

WHAT TO DO PRIOR TO STARTING COLLEGE:

1. Develop a routine for eating, sleeping, exercising, and working. This will lead to excellent TIME MANAGEMENT SKILLS.
2. READ – and read some more. Successful college students must be able to read and write well. The best writers are readers. So read the newspaper, your favorite magazine, or a book for pleasure.
3. Learn how to CITE sources. Most first-year college students are required to take an English writing class in which you will research a topic, write a paper, and cite sources. Students will be expected to reference sources in footnotes, bibliographies, and to follow MLA (Modern Language Assoc.), APA (American Psychological Assoc.), or Chicago style guides. Plagiarism is a no-no – and some universities may have policies that include expulsion if a student is caught cheating.
4. RESEARCH which college courses to take. Check out course syllabi that are generally posted online. Many colleges post course and teacher evaluations – check them out.
5. STUDY THE CAMPUS MAP which can generally be found on the college's website. Mentally learn your way around the campus. Know where the Student Union is located; the libraries; the food courts; your dorm; and recreational center. Developing a mental map will save time later.