17 Things You Need to Do Before Going to College

















BIG







BIG







BIG

Adela and Mia







BIG

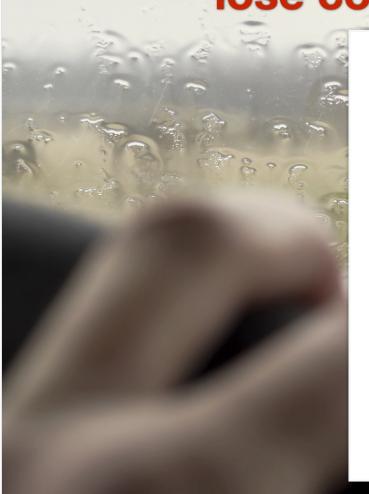
Jacob and Carson





it you don't know what's coming...

It's easy to panic, get lost, give up, or lose control.



H. Mental Health

Students reported experiencing the following within the last 12 months:

Felt overwhelmed by all you had to do

2019

Felt things were hopeless Male **Total** Percent (%) Female 34.2 23.3 26.3 No, never 17.9 No, not last 12 months 18.1 17.9 Yes, last 2 weeks 18.3 22.6 21.8 Yes, last 30 days 11.7 10.9 Yes, in last 12 months 20.7 24.3 23.2 Any time within 58.6 the last 12 months 47.9 55.9

Tele over whemled by an you had to do					
Percent (%)	Male	Female	Total		
No, never	14.8	5.2	8.2		
No, not last 12 months	6.9	3.2	4.3		
Yes, last 2 weeks	41.7	58.2	53.3		
Yes, last 30 days	15.3	16.2	15.9		
Yes, in last 12 months	21.4	17.1	18.2		
Any time within					
the last 12 months	78.4	91.5	87.4		

Felt exhausted (not from physical activity)

Tele exhausted (not if om physical activity)					
Percent (%)	Male	Female	Total		
No, never	16.7	7.1	10.1		
No, not last 12 months	7.3	4.3	5.2		
Yes, last 2 weeks	42.6	57.0	52.8		
Yes, last 30 days	15.3	15.9	15.6		
Yes, in last 12 months	18.1	15.8	16.4		
Any time within					
the last 12 months	76.0	88.6	84.7		

Percent (%)	Male	Female	Total
No, never	24.4	15.4	18.0
No, not last 12 months	17.6	16.3	16.5
Yes, last 2 weeks	24.2	30.1	28.8
Yes, last 30 days	11.3	14.9	13.8
Yes, in last 12 months	22.5	23.4	23.0
Any time within			

58.0 68.4 65.6

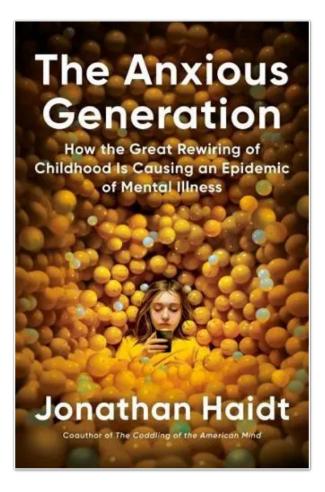
Felt very lonely

the last 12 months

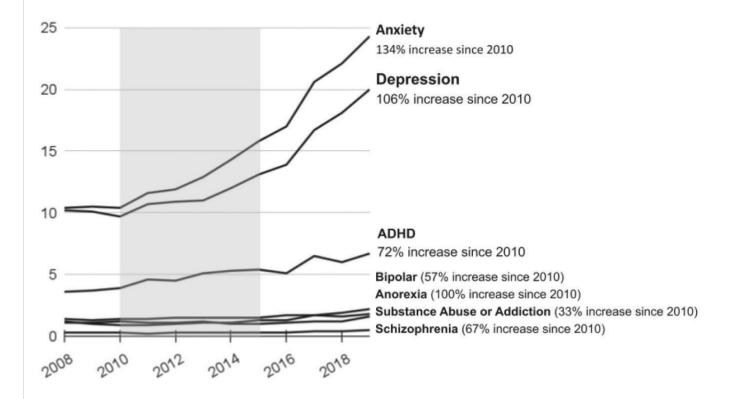








Mental Illness Among College Students



From *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt Source: American College Health Association









harlancohen 🧇 Original audio



oddballreviews Last semester, in August, I transferred to a big university from a community college, and it was really, really rough. The first four weeks of the semester were grueling and had me consistently feeling depressed and isolated. I also didn't do a lot of anything to get myself out of that situation; I was frozen by anxiety. But towards the end of the semester, it got better, and now, in my second semester (while my social life here is still lacking), it's much more comfortable being here. So there is light at the end of the tunnel.

1d 89 likes Reply

— View replies (3)



glaspergirl79 You have no idea how much this means to me. My freshman started in August, and although she's just 45 minutes away, things are@not the same. She's adjusting but it has been hard. I appreciate that she comes home on the weekends. I realize she needs this support and time with her family. I want to make everything better for her, but also want her have the full experience. Everything will work out, and I want her to know that it's perfectly normal that she's feeling they way she is. Everything will be okay. Thank you







Report: Stop-Outs Don't Know About Support Services on Campus

Not all college students know about support measures available to them at their college, making them more vulnerable to stopping out. New research indicates that institutional leaders should work to bridge communication gaps to increase student success.

By Ashley Mowreader

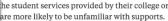
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In Tyton Partners' annual Listening to Learners study, only half of all students surveyed say their institution offered academic and career advising, financial aid counseling, and mental health counseling, despite an overwhelming majority of institutions providing these supports. Students who had stopped out are less likely to know these

services were offered, with only 44 percent recognizing academic

advising was available and 32 percent being aware of mental health







https://www.insidehighered.com/news/student-success/academic-life/2024/09/24/survey-gaps-persist-college-student-resource

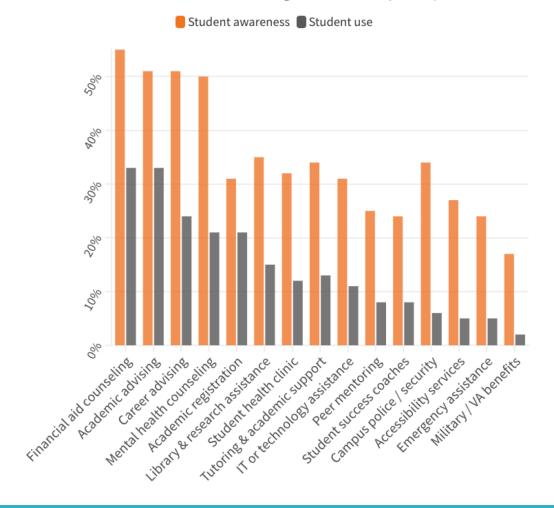


supports.



Students Unaware of Full Range of Resources Available

Share of students who indicated the following resources are provided to students on their college or university campus.



