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 **College Fair Tip Sheet**

Before the Fair

* Think about what you’re looking for in a college.
	+ Do you want to attend an extra-large, large, medium or small size school?
	+ What majors are you interested in?
	+ Do you want to go to an urban, suburban or rural school?
	+ Do you want to attend a 2-year, 4-year, single sex or religiously affiliated school?
	+ Do you want to participate in athletics, clubs, fraternities or sororities, or special programs such as study abroad or cooperative education?
* Research the colleges that are attending the fair to see which ones best fit your

preferences.

* Make a list of questions to ask college representatives. Try to think of questions that are insightful and are not easily answered in the college’s brochure or website.
* Bring a resume and/or card with your name, address, high school, year of graduation, email address, intended major, and activities to give to the representative.

At the Fair

* Pick up a fair directory and bag for all of the college materials you collect. Military branches often provide bags if they are not provided by the host.
* Visit schools that match or are the closest match to your preferences.
* Ask the same questions to each college representative you visit (it will help you to compare them).
* Make sure to fill out an inquiry card to let the college know you were in attendance (or give them a pre-printed card you brought with you). This will enable you to get on their mailing list.
* Make notes about the information you found most interesting or helpful.
* Be adventurous. Do not just talk to the “well known” schools.
* Attend an information session that is offered to gather information about the college

search process, financial aid, or whatever topics are available.

After the Fair

* Review information (catalogs and view books) to gather more information and help narrow down your choices.
* Send a thank you note or email to the college representatives you talked with as a way to reinforce your interest in the school.

Adapted from National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)