College Assessment Questions

The Basics

- 1. Where is the college? Can you locate it on a map? Is it too close to home? Is it too far? Is it too hot or cold there?
- 2. Have you taken the course work the college requires for admission?
- 3. What size is the college? How many students are undergraduates?
- 4. What is the college's selectivity ratio (what proportion of applicants were admitted last year?)
- 5. Does the college offer majors that interest you?
- 6. Is the college coed or single sex?
- 7. What percentage of students live off campus?
- 8. How many of the students graduate in four years? Five years? Six years?
- 9. How many first-year students return for their sophomore year?
- 10. How much does the program cost? What is the total per year expense?
- 11. What type of financial aid is available?

Where would you fit in?

- 1. What are the admission test scores at the colleges that interest you? Where does that place you?
- 2. What were the high schools GPAs of most of the freshmen last year?
- 3. Are freshmen guaranteed on-campus housing? If not, where do they live?
- 4. Are there extracurricular activities that interest you?
- 5. What are their strong academic program? (Ask a college representative, students, graduates, and teachers)
- 6. What courses are required for graduation?
- 7. Are the courses you need/want available each semester? At convenient times?
- 8. Are there special programs that interest you? (Study abroad, internships, etc)
- 9. What is the social life like? What percentage of students join fraternities or sororities?
- 10. Do the pictures and language the college uses to describe itself attract you?
- 11. What is your general impression of the college?
- 12. Is the school accredited?
- 13. If professional certification is required for employment in the field that interest you, how many students enrolled in the school's program pass the certification exam?

Admission Process

- 1. When are applications due?
- 2. Does the college accept the Common Application? If so, does it require supplemental forms?
- 3. What does the application contain? Are essays required?
- 4. Is an interview suggested or required? Is an interview available from staff or alumni?
- 5. When may you visit the college? What is its policy regarding campus visits?

6. What are the financial aid deadlines? What financial aid forms are required?

Now Answer These Questions

- 1. Am I a strong candidate for admission to this college?
- 2. If I am not a strong candidate, what are my chances?
- 3. Do I want to visit this college?
- 4. What additional information do I need?