Sources: Listening to Learners 2024, Tyton Partners analysis • Survey questions: "Which of the following support services are available to you at your college/university? Select all that apply.", n = 1,526; "Which of the following support providers have you ever personally interacted with at your current college/university? Select all that apply.", n = 1,449

* A Flourish chart





17 THINGS YOU NEED TO DO BEFORE GOING TO COLLEGE...

- 1. WANT SOMETHING
- 2. EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED
- 3. GET COMFORTABLE WITH THE UNCOMFORTABLE
- 4. EMBRACE THE UNIVERSAL REJECTION TRUTH
 - 5. FIND YOUR THREE PLACES
 - 6. FIND YOUR FIVE PEOPLE
 - 7. PRACTICE PATIENCE
 - 8. TALK TO YOUR PARENTS

- 9. DEADLINES & CAMPUS EMAIL
- 10. Follow, Like, Post
- 11. READ THE CAMPUS NEWSPAPER
- 12. Know These Roommate Rules
- 13. Know These Relationship Rules
- 14. Ask, Budget, Work
- 15. HAVE RULES FOR GOING OUT
- 16. FIND ACADEMIC SUPPORT
- 16.1 MENTAL HEALTH TRANSITION PLAN
- 17. TELL YOUR STORY AS IF...

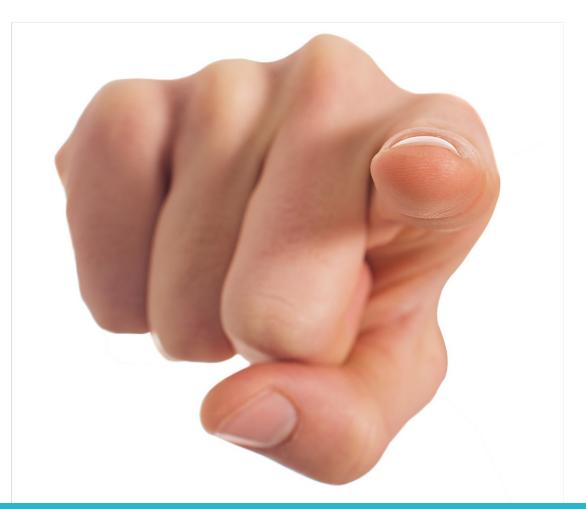




#1 WANT SOMETHING

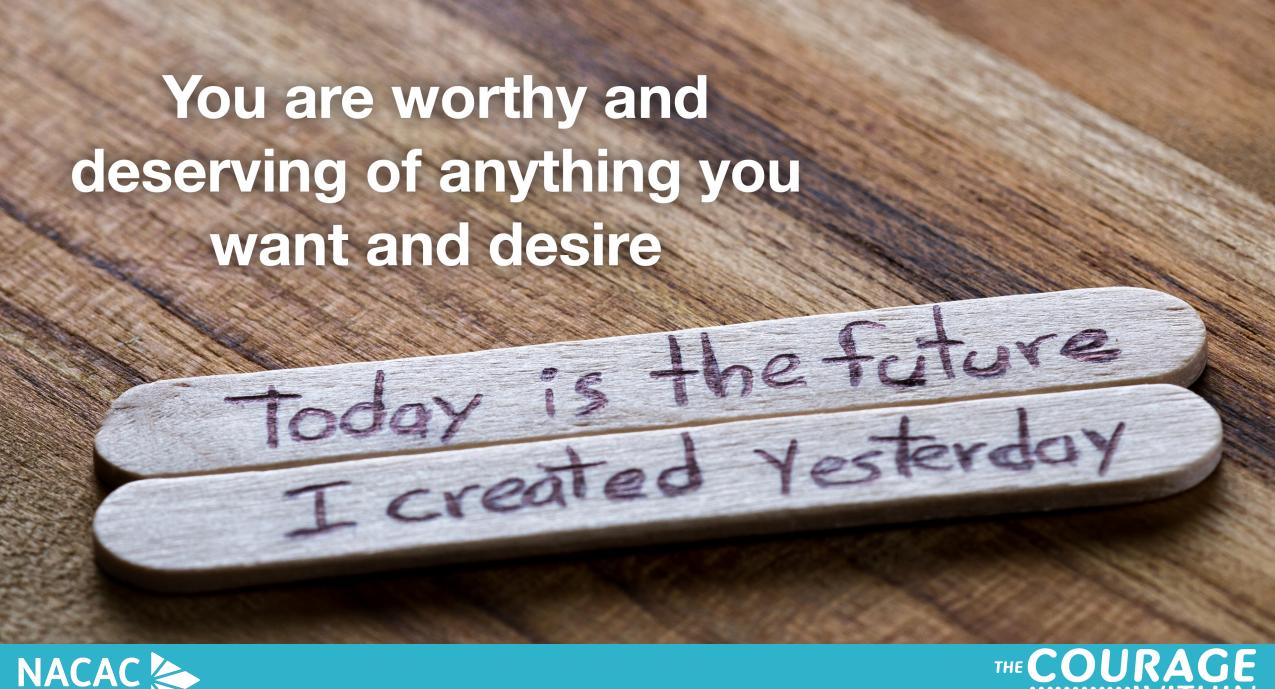
YOU ARE THE CREATOR OF YOUR JOY

YOU ARE THE MAKER OF YOUR DREAMS













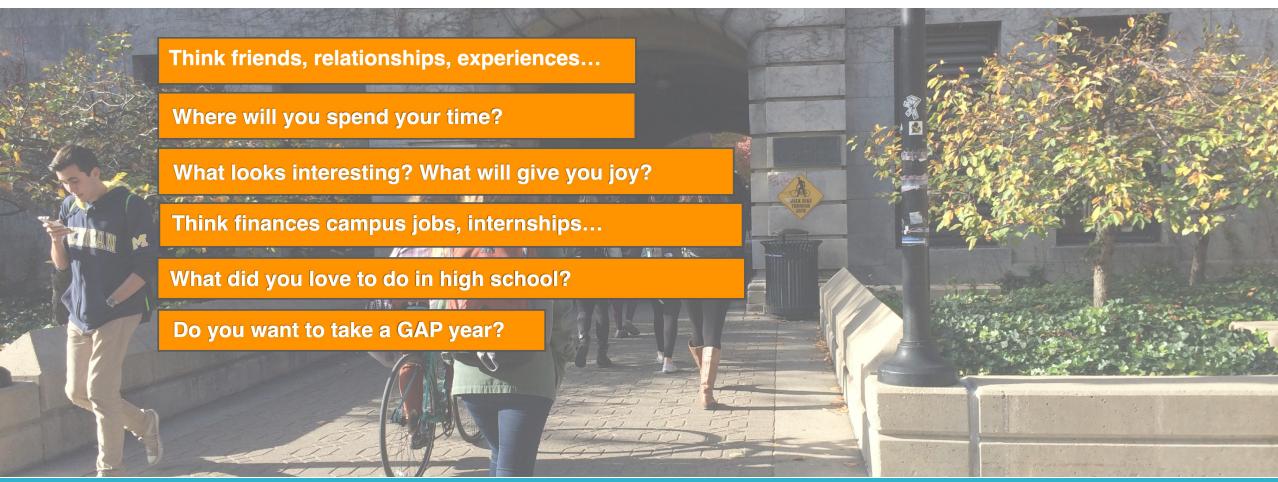
Forget about being wanted...





