



College Interview Questions and Tips for a Successful Interview

Not all colleges require an interview as part of their application process. If the college you are applying to does require an interview, know that it is a way for them to learn more about you than what is in the printed material you have sent and also a way for you to learn more about the college. It is also an opportunity to put your best foot forward. The interview should be regarded as a conversation, a way to determine if you are a good fit for the college and if it is a good fit for you. Below are some common questions that you may be asked:

1. Why do you want to transfer to our college?
2. What can you contribute to our campus community?
3. Tell me about a challenging situation and how you overcame it.
4. Where do you see yourself after college?
5. What has been your biggest achievement?
6. What do you do for fun during your free time?
7. Who in your life has influenced you the most?
8. What lead you to major in _____?
9. What else would you like us to know about you?
10. What is your favorite book/author?
11. If you could change one thing about your academic career so far, what would it be?
12. What questions do you have about our college? (MAKE SURE YOU HAVE SOME)

There are different types of college interviews. If you are interested in sports you may interview with a coach or if you know your major you may speak with a Dean or Department Chair. Some colleges also use alumni to conduct interviews. Whatever the case a few basic rules apply in all situations:

1. Be on time and relaxed about your interview. Confident is not boastful.
2. Dress is neat and clean, business casual. You want the interviewer to know that the opportunity to speak with them is important to you. No gum, hats off. Cell phones.....
3. Be polite to everyone you meet, show interest, make eye contact.
4. Shake hands before and after the interview as you thank the interviewer for the opportunity to meet with them. Send a follow up thank you note.
5. Be prepared for the interview. Review your answers to possible questions but don't memorize your answers. Remember this should be a conversation.
6. Be up on current events.
7. Avoid "yes" or "no" answers.
8. Research the college and be prepared to ask questions whose answers are not in their publications. Could you tell me more about.....?
9. Do not take parents or friends into the interview. They want to get to know you as an individual.
10. Feel free to discuss any special circumstances and how you made the best of them.