



# COLLEGE VISITS

The best way to gain information about a school is to visit the campus and talk with students as well as admissions personnel, financial aid personnel, students and faculty.

The next best way to learn about a school is to talk to college representatives when they visit Armada in the fall. Beginning in mid-September, a number of college admission representatives visit the high school. Some recruiters just come to talk about their college, while other recruiters may accept your application on-site with a quick decision to follow. Armada students are encouraged to sign up for the presentations in the counseling office. Priority will be given to seniors and juniors, but there may be space for sophomores and freshmen who are also interested! Mark the date and time in your planner – no reminder passes are provided.

When visiting a college campus, arrange your college visit with the college Admissions Department in advance. This can be done online or through a phone conversation.

- Notify the attendance office and your teachers of the date you will be gone.
- Have questions ready for the campus visit. Talk to your counselor to see if there is anything you are forgetting!

Colleges are happy to have you visit, but you must prepare before you visit in order to make it worthwhile. Here are some suggestions:

1. The best visit includes seeing the campus while college is in session (September through April), but not during holiday breaks. This allows high school students to observe classes in session, possibly spend a night in a dorm, and talk with students, admissions, and financial aid officers and faculty members in their area of interest. Students can register for a tour online or by contacting the Admissions Office. If students want to talk with faculty, this may require students to register a few weeks in advance.
2. If your application is not on file at the college (or you are a sophomore or junior), obtain a copy of your unofficial transcript to take with you. You can request one be sent to you through Parchment.
3. Research the college before you visit. Listen to the recruiters when they come to Armada in the fall or view the college website for information.
4. Visit the city/neighborhood in which the college is located. Look for transportation facilities (buses/train) and banking institutions. If possible, gather information about housing near campus for later years.
5. Check out the food service and student union. While there, talk with students about why they chose the school. Also read the campus newspaper to learn about campus issues.

Make sure you understand the admission requirements and deadlines.

- GPA
- SAT or ACT score – is the writing portion needed?
- Letters of recommendation
- Essay

Check out the opportunities for financial aid and scholarships and note the deadlines.