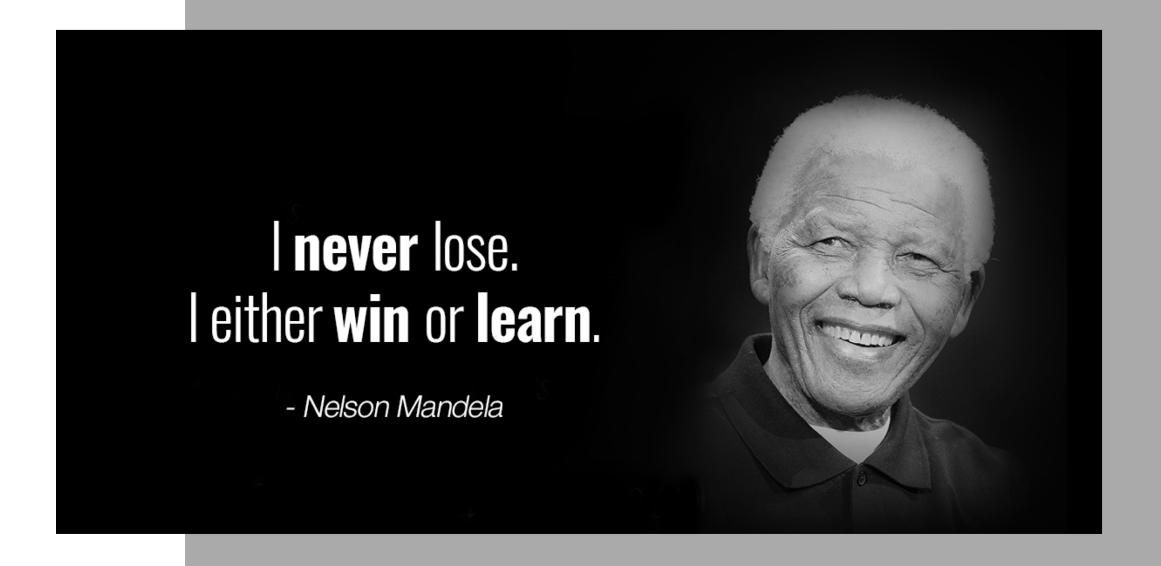


Focus on what YOU want Why do YOU want to go to college?













#2 EXPECT THE UNEXEPECTED

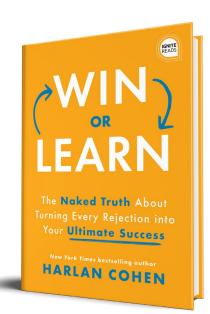


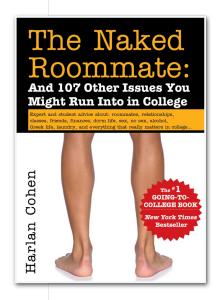
RAs Kim Cahill (Wheelock'21) (from left) and Kelly Bertkus (Wheelock'21) helping Abdullah Robins (CAS'21), who's showing his proof of a scheduled COVID-19 test before getting the key to his dorm. Showing proof of a scheduled COVID-19 test is required for all students moving into campus housing.

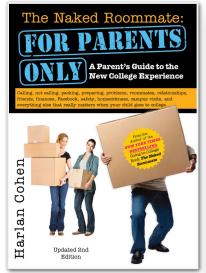


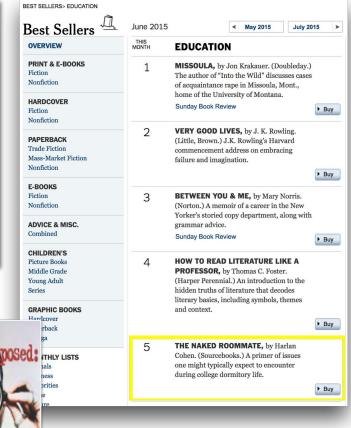


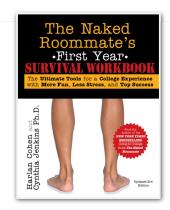
WHAT DO I DO? Research and Write Books

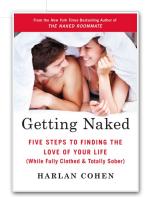










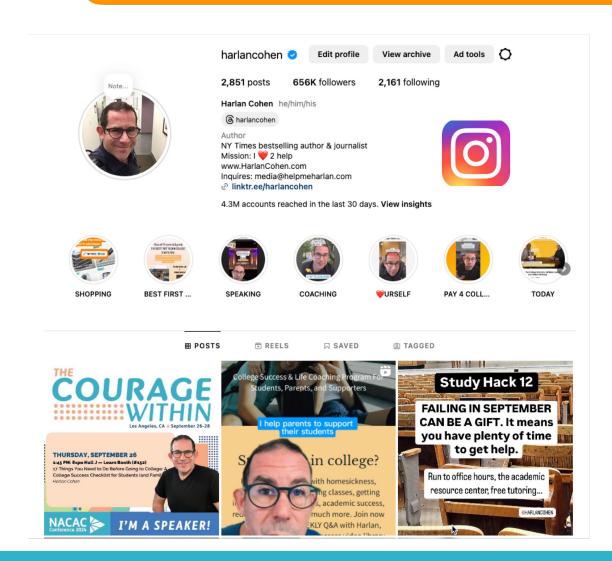


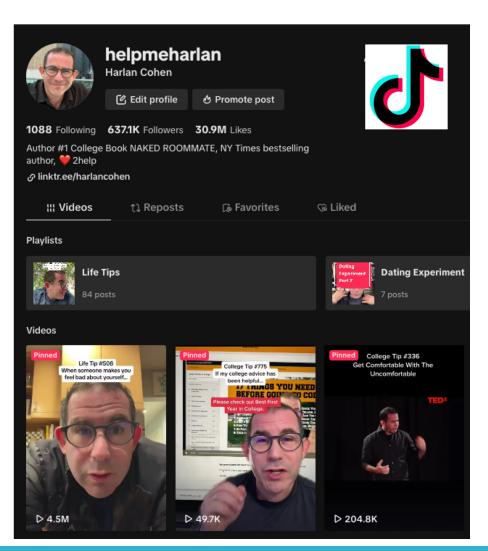






WHAT DO I DO? Support College Students









He does work out

He does do soccer intramurals

But his floor is quiet and just misses

belonging to a group of friends.

NOV 4 AT 6:44 PM

Hi Harlem! I'm a freshman at Tufts
University, and I'm struggling with
getting a good grade in an Intro class
with 250+ students. Our grade is solely
based on our quiz grades and I suck at
taking tests. I studied hard for my first
one and didn't end up with the results I
hoped for. Do you have any advice
regarding taking tests in college?

NOV 4 AT 10:03 PM

Have you gone over the questions with your prof? Or a TA? That's a great way to review the material and get to know your teacher.





