



— INTERVIEW TIPS —

From St. Andrew's College Counseling Office

INTERVIEW DOS AND DON'TS

- Be prepared. If you are going to sign up for an interview, you should do some preparatory research about the college. In the interview, be ready to discuss intelligently exactly why you are serious about that particular college.
- If your interview is on campus, arrive early. Try to tour the campus before your interview.
- Smile. Sit up straight; make good eye contact.
- The dialogue should flow naturally. The best interviews are really just conversations.
- Don't say that you don't enjoy reading or that you read very little. Reading and college are practically synonymous terms.
- Have a sense of what's going on in the world. A well-informed discussion of current events with your interviewer may win you a few points.
- Be courteous to everyone. Administrative staff and tour guides are important people in the admissions machine. They have access to admissions officers and will remember your kindness and your rudeness.

QUESTIONS YOU MAY BE ASKED

- How did you come to include us among your college choices?
- What makes you think this college and you are right for each other?
- Where else are you applying and why?
- Which is your first choice?
Don't answer if you are not sure. If you are at the school you think is your first choice, then confirm that—but never give another name. Wesleyan doesn't want to hear "Vassar."
- What do you hope to major in? Why?
If you do know what you want to major in, be sure it is a major the college offers!
- What have you liked or disliked about your high school?
- If you were the Head of your school, what would you change?
- What would you like to tell us about yourself?
- What are your favorite websites?
- What books not required by your courses have you read recently?
- What TV shows do you watch?
- Tell us about your family.
- How do you spend a typical afternoon after school? Evening? Weekend?
- What extracurricular activities have you found most satisfying?
- What are your strengths? Weaknesses?
- How would your best friend describe you?
- If you could talk with any one living person, whom would it be and why?
- What events have been crucial in your life?

- What is the most significant contribution you've made to your school or community?
- What is the most important thing you have learned in high school?
- What have you learned about yourself during this pandemic?
- Have you learned/tried any new hobbies during the pandemic?

QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT ASK COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES ---

- What do you consider to be your strongest majors or departments? What are the most popular majors?
- What are other distinctive majors or programs, or other programs, off-campus (i.e. study abroad, internships, Washington semester, etc.)?
- What are your admissions criteria (i.e. how much weight is given to courses and grades, test scores, activities, essays, the interview, etc.)?
- How many freshmen return for the sophomore year?
- What is your policy concerning the granting of credit and advanced standing for AP tests?
- What are some of your “overlap” colleges (other institutions which your applicants also consider)?
- Explain the freshman advising system.
- What percentage of students live in campus housing? Describe the various types of residence halls.
- What percentage of your students continue on to graduate or professional schools?
- What do students do on weekends?
- Do you have “no-need” or merit-based scholarships? What kind of student would be competitive for such scholarships?
- What's the one thing students say they wish they knew about this college before they enrolled?
- Is submitting links of my acting/music allowed? Should they be sent to a specific professor or directly to admissions?
- If the interviewer is a graduate of the college—or a current student—then it can be great to ask them about their experiences. How did you decide to attend this school? What was the best part of your experience? What would you do differently?