

PREPARING FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

CONGRATULATIONS! YOU'VE MADE THE DECISION to further your education. You are not alone—thousands of Maine adults become new or returning students every year. FAME recently asked some of these students for their advice on higher education success. Here are their tips:



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HIGHER EDUCATION SUCCESS CHECKLIST

PREPARE ACADEMICALLY

- Earn your high school credential
- Prepare for your courses:
 - Take a study skills course
 - Refresh your reading/writing/math skills
 - Update your technology skills

RESEARCH YOUR OPTIONS

- Research careers
- Research schools
- Learn about enrollment options—should you attend full-time or part-time?
- Learn about course format options—online, face-to-face or both?

COMPLETE ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Take placement tests
- Obtain copies of your high school/college transcripts
- Complete and submit college applications AND follow-up with the admissions office



DISCUSS YOUR DECISION

Discuss your higher education goals with the people that are important to you. Their support can be a key to success.

- Family
- Friends
- Employer

ORGANIZE YOUR TIME, TOOLS AND MONEY

Organize your time: study, work, self, and recreation

Organize your tools: computer, internet, notebooks, folders, books, study space

Organize your finances before and while you're in school:

- Save
- Get control of your finances
- Review your existing budget
- Prepare a plan for financial changes
- Make a plan to pay for your education
- Understand the financial aid process
- Research scholarship opportunities
- Keep or take control of existing student loans, if applicable

Look for tools within this kit to help you complete this checklist.