THE INTERVIEW

The purpose of the campus interview is to give you the opportunity to personalize your application. Topics discussed in an interview range from high school achievements to community involvement to potential academic interests at the college level. The interview also is an opportunity for you to find out more about F&M and whether you might be a fit for our campus.

DO...

- **Be genuine.** Be yourself. Give us a really personal sense of who you are.
- **Come prepared** to exchange information; share information about your social and academic life and be prepared to ask about the College. The best decisions are formulated—on both sides—with an optimum of information.
- **Elaborate** on topics. We love to hear your opinions and want to know more about your passions and your interests.
- **Brag** (don’t be modest). Expound on your accomplishments in student government, community service, athletics and other extracurricular activities. You need to tell us about your myriad experiences during the past 17 or 18 years.
- **Invest some time** (if possible) in a campus tour, chatting with students, browsing the library, sampling the food, sitting in on classes, etc., either before or after the interview.
- **Be prompt** and allow time for traffic and the like. We don’t evaluate students negatively if they arrive late, but the interview may need to be shortened to accommodate others who are scheduled later that day.
- **Look the interviewer in the eye** and give him or her a firm handshake. You will appear confident (even if you have butterflies).
- **Remember to breathe**—and maybe even smile. This should be fun!

DON’T...

- **Stress** over what to wear. Be comfortable and use good judgment.
- **Chew gum.** It gets in the way of clear articulation.
- **Answer a ringing cellphone.** Turn off all electronic devices before you begin your interview.
- **Memorize your presentation.** Informal conversation is far less stressful.
- **Be concerned** if the interviewer takes notes. It helps the interviewer remember the important things you said so that they can be included in your file.
- **Hesitate to cancel** if you are ill. We will not consider you lacking a sense of responsibility.
- **Ignore red flags** on your transcript. This is your opportunity to explain weak areas and discuss how you have learned to overcome them. No one is perfect.
- **Forget to ask questions** (bring a list).
- **Neglect to keep in touch** after the interview. As your college search progresses you may find you have unanswered questions. Call or drop us a note. We always enjoy hearing from you.

For more information visit www.fandm.edu/admission