

Essential Safety Questions to Ask Before Deciding on a College

A Resource for Parents and Students

Choosing a college can be overwhelming—especially when considering if the college fosters a safe and supportive environment for Jewish students. It's important to know the school takes antisemitism seriously and actively supports Jewish life on campus. Asking the right questions can give you peace of mind that Jewish students will be welcomed, protected, and supported.

- 1. What is the history of threats, incidents, hate crimes on campus, and protest activity—specifically, those against Jewish students, faculty, and/or staff or related to the State of Israel?
- 2. What mechanisms exist for students to report incidents, threats, and antisemitic activity, and how are they publicized? How does the administration track and share data on incidents, threats, and hate crimes?
- 3. What specific policies and measures are in place to protect Jewish students and organizations from targeted threats, incidents, and hate crimes?
- 4. What has been the outcome for those threats, incidents, and hate crimes that have targeted Jewish students, to include ways in which perpetrators have been held accountable and/or policies or programs that the university has implemented in the wake of such incidents? How are students who perpetrated the incidents held accountable? Has the university issued swift and strong condemnations or instituted mandatory training? Has the administration implemented or updated policies, such as the code of conduct, to address a rise in antisemitic incidents?
- 5. What required training is in place to ensure campus staff and security personnel are trained to appropriately recognize and respond to incidents or hate crimes targeting Jewish organizations and students?
- 6. How does the university/college differentiate between free speech and hate speech? What policies and procedures are in place for inviting external speakers and ensuring they comply with university policies and procedures? What policies and procedures are in place to allow non-students to be on campus?
- 7. What Jewish organizations exist that serve the student body?
- 8. For the Jewish organizations that serve the student body, what safety and security measures and programs have been implemented for them, to include assessments of the facilities they are in, training for staff and students, coordination with campus safety and law enforcement, and emergency protocols?
- 9. How has the administration coordinated with Jewish organizations like Hillel, the Secure Community Network, and others, in coordination with campus safety and law enforcement, to ensure the safety and security of Jewish organizations and students?

Reporting

Emergencies: 9-1-1

Security incidents:

Duty Desk: 844-SCN-DESK (844-726-3375)

Report Campus Hate

DutyDesk@SecureCommunityNetwork.org

SCN-Offered Training

Countering Active Threat

Situation Awareness

Stop the Bleed

De-escalation

SafeU: Campus Safety Initiative

