Hey Harlan I'm very sure you won't be reading my dm but it's worth a try. I'm a freshmen in college at Morgan State University, and I've always been the outgoing type of person and it was always easier for me to make friends and be social. I've been giving it some time since I moved here in August and I have no one. I feel so alone and I've been feeling like it's too late to make some new friends and start living "the college dream" I've tried to join clubs and reach out to people that I follow on campus but it just hasn't been working out for me in the best way. I'm crying everyday and I have no more motivation. I'm sad all the time and my parents don't even know because I don't want them to feel bad for me after all they've sacrificed. I need help!

hi! just moved in to my dorm for my sophomore year. not sure if you have yet but can you do a video about making friends with/getting to know people on your floor? last year i didn't know anyone and i want it to be different this year

Congrats on the new school year! What did you do last year? I'd start there. A few suggestions: get involved in your residence hall association. Volunteer to be part of some group or committee. Keep your door open as much as possible. Sit at tables with people you don't know. If you have a friend or someone you get to know sit with someone new. Study and the study lounges. Study and open places in your residence hall. Say hi to people. Some of these people might not respond right away but overtime they'll realize you are a friendly, safe person.





AUG 31 AT 9:24 PM

I just found out that my freshman daughter's boyfriend has been going to her college several times a week to spend the night in her dorm with her. I am beyond mad! We paid an extra \$2000 for her to have a single room, not so she can play house with her boyfriend. Advice, please.





WHAT DO I DO? Teach, Listen, Share









WHAT DO I DO? I'm a dad of a grad















X Roommate was not my friend



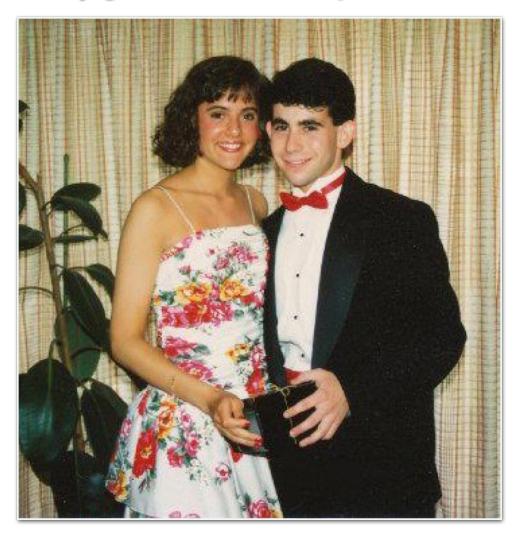
X Didn't get into a fraternity







X My girlfriend broke up with me...



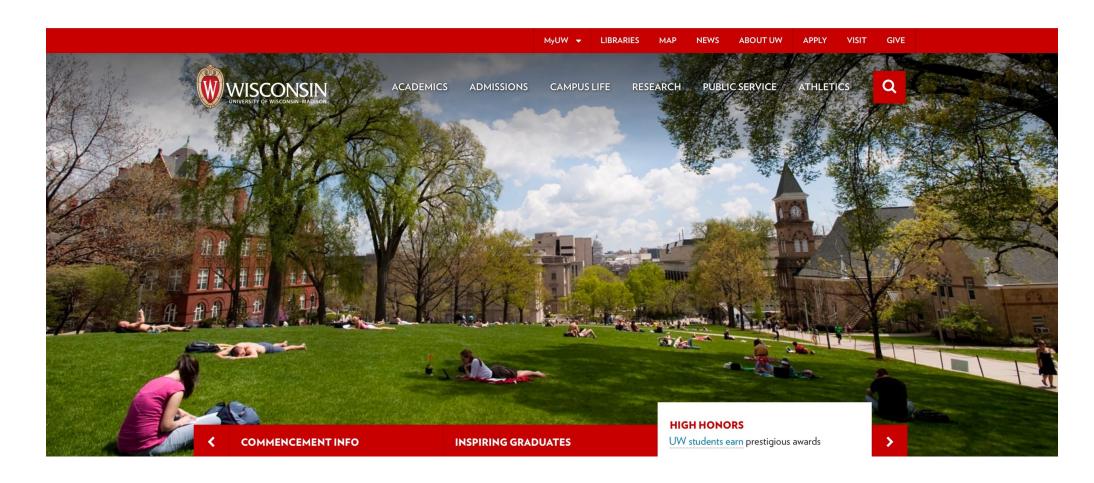
shot the LDR puppy







THE PROBLEM.... NO ONE TOLD ME COLLEGE COULD BE UNCOMFORTABLE.













I was depressed, anxious, and felt like a failure...

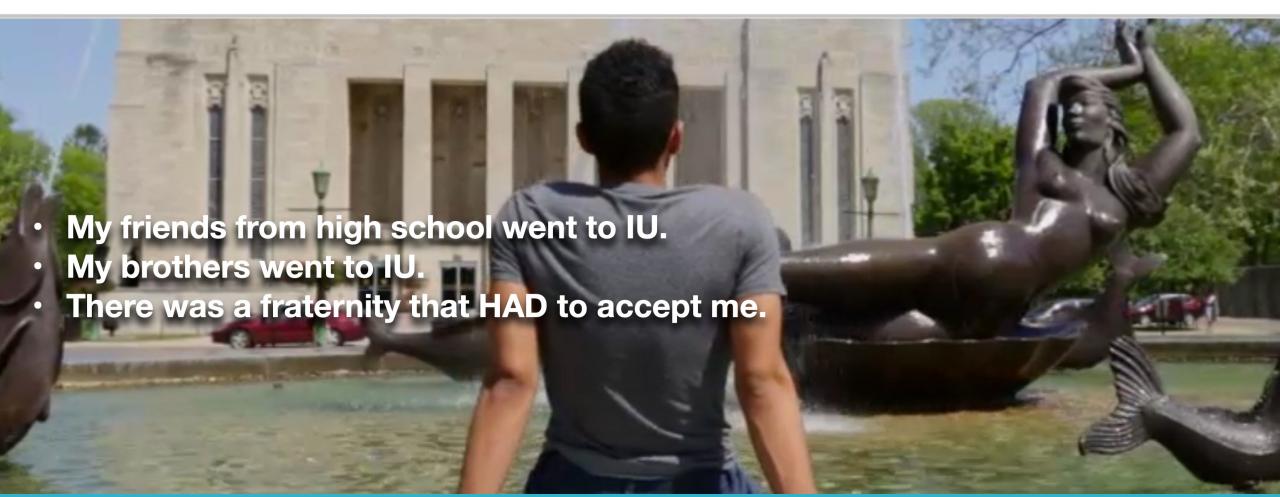








ABOUT ADMISSIONS ACADEMICS RESEARCH HOOSIER LIFE YOUR FUTURE ALUMNI & GIVING NEWS & EVEN







It took me a good year to get comfortable with the uncomfortable...

