

# WELCOME TO COLLEGE

You are embarking on a great adventure. As a college student, you will assume new responsibilities and overcome obstacles. You will also develop lifelong friendships and many fond memories.



## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

People are generally more successful when they know what to expect. Here is what you can expect in college.

**Less time in class and more independent study.** Expect to do most of your learning on your own. For every hour you spend in class, plan to spend two hours reading, studying, and completing assignments.

**More personal responsibility.** You have a great deal of freedom and independence in college. No one monitors your progress or checks to see if you're going to class. *You are responsible for your own academic progress.*

**Challenging classes.** It can take some time to get used to the college workload. Keep a growth mindset, and remember that you have what it takes to succeed.

**Lots of distractions.** In college, there's so much going on that it's easy to get sidetracked. Don't let anything get in the way of your academics.

*Get involved in student activities and organizations. There's no better way to meet new people who share your interests and have some fun!*

## GET OFF TO A GOOD START

**Go to every class.** The importance of regular class attendance can't be overemphasized. Go to every class and sit near the front.

**Be organized.** Use an academic planner, prioritize tasks, and make daily to-do lists.

**Improve your study skills.** Many students find that their high school study habits just don't cut it in college. Find notetaking and review strategies that work for you. For assistance and advice, visit your school's learning (or tutoring) center.

**Get familiar with your school's LMS.** From course scheduling to class assignments, you'll be using your school's learning management system (LMS) a lot. Carefully review the system's features and mobile tools.

**Review academic policies.** Go through your college's website to read about registration procedures, add/drop policies, general education requirements, and other academic policies.

**Don't be afraid to ask for help.** Whether you're struggling with a class, personal problem, financial issue, or something else, there is someone on campus who can help you. Reach out to a professor, your advisor, a counselor, or someone in the financial aid office. *With so many people and resources there to assist you, there's absolutely no reason to go it alone.*

Starting college can be stressful. New people, new demands, new surroundings. For tips on dealing with stress, watch this short video.

