

Why should my child choose Duke?

We received several different answers, which we've included below, because we thought the different perspectives were very valuable.

- ❖ Duke has a great academic reputation, a beautiful campus, and distinguished and caring administrators and faculty – and the size is just right. It's large enough to feel like a university and to have all the activities you would want for your child, yet small enough so he/she won't get lost in the crowd. There's a wonderful intimacy that you won't find in a larger university. Duke is top-notch and the students are high achievers (but not cutthroat) who will no doubt be successful at whatever they choose to do in life. And Duke has a new program called Duke Engage where service learning and opportunities abroad will become a much more formal part of the Duke experience. What more could you ask?
- ❖ Duke is mature enough to have a solid reputation and a strong alumni network, but it is young enough to be adaptable in a changing world. Duke guarantees its undergrads housing on campus for at least three of their four years, and the community is strengthened by having students live together. The Duke community is excited about changes in the campus culture as well as in its architecture, as the new Central Campus plans are developed. Duke is not complacent as it competes for bright and motivated students. President Brodhead is engaging and committed to Duke's future as a great place for students to grow and to learn to be productive. He thrives on the energy created by undergraduates and their potential. In addition, the weather is usually sunny, the Sarah P. Duke Gardens are unique, and the Chapel is awesome. The entire Triangle area of North Carolina is dynamic economically, artistically, and academically. The four years pass too quickly!
- ❖ Duke is a place where very smart and well-rounded young men and women are able to meet other similarly motivated and accomplished students from all around the world. At the same time, Duke students are a blend of many amazing (and incredibly diverse) skill sets and personalities. The Duke environment provides an opportunity to learn in a premier academic environment, experience (or maybe even participate in) the excitement of one of the nation's leading athletic programs, and socialize with a great group of undergraduates. Duke is truly a great place to live, work, and play – an environment that provides the best of so many aspects of the college experience.
- ❖ Our son chose Duke over other universities because he felt happy and comfortable here. He visited the university as a junior in high school and it was a good fit for him from the beginning. He felt that the campus was alive with activity, and he sensed an energy level among the students and faculty that he knew would motivate him. It was this lively and inviting atmosphere, coupled with the university's reputation for academic excellence, which made him want to study at Duke. With aggressive academics as a "given" in his future, he wanted an environment conducive to creativity and innovation, where both his spirit and intellect would flourish. He knew that Duke was such a place.