- I found my places
- ·I found my people
- I found my patience







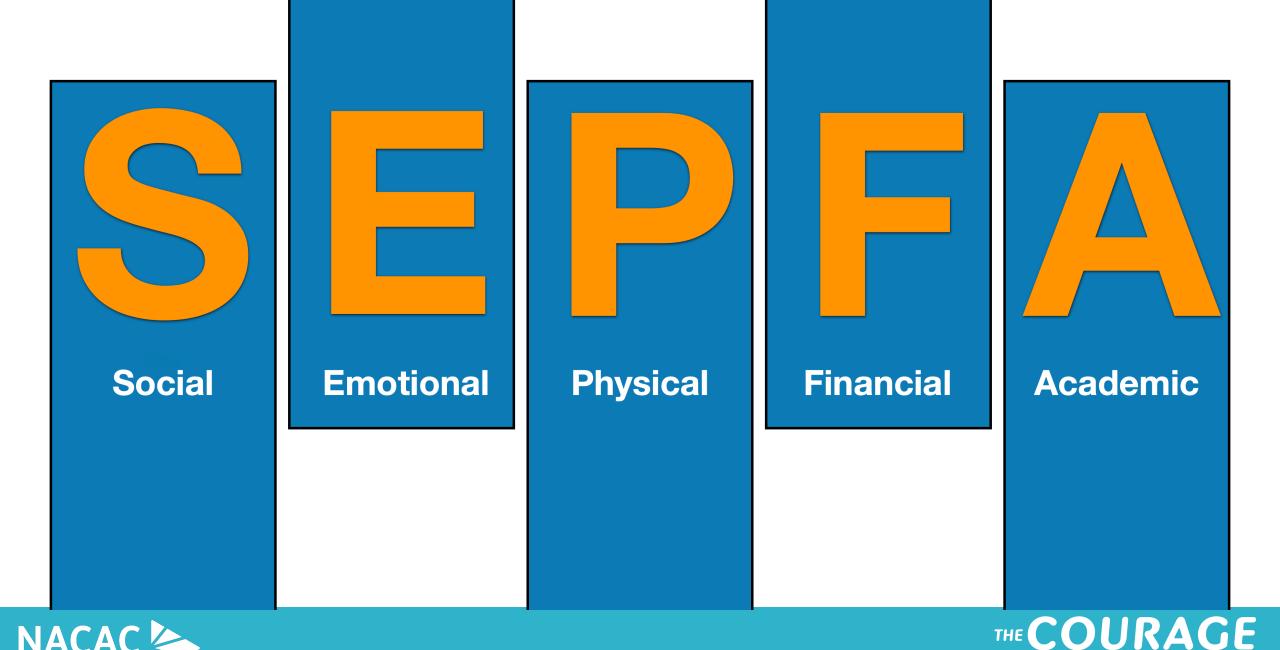




TRANSITION IS HIGH STAKES, EMOTIONAL, AND INTENSE







#3 GET COMFORTABLE WITH THE UNCOMFORTABLE







90/10 RUE

Life is 90% amazing

10% difficult (or a bunch of BS)







The secret...NEVER let the 10% take up 100% of your time!







f

 \vee





FROM THE HECHINGER REPORT





EDUCATION

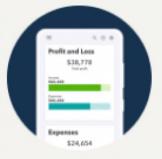
To help new students adapt, some colleges are eliminating grades

March 26, 2023 · 6:10 AM ET

By Jon Marcus



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#4 EMBRACE THE UNIVERSAL REJECTION TRUTH









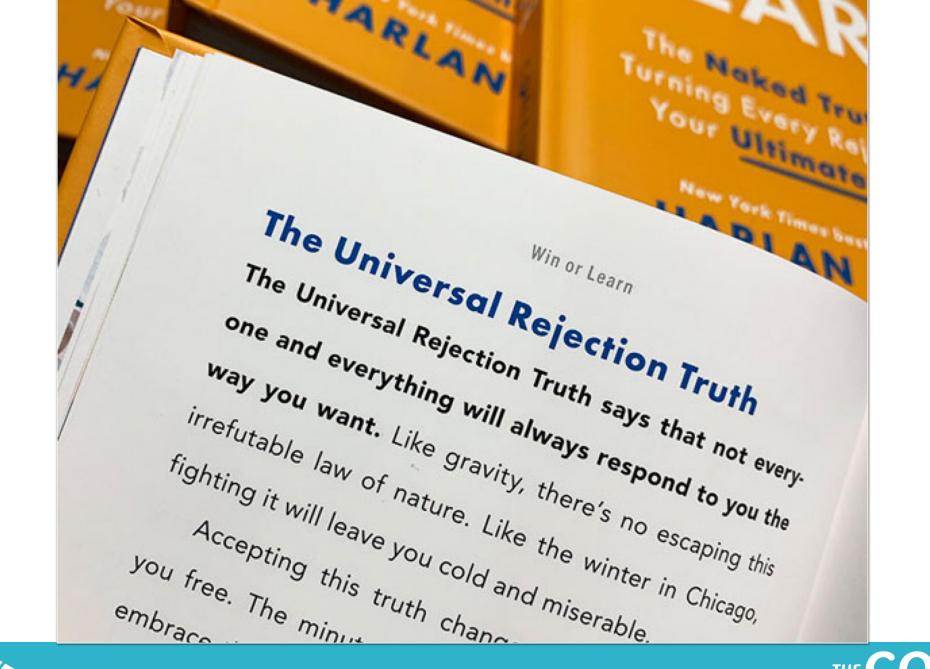
















You can be the MOST QUALIFIED You can be the VERY BEST You can do EVERYTHING RIGHT...





AND YOU WILL STILL FACE REJECTION





Tweet



STEM is hard for everyone—grades don't mean you're not good enough to do it.

Q 1,183

↑ 18.5K

85.5K





Replying to @starstrickenSF

Got a 2.4 GPA my first semester in college. Thought maybe I wasn't cut out for engineering. Today I've landing two spacecraft on Mars, and designing one for the moon.

STEM is hard for everyone. Grades ultimately aren't what matters.

Curiosity and persistence matter.

11:44 PM · 11/21/19 · Twitter for iPhone

Tweet your reply

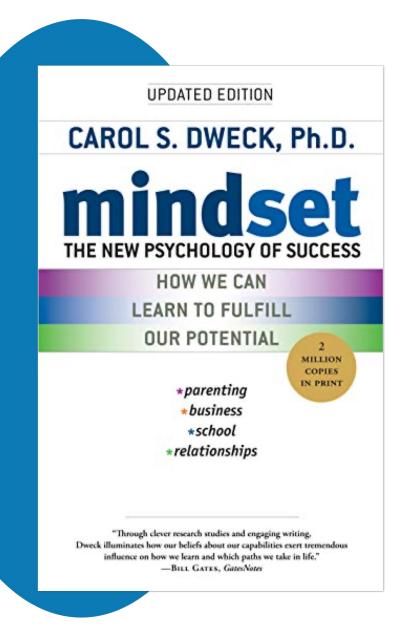












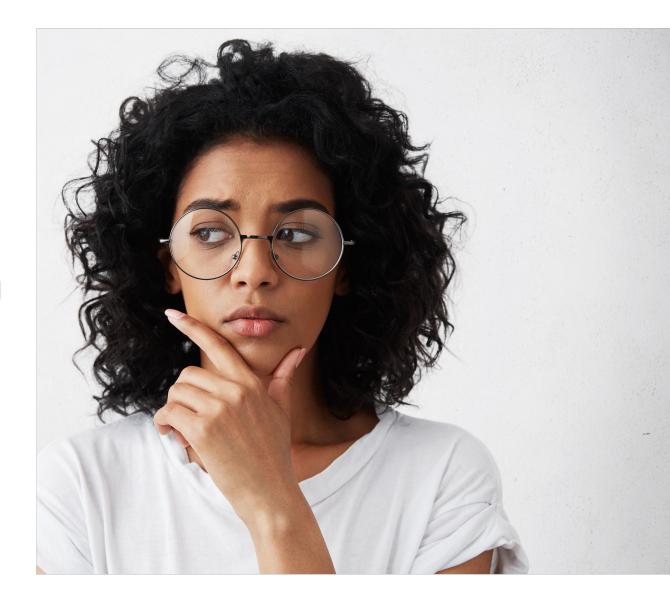
In order to fully embrace a growth mindset in all aspects of life, it's vital to embrace the Universal Rejection Truth. When rejection is part of being brilliant, successful, and accomplished, there is no shame, self-doubt, fear, or embarrassment if we don't get it right the first time. We are truly free to grow. Learning becomes an essential part of the process.





REJECTION DENIAL

A dark and dangerous place where you think everyone and everything should ALWAYS respond the way you want. When someone or something doesn't respond the way you want you tend to hate, hide, attack, blame, and shame...









Face The Truth

Look inward, look outward, and move forward with confidence and clarity...

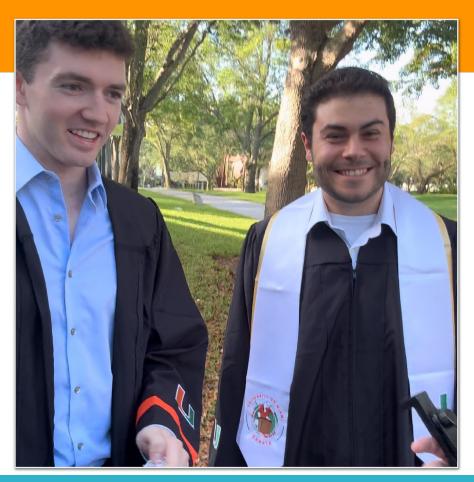




#5 FIND YOUR THREE PLACES

(VIRTUAL AND ON CAMPUS)









PLACES ARE WHERE YOU CAN...

Think clubs, activities, or organizations were you can...

- ***SWEAT**
- *PLAY
- *PRAY
- *LIVE
- ***LEARN**
- *LEAD
- ***LOVE**
- *WORK







Places

- Counseling Services
- Student Orgs
- Intramural / Club Sports
- Work Study Jobs
- Greek Life
- Performing Arts
- Campus Media
- Multicultural Center







PLACES



Badger Support Network

Badger Support Network (BSN) empowers UW-Madison students to create an inclusive community and support each other's identity, mental well-being, and day-to-day lives through peer-facilitated groups and bi-weekly community...



Badger Tank UW-Madison

An entrepreneurial club where students get the opportunity to collaborate and build a business plan over the course of the semester while also attending workshops with guest speakers to build onto their entrepreneurial strengths.



Badger Twins

Badger Twins looks to connect fraternal and identical twin pairs with other twins on campus. Being a twin myself, I know how different and unusual it all is. I want the organization to allow twins to connect with others and talk throug...



Badger Yogis

Badger Yogis is an organization at UW-Madison that celebrates community within the practice of yoga. While yoga is an individual physical practice, this club unites the physical and mental aspects of practicing yoga.



Badgerloop

Badgerloop is a student organization created to represent UW-Madison in the SpaceX Hyperloop Pod Competition. We design and build futuristic vehicle-like pods to be tested and raced at high speeds at SpaceX's headquarters in...



Badgers & Books

This organization connects undergraduate and graduate students to young students in rural communities. Badgers will work with K-6 students to improve their reading and to create exciting new learning environments for these students.





Badger Support Network

Badger Support Network (BSN) empowers UW-Madison students to create an inclusive community and support each other's identity, mental well-being, and day-to-day lives through peer-facilitated groups and bi-weekly community events. BSN connects students from all across campus to form heterogeneous, confidential groups. We hope to make the 40,000 student campus feel a lot more like home. We have weekly peer support groups as well as community events to bring campus together.

Contact Information

E: machoka@wisc.edu **P:** 651-666-9648





https://win.wisc.edu/organization/badgersupportnetwork





PLACES

DENISON

Campus / Get Involved / Student Organizations

Student Organizations



Getting the most out of your experience at Denison University means getting involved. There are more than 160 organizations on campus that are a vital part of the Denison University Community.

- Arts Organizations
- Club Sports & Intramurals
- Cross-Cultural Communities
- Events & Traditions
- Fraternities & Sororities
- ▶ Honoraria & Academic Interest Organizations
- Media Organizations
- Religious & Spirtual Life
- Service Organizations
- Social Justice & Advocacy Organizations
- Special Interest Organizations

Please note: This page does not contain a comprehensive list of student organizations and is subject to change.

https://denison.edu/campus/get-involved/student-student

Forms, Policies, Publications

Contact Us

Phone

740-587-6394

Slayter Hall Student Union 310

View all contacts »

Dana Pursley

Director

pursleyd@denison.edu 740-587-5557

Kim Bentley

Assistant to the Director

bentleyk@denison.edu 740-587-5556





Why three places?



- * ALWAYS somewhere to go
- * ALWAYS something to do
- * ALWAYS have options

SUGGESTIONS: Identify your places before arriving on campus and make sure at least 2 of these places is guaranteed access (you don't have to audition, apply, or be invited to join).





#6 FIND YOUR FIVE PEOPLE







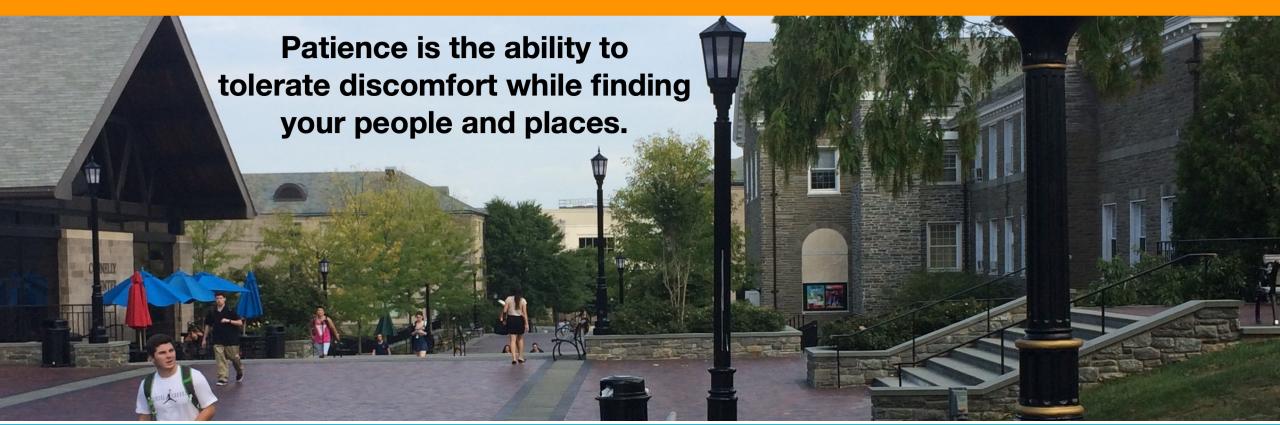








#7 PRACTICE PATIENCE













FOLLOW THE 24 HOUR RULE

What's going to happen?

→ **NOTHING** - The problem will still be there tomorrow.

