ENROLLING IN COLLEGE: WHAT TO EXPECT YOUR FIRST TERM

College is different than high school in many ways. It’s important to know what to expect, so you can be successful.

WHAT SHOULD I DO FIRST?

Find food, housing, transportation, medical facilities, mental health and fitness resources on campus.

Learn where you can receive academic support and form study groups.

Get to know your classmates. Classes may be small (30 people) or large (500 people) depending on your college. You will meet a lot of new people through your classes, events and clubs; you can connect with them and be part of a new community.

GOT ANY BUDGET TIPS?

Books and materials are expensive. Buy or rent used books to save money; electronic versions may also be available.

Cut down on unnecessary daily expenses (eating out, morning coffee, on-campus parking, etc.).

Create a quarterly or semester budget and stick to it!

HOW DO I MAKE THE MOST OF MY TIME?

For every hour you spend in class, you should spend at least two hours on assignments.

Some classes meet daily and some meet once a week. They may start as early as 8 a.m. and as late as 8 p.m. Create a class schedule that works for you. Classes may be in different buildings across the campus. Give yourself plenty of time to get to them.

Seek help from friends, tutors or campus resources or professors during office hours.

In college you have much more freedom in your schedule, and no one is going to tell you where you need to be or when. You will have to juggle classes, social activities, friends, finances and maybe even a new living situation or job. Manage your time by balancing your homework and personal interests.

GOOD TO KNOW:

Never be afraid to ask for help – when in doubt, reach out!

College can be some of the best times of your life, but it can also be extremely difficult. Remember why you wanted to go to college. This will help you stay motivated to finish your degree.