



Your Journey Starts Here.

COLLEGE SEARCH CHECKLIST

Choosing a college that's the right fit for you can set you on a path for success. Knowing what questions to ask when researching and visiting a campus is the best way to get the whole picture. With that in mind, we've put together a campus visit checklist to help you identify the schools best suited for your future.

Adelphi University's _____
College 
Awareness

Day

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YOU CAN NEVER HAVE TOO MUCH INFORMATION

Find out how to apply, and see if the college offers classes and majors that interest you.

- Explore the institution's website! Tons of information can be found here to give you a great idea of what majors and special programs are offered as well as admission requirements to consider.
- Attend an Open House!
 - **Panther Pointer:** An Open House allows visitors access to many parts of campus. You can visit with admissions, financial aid, faculty, student life and services, meet current students and take a tour! It's a fun opportunity to get more information so you can make an informed decision about your future.
- Speak with financial services and pick up financial aid brochures.
 - **Panther Pointer:** The cost of college can be a major deciding factor for students when determining which college they will be attending in the future. Meeting with a student financial services counselor will help alleviate some of this stress and get all of your financial questions answered in one place.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK PROFESSORS:

- What support can I receive outside of the classroom?
- How much time do you believe your average student spends studying and doing assignments during the week?
- Are the classes more lecture-based or discussion-based?
- Are there opportunities for hands-on learning available within your department?
- How often are collaborative work or group presentations required?

INVESTIGATE THE ACADEMICS

Find the college with the right combination of programs that represent your interests.

- Sample a class that interests you.
 - **PANTHER POINTER:** Most colleges offer you the opportunity to sit in with a student in one of their classes. This is a great one-on-one way to ask current students about their experiences, explore your academic area of interest, and meet the professor.
- Consider class size.
 - **PANTHER POINTER:** Do you want to take classes in a large lecture hall, or are you more comfortable in a small class? This depends on the institution size, class size average and student-teacher ratio. This is helpful information that most schools advertise on their website.
- Explore the variety of academic programs available.
 - **PANTHER POINTER:** If you don't know what you want to study yet, don't worry! Look at the list of majors and minors to see if anything sparks your interest. If you are still deciding on a major, keep in mind it may be better to go to a school that offers a wide variety of academic programs to make it easier when the time comes to decide.
- Look into whether or not the college invests in their students' achievements both inside and outside of the classroom.
 - **PANTHER POINTER:** Explore the ways a school helps their students succeed, such as tutoring services and research assistance.

EXPLORE LIFE ON (AND OFF) CAMPUS

Imagine yourself feeling at home.

- Take a campus tour.
 - **PANTHER POINTER:** Visit on a weekday to get a feel for what the student experience is like, by seeing the daily activities students participate in both during and in between their classes.
- Research student organizations.
 - **PANTHER POINTER:** This will help you gauge how campus life and activities will enhance your student experience. Find out what clubs, organizations and events you could potentially join!
- Investigate the facilities, resources and activities available on campus.
 - **PANTHER POINTER:** We believe students grow and learn by experiences, which is why Adelphi's student life and residential life teams are committed to providing programs for residents and commuters.
- Browse the school's social media and view how they interact with their students.
- Talk to current students about life on campus.
- Speak to the athletic coaches of sports that you may want to play.
- Visit the surrounding area for sources of potential internships and employment (during and after college), as well as entertainment and cultural enrichment.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK TOUR GUIDES/STUDENTS

- Are you involved in any clubs or organizations?
- What do you do for fun on campus?
- What was the biggest and smallest class size you've taken?
- What is it like to live on campus? What is it like to commute to campus?
- What's the food like on campus and around the area?

COLLEGE PROCESS TIMELINE



NOW

Create your college list
and visit schools



FALL JUNIOR YEAR

Take the PSAT
(October)



SPRING JUNIOR YEAR

Take the SAT and/or the ACT
(plan to take twice,
January to November)



FALL SENIOR YEAR

Go to an Open House event
Fill out applications and finish essays
Fill out FAFSA (opens October 1)



SPRING SENIOR YEAR

Receive decisions
Revisit schools
Make your decision and confirm your spot!



TYPES OF DEGREES



ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE

- Typically a 2 year degree
- General areas like Liberal Arts or Social Sciences, or a more technical area like Veterinary Technician

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

- Typically a 4 year degree
- Particular subject area like English, Mathematics or Sociology

MASTER'S DEGREE

- Typically a 2 year degree you can earn after you achieving a Bachelor's Degree.
- Specific areas like Human Resource Management or Business Administration - Accounting

DOCTORATE

- Highest level of education in a particular field.
- Can take many years to achieve after earning a Bachelor's Degree.
- We honor the expertise of these professionals by adding Dr. to their titles!

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK FINANCIAL AID

- What are the academic requirements to receive federal and state financial aid?
- How is my eligibility for financial assistance determined?
- How am I notified of my eligibility for financial assistance?
- Do I have to apply for financial assistance every year?
- What if my financial assistance package does not cover all of my financial need?

SEEK OUT CAREER RESOURCES

Will this degree take me where I need to go?

- Research how the school you're considering prepares their graduating students.
 - **PANTHER POINTER:** An important question to ask any college is, "Will this degree get me from where I am now to where I want to be?". Find out how graduating students are prepared for the real world.
- Investigate the ways a school helps and encourages their students to grow and learn.
 - **PANTHER POINTER:** As an example, Adelphi offers study abroad research opportunities all over the world in a wide range of academic courses. You can take an environmental studies course in Norway, study anthropology and culture in Brazil, or international business in Shanghai.
- Visit the school's Career Center and learn about their services. Do they have any interesting internship programs, leadership certificates or resume and interview help?
 - **PANTHER POINTER:** Career Centers are dedicated to helping students (and even alumni) with skills needed to find and land a job or internship. You could have a career counselor review your resume, conduct a mock interview, or coach you in learning what type of job and work environment is best for you.



#AUCAD2020

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UNIVERSITY

NEW YORK

The College Board. (2017). *Campus Visit Checklist*.

The College Board. (2019, August 2). *The College Campus Tour Checklist*.