+ **SOLUTION** - You (or your child) will solve the problem.

→ NEW PROBLEM(S) - The old problem will no longer a be a problem because new and exciting other problems will pop up.







#8 TALK TO YOUR PARENTS

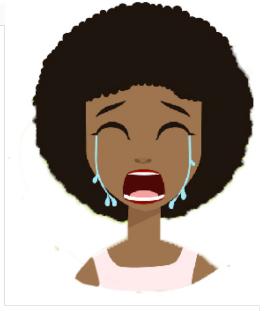


Talk about...

- Communicating
- Advocating for yourself
- Money / Budget
- Academic Expectations
- Getting Help
- HIPAA & FERPA

Are you looking to vent or do you want advice?











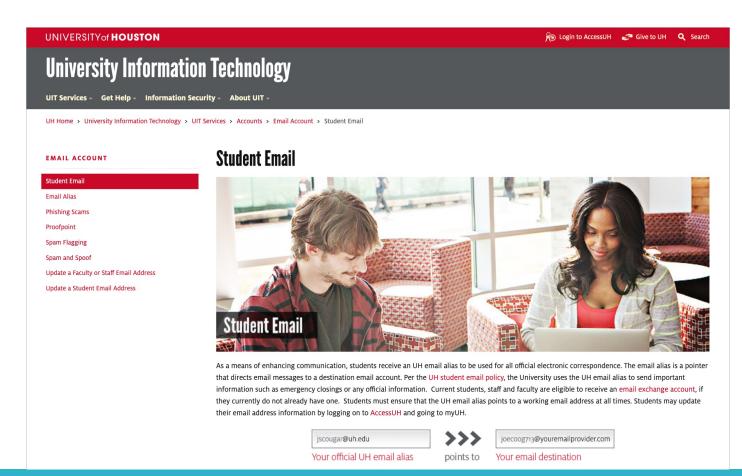
#9 DEADLINES & EMAIL

(CHECK YOUR SCHOOL EMAIL)

DEADLINES

- **☑** Transcript sent

- ☑ Orientation events
- ☑ Applied to programs Honors, First-Gen, CAMP
- ☑ AP Credits applied
- **☑ FERPA & HIPAA Waivers**

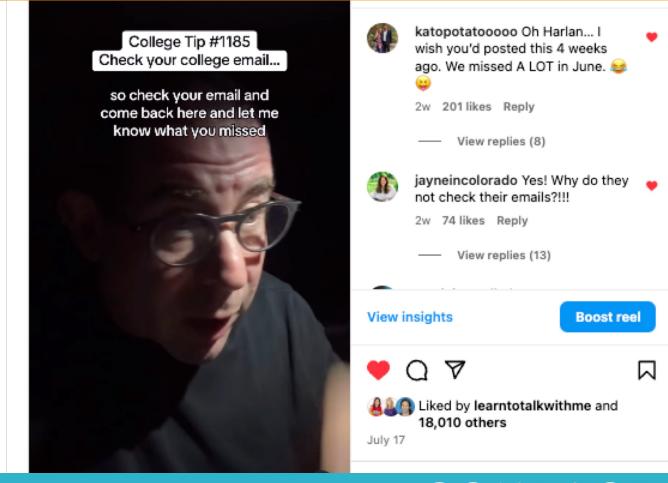






#9 DEADLINES & EMAIL

(CHECK YOUR SCHOOL EMAIL)

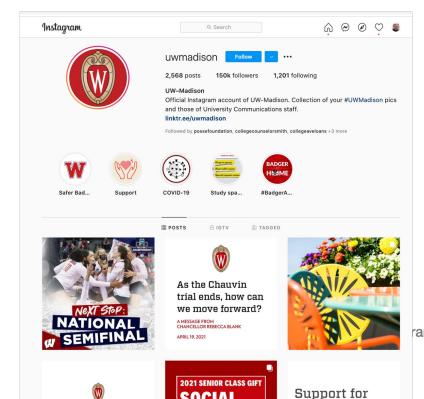






#10 Follow, Post, Like





HUB

COVID-19

WEEKLY UPDATE

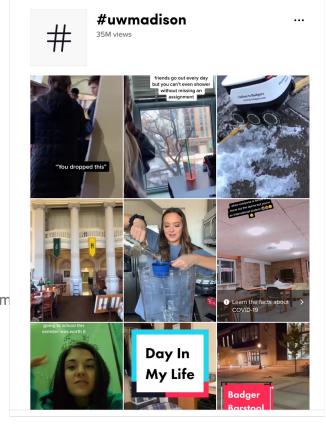
for undergraduates

April 14, 2021

our BIPOC

community

A MESSAGE FROM CHERYL GITTENS, INTERIM CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER

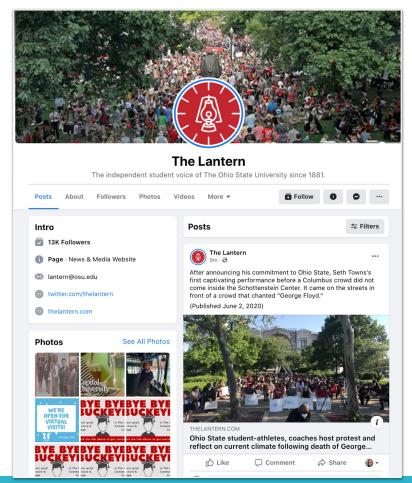






#11 READ THE CAMPUS NEWSPAPER







#12 KNOW THESE ROOMMATE RULES

RULE #1: Roommates who want to get along will find a way to get along.

RULE #2: Roommates aren't required to be friends (friendship is a bonus).

Rule #3: Follow the uncomfortable rule. The uncomfortable rule means you and your roommate agree to share what makes you uncomfortable within 24/48 hours of the problem. You do it face-to-face; not a text, not on Instagram, not on Snapchat.



Look into Living and Learning Communities (LLC)





#13 KNOW THESE RELATIONSHIP RULES

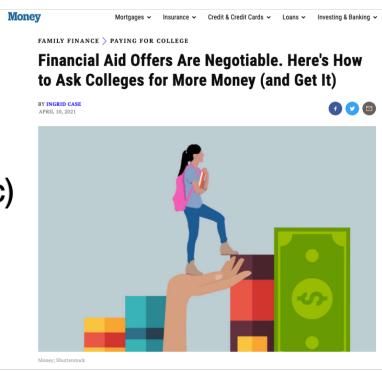
- I. Have a life independent of your significant other
- II. DO NOT restrict your significant other or be restricted
- III. Meet other people and form friendships
- IV. Stay on campus (don't leave every weekend)
- V. Learn to be happy while apart and you'll be happier together





#14 ASK, BUDGET, WORK

- ► See if you can get more money
- ► Put together a budget
- ► Investigate jobs that also pay tuition
- ► Plan for hidden costs (food, dues, fees, travel, etc)
- ► Talk to juniors and seniors to find the money
- ► Know how much your loans will REALLY cost
- Graduate on time or early
- ▶ Go to meetings with FREE FOOD!!!



https://money.com/college-financial-aid-appeal-for-more-money/





Student Loan Calculator

Use our student loan calculator to estimate your student loan.¹

	Mo
②	1410
②	
3	
3	
②	
	②③③



https://www.collegeavestudentloans.com/student-loan-calculator

JULY 19, 2019 BY HARLAN COHEN

The Benefits of Working on Campus



Want to make money, build new relationships, and create life-changing experiences in college? Work on campus. Getting a job should be required to graduate. College jobs help you discover what you love, and more importantly, what you don't love. They give you real world experience you can't get inside the classroom. Oh, and you can make money too. Lots of it. I asked students (past and present) to share their best college jobs.

