



COLLEGE VISIT FORM

(Please follow these instructions)

- 1. Bring in an excuse from your parents for the day that you will be absent **PRIOR TO YOUR ABSENCE.****
- 2. Take the excuse to the Attendance Office **BEFORE** your college visit.**
- 3. Have the College Representative sign the visitation form that is **ATTACHED** (or bring a signed letter from the College) to verify that you were at the college visiting.**
- 4. Return the signed visitation form to the Attendance Office the day you return to school.**

The College Visit: Making the Most of Your Time on Campus

Campus visits are an essential part of your college search process. At the simplest level, the purpose of these visits is to gain information about whether you and a particular college are a good match. You may want to find out what colleges near your home have to offer. Perhaps you are wondering whether to choose a two-year or a four-year college. You may not be sure where to apply, or you may have sent in your applications already and now need to choose among several schools that have offered you admission. Campus visits can help you decide what you are looking for and point you in the right direction.

The visiting process offers more than facts and figures about a college. It also taps into your instincts about what it would be like to live on that campus. Some students realize the minute they set foot on a campus that it just feels right. One person may like all the activity on an urban campus that has twenty thousand students.

Someone else may feel more at ease on a small rural campus. That is the glory of U.S. education--there are different types of colleges and different types of students and those differences are perfectly okay.

Always remember that you are basically in a buyer-seller relationship with any college you visit. Both you and the college need to exchange information so that you can make a good choice about the purchase of an education. You can see why it is important to be prepared for your campus visits. And when you take one step at a time, deciding which campuses to visit, making appointments, planning how you'll spend your time, and then evaluating what you've seen and what you want to do next—you will discover that campus visits can both be a manageable and an enjoyable process.

How to Schedule and Prepare for a Visit

The first step is simple: AT&T, MCI, Sprint or your local telephone company. Always use the telephone to contact the admissions office. Mail takes too long! Going back and forth with letters about possible meeting times wastes a lot of time and energy. Using the phone is a much faster and less complicated way to do your scheduling.

When you call, ask whether you can sign up for a guided tour. If you are having a personal interview with an admissions officer, try to schedule that for a time after you have had a tour and a chance to explore the campus on your own. Ask if the admissions counselor can arrange for you to talk with a professor and perhaps sit in on a class so that you can investigate the academic side of college life. On the social side, find out if there are any campus wide events you can attend. The college also may be able to arrange for you to stay overnight in a dormitory with a current student. At this point to, consider whether you want to visit the financial aid office while you're on campus. You can call the office directly to have information mailed to you and to ask if it is possible to set up an appointment in advance with a financial aid officer.

Colleges generally have a regular packet of materials to send to students who will be visiting, but here are some specific things to request: a campus map, a catalog, a copy of the campus newspaper, and information about special academic programs or areas of interest. Also ask for travel directions and especially campus parking instructions. If you are not traveling by car, find out whether the college will provide transportation to the campus after you arrive in town. Plan your time so that you can spend at least half a day on campus.

Next, get prepared for the visit. When you receive admissions material and other information about a college, rule number one is: read it, read it, read it! Rule number two is: see rule number one! Since many students (possibly the majority) don't follow those rules before an interview, you'll have a definite advantage when you do! Make a list of questions that are not answered in the college catalog: it never makes a good impression to ask about something that you would know if you had done your homework. Also make a list of places you want to see while on campus.

Butler Senior High School

120 Campus Lane, Butler, Pennsylvania 16001 (724) 214-3200

John Wyllie, Principal
Douglas Ford, Assistant Principal
Alicia Beighley, Assistant Principal



To: Butler Senior High School
Attendance Office

Date of Visit

COLLEGE VISIT

The student named below has indicated that he/she has scheduled an appointment with the admissions office of your school.

STUDENT _____

Please place your signature and school seal in the area indicated below, so that this may be an excused absence.

Thank you!

NAME OF COLLEGE _____

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATURE _____