You are more likely to find schools that are the right fit academically and financially if you ask a lot of questions. Here are 25 questions to get you started:

**Graduation rates**
1. What is the four-year graduation rate for students at your school?
2. What is the five-year graduation rate?
3. What are the main reasons why students don't graduate on time?
4. What percentage of the faculty is full-time?
5. What is the average class sizes for the major you are interested in pursuing?
6. What is the average class size for lower-level classes?
7. Do you have a learning community or other freshman experience?
8. What is the job placement rate?
9. How is that job placement rate calculated? Are the figures self-reported?
10. What percentage of students go on to graduate school or professional schools?
11. What can I expect from your school's career
12. At what annual rate has the tuition been rising at your institution in recent years?
13. What percentage of financial aid need does your school typically meet?
14. What is the typical breakdown of loans versus grants in your aid packages?
15. Does your institution dispense merit awards, and what about talent scholarships?
16. What are the requirements to receive these awards?
17. What are the requirements to keep these scholarships?
18. Does the percentage of aid that you meet typically shrink after freshman year?
19. Does your institution give out athletic scholarships?
20. Why did you decide to attend this school?
21. If you could change anything about the school, what would it be?
22. What do you like best about your school?
23. What do you like least?
24. What kind of students succeed at your school?
25. What students end up not fitting in?

Adapted from "50 questions to ask before applying to college," by Lynn O'Shaughnessy, MoneyWatch/CBS News, April 24, 2013. URL: https://www.cbsnews.com/news/50-questions-to-ask-before-applying-to-college/

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