Here are some of the highlights to help you pinpoint the best job for you.

Work-Study Jobs

Federal work-study provides part-time jobs for students with financial need. These jobs can be more flexible and have student friendly hours. If you're eligible (see your financial aid award letter), you'll need to apply for these jobs. Work-study jobs can have you working in academic offices related to your major, hosting campus tours, working the info desk, serving in the cafeteria, life guarding in the rec center, or doing

https://www.collegeavestudentloans.com/blog/the-benefits-of-working-on-campus/







Office of Student Financial Assistance www.smcm.edu 47645 College Drive St. Mary's City, MD 20686

TEL: 240-895-3000 FAX: 240-895-4959

The National Public Honors College

2024-25 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OFFER

April 22, 2024

Financial Assistance Offer Prepared for:

The Office of Student Financial Assistance is pleased to present your 2024-25 offer of financial assistance. Your financial assistance has been calculated based on our cost of attendance and your Student Aid Index (SAI) from the FAFSA data. Due to possible changes in the FAFSA data from the Department of Education, these awards may be subject to adjustment. We will notify all students of any changes that are made to financial assistance packages. You can access this letter at any time through the SMCM Applicant Portal.

SOURCE OF AWARD	FALL	SPRING	TOTAL
Trustee Scholarship	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$10,000.00
National Honors Award	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Federal Pell Grant	\$ 370.00	\$ 370.00	\$ 740.00
Federal Work Study	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Direct Subsidized Loan	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 3,500.00
Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
*Personal Resources, Payment Plan, PLUS or Other Loans	\$13,317.00	\$13,316.00	\$26,633.00

TOTAL	\$25,437.00	\$25,436.00	\$50,873.00

Student employment:

On-campus employment is available to all students, even if you are not offered an opportunity through the Federal Work Study (FWS) program. Students working on campus earn up to \$4,000 per year with our partnership with the Center for Career and Professional Development.

Parent PLUS Loan:







Need more money for college? How to write a financial aid appeal letter (and how ChatGPT can help)



Harlan Cohen

















Need more money for college? Is your financial aid not enough to cover the costs? Did you know you can ask the college for money if you're not satisfied with their financial aid package? Here's how to write your financial aid appeal letter (and how chatGPT can help).





#15 HAYE RULES FOR GOING OUT

Rules will help you make safe choices and set boundaries. People who don't respect your rules are not people you need in your life. If you want to avoid parties, schedule jobs, activities, and obligations that will give you a place to go at night.

----- Going out

Everyone who comes together leaves together

----- Hooking up

While totally sober or not at all

→ Staying safe

No walking home alone at night. EVER. Follow campus quidelines

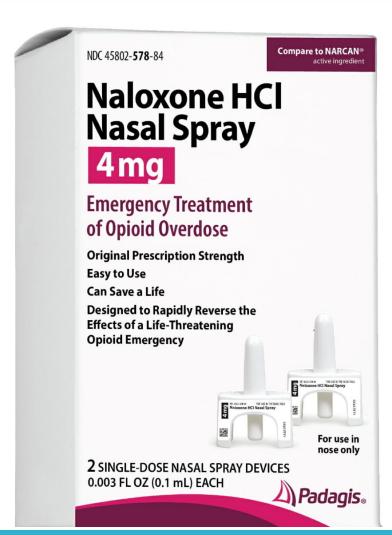






#15 HAVE RULES FOR GOING OUT

TALK ABOUT FENTANYL...

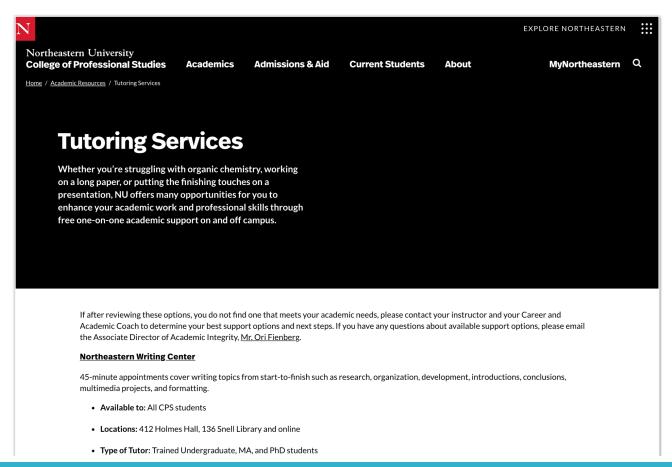






#16 IDENTIFY ACADEMIC SUPPORT RESOURCES

Identify academic campus support resources. Plan to study in the writing center and math center.







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#16.1 MENTAL HEALTH TRANSITION PLAN

WHAT'S A MENTAL HEALTH TRANSITION PLAN

- 1. List the changes and challenges that make you uncomfortable about life in college.
- 2. Identity specific people on and off-campus who will be in your corner to help you get comfortable with the uncomfortable.
- 3. Identify specific places on campus where you can find resources and support.
- 4. Reach out to the people in the places who can help you before you need help...





#16.1 MENTAL HEALTH TRANSITION PLAN



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F6II_zW3Rko





#17 TELL YOUR STORY AS IF IT HAS ALREADY HAPPENED...







Tell Your Story As If...

It's May 1, 2025 and I had the most incredible year! I reached my goals and accomplished (Fill in Outcome). The most challenging part was (Fill In). I got through it by leaning on (Person #1), (Person #2), and (Person #3) for answers and support. I found people to help me find answers at (Place #1), (Place #2), and (Place #3). It took me (Fill in Time) to get where I wanted to go. I'm so grateful and proud of myself and my accomplishments.









17 THINGS YOU NEED TO DO BEFORE GOING TO COLLEGE...

- 1. WANT SOMETHING
- 2. EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED
- 3. GET COMFORTABLE WITH THE UNCOMFORTABLE
- 4. EMBRACE THE UNIVERSAL REJECTION TRUTH
 - 5. FIND YOUR THREE PLACES
 - 6. FIND YOUR FIVE PEOPLE
 - 7. PRACTICE PATIENCE
 - 8. TALK TO YOUR PARENTS

- 9. Deadlines & Campus Email
- 10. FOLLOW, LIKE, POST
- 11. READ THE CAMPUS NEWSPAPER
- 12. Know These Roommate Rules
- 13. Know These Relationship Rules
- 14. Ask, Budget, Work
- 15. HAVE RULES FOR GOING OUT
- 16. FIND ACADEMIC SUPPORT
- 16.1 MENTAL HEALTH TRANSITION PLAN
- 17. TELL YOUR STORY AS IF...





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SEP 12

John Pryor: The data behind understanding college success and happiness

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17 Things You Need to Do Before Going to College













