

Questions for 1st Generation Students to ask College Representatives (or, really, any student)

Dr. Virginia Krolczyk, Utica Schools (some supplemental items added by Ms. G.)

1. Do you have minimum scores (GPA, SAT, ACT) for application/acceptance?
2. Are scholarships for your school automatic, based on GPA/test scores, or does a student need to apply?
3. If a scholarship is received from the college, is it automatically renewed, or does a student need to re-apply each year? Are there requirements to fulfill in order to keep the scholarship?
4. What is your school's deadline to fill out the FAFSA?
5. What is an award letter?
6. Is someone available at the college to help me understand the award letter sent by FAFSA?
7. How much does each credit hour cost?
8. How many credit hours make up a class?
9. How many credit hours are typically needed to obtain a Bachelor's degree?

*****HINT – consider the above 3 questions when you are comparing award letters and amount of money awarded between schools*****

10. What is the student to teacher ratio?
11. What are the graduation rates at your school? What about sub-group grad rates? (race, etc)
12. Is tutoring available?
13. Are there other support services available for my unique needs? (you may have to explain)
14. Are professors available outside the class?
15. How do I determine which program to pursue?

*****HINT – consider taking a variety of classes to explore career options, look into internships, VOLUNTEER*****

16. What activities, groups, and organizations are available?
 17. Upon graduation, does the college assist in finding a job?
 18. How does repayment of a student loan work?
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General tips:

- Parents should visit campus with students
- Find the right fit of school for you. (not just b/c you know someone who goes there, etc.)
 - Think about the 3 C's (Culture, Climate, Curriculum), this includes campus size, student population, types of programs/extracurriculars offered
- Motivation & perseverance greatly increase the chances of success.

REMEMBER:

- ***“Roadblocks (failure, anxiety, depression, fear, other obstacles) are a natural part of life. The question is...what are you doing to manage them?”***
- We fear what we don't know → more informed = less fear → reduction of fear = task completion