I stay overnight or attend classes?
 - Do students enjoy the food and meal options provided?
 - Can you have a car on campus, is there a fee and what is parking like?

At the Fair:

- Students need to be the ones who ask questions, not just the parents! Take advantage of having real-live people at your disposal!
- Don't be intimidated by the representatives, they have come a long way just to talk to YOU! Most of them will be the ones reviewing your application for that college.
- Fill out a reply/inquiry card if available. This gives you access to more information and it shows you are interested in their school. Investigate a school you've never heard of before! This is the perfect opportunity to explore options you may not be aware of. Think outside the box!
- Get business cards from the College Reps you speak with so you can email them with any additional questions and to thank them for taking the time to speak with you.

After the Fair:

- Try to organize what you've collected. Use whatever works for you, alphabetical, by state, by majors offered, religious/ non-religious affiliated, etc.
- List the representatives you spoke to and make some notes on what you learned about the school.
- Try to note which schools or representatives you particularly enjoyed talking to.
- Schedule visits for Open House, tours, or interviews at the schools that seemed to be a potential match for you.

Remember to enjoy this part of the process, ask questions and take notes. Keeping a folder or binder for your college information is highly recommended.

See Mr. Smith in the College and Career Center with any questions or for help with your college search. aribaundosmith@newburyport.k12.ma.us