



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Annual Fall College Tours Converging on Georgia**

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**Atlanta, GA, 06/06/16** – The Annual 2016 Fall Probe College Tour is converging on Georgia! Over the course of just two months, over 70 fairs will be held at different high schools and centers in communities all over Georgia. The yearly event is a tradition that draws more than 300 institutions from across the country and state. In 2015, over 50,000 students, counselors, and college representatives attended Probe fairs and more are expected to attend in 2016.

Throughout the tour, high school students and their families will have multiple opportunities to speak with representatives from a variety of colleges – many that may not be as well known but can offer an outstanding educational experience. The Probe College Tours are the perfect opportunity for high school sophomores to get a head start on their college search and provide high school juniors with ample opportunity to learn more about schools from all over the state.

“The purpose of Probe is to help connect Georgia high school students with colleges and universities across the state and country,” says Bill Smith, Probe Executive Director. “Our goal is to provide students access to as many colleges and universities as we can for each community in Georgia.”

#### **Students are Encouraged to Pre-Register for the Fair**

Students have the opportunity to register in advance for the college fair. While pre-registration is not required, doing so will give each student a unique bar code allowing college representatives to quickly capture their information during the fair. Students can then receive timely information about admissions, scholarships and financial aid, and visitation days. Students can register for a bar code to attend their local fair at [www.gaprobe.org/students](http://www.gaprobe.org/students).

“The bar codes and scanners are ideal because they free students and college representatives up to have more productive conversations,” says Smith. “Instead of spending their time hand-writing on hundreds of interest cards, students can take a

few seconds and be scanned by a college so they can make the most of their time talking to the representative about the schools. “

### **Tips for Students Before Attending the College Fair**

College fairs are fantastic opportunities for students to see many different schools at one time. Here are a few tips for students to prepare in advance for making the most of the fair:

- **Do your homework** – and in this case, we don’t mean English papers. Students should find out in advance who is attending the college fair and decide on which schools they are most interested in learning about. Next, students should spend some time on each school’s website, especially the admissions or future student page(s). Here, students can find facts about the school, learn about the campus, and look up admission and/or scholarship application deadlines.
- **Make a list of questions to ask each school** – Once they have narrowed down which schools to talk with at the fair, students should write down 3–4 questions to ask each school. It is a good idea to stay away from simple questions that could be answered quickly with a little online research. Students should try to ask questions about the culture of the campus, individual academic or extracurricular programs, or other questions specific to housing or student activities.
- **Pre-register** – This year students have the chance to pre-register for a bar code that can be easily scanned by colleges they visit with at the fair. This will allow schools to easily capture information and saves students from having to handwrite information cards. Take a few moments to sign up at [www.gaprobe.org/students](http://www.gaprobe.org/students).
- **Have a back-up plan** – What happens if the student gets sick on the day of the fair or has practice or a meeting during an evening fair? It is a good idea to have a back-up plan to send parents in the student’s place. At the end of the day, parents will play a major role in the decision making process and it is good to get them involved in the initial research process.
- **Visit [www.facebook.com/georgiaprobe](https://www.facebook.com/georgiaprobe)** – Visit our Facebook page for helpful articles and tips on the college selection process, admissions and financial aid.



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### **Follow the Probe Spring Tour**

Students and parents have several options for learning more about the entire Probe tour this fall:

- Website: [www.gaprobe.org](http://www.gaprobe.org)
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/georgiaprobe](http://www.facebook.com/georgiaprobe)
- Twitter: [www.twitter.com/probe\\_fair](http://www.twitter.com/probe_fair)
- Mobile text updates and reminders: Text “ProbeInfo” to 33233

### **About Probe**

Founded in 1950, the Georgia Education Articulation Committee, Inc. (GEAC) is organized to stimulate interest in post---secondary education for citizens of Georgia by bringing together students, parents, counselors, administrators, and representatives of nonprofit post---secondary educational institutions, including, but not limited to, colleges and vocational---technical schools. Each year, GEAC organizes a program of college fairs and workshops to reach students, families and high school educators.