

MAKING A SMOOTH TRANSITION TO COLLEGE

4 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

1. MANAGING TIME

In college, your days are not as routine and predictable as they were in high school. You may be in class just a few hours a day. Some new college students struggle with making the best use of their newfound freedom. You will be expected to make your own schedule as well as keep up with all of your classes, activities and work.

2. ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

It can be easy to fall behind in college classes if you simply maintain the same level of effort that got you through high school. Plan on studying two to three hours outside class for every hour spent in class. Don't expect your professor to seek you out if you aren't doing well on tests and assignments. It is up to you to find resources and to ask for help.

3. RESPONSIBILITY

Your parents will not be there to wake you up in the morning and ensure you make it to class. Your college professors won't make sure you are keeping up with the required reading and assignments. It is your responsibility to follow the class syllabus. Sometime the syllabus is the only notification you will receive about quizzes and assignments.

4. RELATIONSHIPS

You had years to get to know and get comfortable with your family and high school friends. It's all new in college. You will eat and sleep there, spend your free time there, live with new roommates and even do your laundry there. Keep in mind that it is an adjustment for all new college students and recognize that relationships can take time to develop.

// Getting involved in multiple extra-curricular activities has not only built my leadership skills, but also a group of lifelong friends! //

Julie De Jardin,
sophomore at Emmaus Bible College

5 REASONS TO GET INVOLVED ON CAMPUS

Much of your college career will happen outside the classroom. Although your studies should be your top priority, getting involved on campus is a great way to ease the transition into college and build your resume! The rewards you can gain from getting involved in part-time jobs, volunteer work, campus organizations and industry-related groups will follow you well beyond college graduation!

1. MEET NEW PEOPLE!

Join a club or organization to make friends and network with those who have similar interests, goals and values.

2. REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE

Career-related organizations offer an excellent opportunity to build leadership, communication and teamwork skills, all of which look great to future employers. Part-time jobs are also great real-world experience builders. Working while in college demonstrates time management and can be great for networking! After all, there is some truth in the saying "It's not what you know, but who you know."

3. VOLUNTEER

What better way to explore a potential career field and do something good for others than volunteering? Check out www.VolunteerIowa.org to find organizations seeking volunteers.

4. BUILD A CONNECTION WITH YOUR SCHOOL

Campus involvement often results in a stronger connection to your school. This will increase your college experience satisfaction and reduce the likelihood of transferring schools or dropping out.

5. FIND YOUR BALANCE

The key to successful campus involvement is finding balance between your school work and activities!