



College Fairs

Before Attending a College Fair

Students should research colleges they are interested in through the colleges' websites prior to a college fair experience. Knowing basic information about different colleges will help students decide which colleges they would like to gather more information about at a college fair. Here are some examples of the information that can be found on a college's website:

- General information on the college
- Admission requirements and procedures
- Academics
- Programs and majors offered at the college
- Tuition and fees

During the College Fair

Students can identify programs that may be a good fit and rule out any options they are not interested in from the information gathered at a college fair. Here are examples of the information that can be gathered at a college fair:

- More in-depth information on programs and majors offered
- Career planning services
- Student support services
- Information on class sizes and instruction
- Financial aid opportunities

Preparing Students for the College Fair

Taking time to prepare students for a college fair will help students maximize their time and gather the information they need. To prepare students for a successful college fair experience:

- Identify the representatives they want to be sure to visit
 - Use the map for the college fair to plan how to navigate the room



- Create a checklist of colleges the student is interested in meeting with to make sure they talk to all of the school representatives they identified at the fair
- After the student visits the schools they were interested in at the fair, have them identify any other schools that interest them
- Teach strategies for making a good first impression
- Properly introducing themselves
- Showing good communication skills such as good body language
- Role-play conversations that may take place with college representatives
 - Practice asking and answering questions
 - Practice strategies for continuing conversations when asking yes or no questions
 - Practice ending a conversation
- Develop questions that will help students get information they would not be able to find on a website
 - Can you tell me more about the _____ program?
 - What is the average class size?
 - How are professors available to students for questions?
 - Does your college offer career planning services?
 - What student support services are available?
 - What is the process for requesting accommodations?