



# The STEM Academy at Showalter

"Unlocking Young Minds for the Future"

## CAMPUS VISITS

### Before you visit

- Visit the admissions website of each school you plan to see to identify what opportunities are available for prospective students.
- Schedule your visit on-line. Do not show up unannounced.

### While you visit

- Wear comfortable shoes for walking.
- Attend an information session.
- Take a campus tour.
- **Have an interview.** If you are visiting a school that offers interviews and you are very interested in the school, make an appointment before you get to campus for an interview.
- Observe a class. This needs to be pre-arranged. Contact the admissions office or check the website for specific information.
- Meet with a professor. If you have specific questions about the opportunities in a specific major, use this occasion to try to meet with someone in the department. Be sure to arrange this in advance.
- **Meet with a Financial Aid Counselor.** If you will be applying for financial aid, this is your opportunity to ask about grants, scholarships and student loans. Pick up any forms or applications you may need to apply for aid.
- If you are planning to play a sport in college, arrange to meet the coach. Schedule this in advance.
- Talk to current students.
- Have a meal in one of the dining halls. Test out the food.
- Visit the surrounding area and check out the local community.
- Pick up a copy of the course catalogue.
- Grab a current issue of the school newspaper.

### After you visit

- Take notes so that you can recall your thoughts and feelings about each campus after some time has passed. Use the campus visit worksheet to capture your thoughts.
- Send thank you notes to adults you meet with (coaches, professors, admissions officers...).

### Advice

- Beware of *The SUNSHINE FACTOR*. Do not let weather, good or bad, influence your judgment about a school.
- No single person represents the whole school. Do not judge a school solely by one student tour guide or one admissions officer. Talk to other staff and students to get a fuller picture.