



10 Things We Want You To Know

- 1.** Don't go nuts. With the new found freedom of college life, one can develop bad habits. This must be avoided by setting new rules and limitations for yourself. Just because you are not living under your parents' rule does not mean you should do whatever you want. You must exert self-control and discipline in both your studies and your social activities in order to succeed.
- 2.** Don't expect to be best friends with your roommate. Many students go to college with the idea that their roommate will undoubtedly be one of their best friends. Unfortunately, this is not the case. Some roommates hardly even speak to each other. Most roommates have different habits, sleeping patterns, behaviors, and schedules. However, it is important to respect one another's space and develop a healthy relationship in which you can communicate freely about any problems.
- 3.** Familiarize yourself with the campus and all the resources it has to offer. Make sure you know your way around so you make it to class on time, as well as knowing where to find laundry rooms, workout facilities, libraries, computer rooms, etc.
- 4.** Do not limit your circle of new friends to those people who live near you. Reach out and keep meeting new people with diverse backgrounds. It's a good way to broaden your own horizons.
- 5.** Get a lanyard or key chain. It is important to keep track of all keys and ID cards so as not to misplace them, nor waste time looking for them.
- 6.** Do not spend all of your time trying to stay in touch with friends from home. Though it is oftentimes easier to associate with those you already know, it is important to open yourself up to new people and friendships.
- 7.** Be prepared for the weather. Many students forget that campuses are often big and sprawling, and to get from class to class students often have to walk a distance. Dorms are usually removed from the academic area, and are too far a walk between classes. Dress accordingly when leaving for class in the morning and be prepared to spend some time outdoors.
- 8.** Get to know your Resident Assistant. The RA acts as a two-way street relaying information between residents and the school administration. In order to hear about campus issues and also to voice your own concerns, it is beneficial for you to maintain a healthy relationship with your RA.
- 9.** Learn about public transportation and the area surrounding your college. Learn how to obtain resources outside of the college, as well as how to get home via buses, trains etc. Trips to your local pharmacy, the Gap, or the grocery store are all a little more complicated as most students don't have a car. It is therefore important to learn how to use other modes of transportation.
- 10.** Do not expect to get settled right away. It often takes students a period of time to get comfortable with their new environment and find the friends and activities that are right for them. Getting adjusted to college is a gradual process, and it takes everyone time to transition.