

Helping Your (At-Risk) Students Transition to College

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Tip #1: Take Counseling 95: Educational Planning Class

- Completes the Priority Registration steps so students will have earliest registration time possible
- Gives students an overview of how to transfer or get an AA, how to plan courses, how to balance their workload
- Teaches students about the differences between high school and college, how to be successful in college, what resources are at DVC, etc.
- Ensures students will be enrolled in the right classes their first semester
- Gives students real-life practice in attending a class at DVC!
- Introduces students to a counselor (DVC students are not assigned to counselors, but COUN 95 introduces students to a counselor and teaches them how counseling works)

Tip #2: Join a Learning Community

<https://www.dvc.edu/current/learning-community/>

- Puente
 - Transfer-focused program that celebrates Latinx culture and literature
- Umoja
 - Committed to the academic success and personal growth of African Americans
- First Year Experience (FYE)
 - Cohort for students in their first year of college – introduces students to GE and major classes in IT/Business, Communications, Psychology, and STEM
- MESA (Math, Engineering & Science Achievement)
 - Supports educationally and economically underrepresented students majoring in STEM fields

Tip #3: Join a Support Program (if eligible)

- EOPS (Extended Opportunity Program & Services) or CARE
- START for Former Foster Youth
- Disability Support Services (DSS)
- Veteran's Services

Tip #4: Connect to DVC

- Join a club
 - Examples: Pre-Nursing Society, ASDVC, MoCA, WoCA, LSA, QSA
- Utilize Tutoring
 - FREE tutoring in many areas: English, Writing, Math, Physics, Bio, Econ
- Work on campus
 - Work-study jobs connect students to faculty and staff and build skills
- Stay on campus to study
 - Library open on weekends! Free computer use
- Utilize Counseling Services
 - Academic counseling (how to transfer, get an AA, etc.)
 - Personal Wellness counseling

How to Help Prepare Students While They're in High School

Debunking Myths about Community College

- ***“DVC is just an extension of high school.”***
 - Students can feel empowered – they are truly in charge of their education
 - Students come to DVC from 50 miles of our surrounding area – students WILL meet new people!!
 - Different ages and life experiences
- ***“At community college you're only completing General Ed – you're not really working on your major.”***
 - Not the case—Major preparation is required for almost all competitive programs
- ***“Community College is only two years and you're done.”***
 - Students need to be full-time the entire time to transfer in 2 years (but most students work at least part-time)
 - Depends on where you start / if you change your major
- ***“Community College is only for people who couldn't get in to a 4-year college.”***
 - Students can save money (and sometimes time) by attending a community college
 - Students appreciate the small class sizes and teaching expertise at DVC
 - Some students who DID get in to UC's and out-of-state schools find it was not the right fit, and then they come to DVC to transfer to a different university
 - There is not one right path to complete higher education

How to Help Prepare Students While They're in High School

- **Give students a realistic view of what college will be like**
 - Work is expected to be completed outside of class time
 - Accommodations for disability are different in college (no modifications of work)
 - No School Loop or Homelink in college!
- **Help students explore career interests while in high school**
 - The more time they've spent considering different career fields and their interests, the better
 - The sooner they can pick their major, the faster they'll be on the path to transfer
- **Become familiar with resources at the next steps (for wherever your students are going)**
 - Examples: UC Berkeley Underground Scholars, SFSU Project Rebound
 - Health Centers and Free Therapy Services at most universities
- **Empower students and remind them they already have the skills to persist**
 - Many students have already developed resiliency as they have learned how to navigate different cultures, languages etc. They have the skills to be successful!