

Vocational Rehabilitation College Bus Tour 2026



The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity in employment and programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available to individuals with disabilities upon request. Programs are provided as a proud partner of the American Job Center network.

What is the college bus tour?

The College Bus Tour includes two 5-day trips on a private motor coach traveling across the state of Maine exploring higher education. Students will tour 17 public and private Maine college campuses including experiencing overnights in a dorm, eating in a college dining hall and learning about different educational programs offered.

In addition, there will be student and faculty-leading panels that allow students to discuss any questions they have. There will be many opportunities to participate in recreational activities and bond with fellow peers.

It is an excellent opportunity to explore college life in a low-pressure setting!

Here's what a student participant and their parent say:

"The college bus tour was a very useful experience before going to college. It gave me a taste of what dorm life is like. Seeing what it was like helped ease my anxieties about college before it was time for me to go. The college bus tour also includes fun activities like shopping, as well as allowing new friendships to form. I would recommend the college bus tour to other students before and after graduating high school." – David (Student)

"As a parent, I couldn't be more pleased with the college bus tour experience my son had while visiting colleges in Maine. The tour gave him the opportunity to explore a wide range of schools in a short period of time—something that would have taken us months to coordinate on our own. He was able to tour multiple campuses, stay overnight in real dorms, eat in the dining halls, and get a true feel for student life at each college.

He came home excited and genuinely sad that the tour was over. He really enjoyed meeting new people and had a great time with all the extra activities like karaoke, shopping at the mall, and going to the movies. It was the perfect balance of college exploration and fun.

I highly recommend this tour to any parent considering college visits—it's an efficient, well-organized, and unforgettable experience for your child." – Donna (Parent)

What schools are we going to?

Northern Tour:

UMaine - Orono
Husson College
UMA - Bangor
UMaine - Machias
UMaine - Presque Isle
UMaine - Fort Kent
Visit to Job Corp.

Southern Tour:

UMaine - Augusta
YCCC
SMCC
USM
St. Joseph's College
CMCC
UMaine - Farmington
KVCC
Thomas College

WHEN?

Northern Tour – July 27th – July 31st

Southern Tour – June 22nd – June 26th

How much does it cost?

It is free for VR clients. It is optional for students to bring spending money.

How do I qualify?

You must be enrolled as a Potentially Eligible or VR client. (If you're not sure, please speak with your school's Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor.)

Who will be on the tour?

There will be VR staff chaperoning and students from all over the state participating – it's a great opportunity to meet fellow Mainers!

If you would like more information:

Allison Fischer (Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor I)

Email: allison.fischer@maine.gov

Ian Gingras (Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor I)

Email: ian.gingras@maine.gov

OR

Check In with your school's assigned Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor