CONSIDERING SCHOOL? CHECKLIST FOR SUCCESS:

Student success is possible, no matter where and how you are learning. Preparation is key for academic and financial success. The following checklist will set you up for success.

DETERMINE IF YOU ARE READY
- Establish your goals. What do you want to do?
- Assess your priorities:
  - Do you have housing?
  - Are your basic needs able to be met?
  - Are you in recovery?
  - Is now a great time to pursue higher education?
- Create a school plan.
  - How many courses can you reasonably take at one time and be successful?
  - How long will it take you to complete the program?
  - How will you manage your time?
  - Do you have all the required technology?
  - Will you need to work while in school? If yes, what kind of job?

GET PREPARED ACADEMICALLY
- Earn your high school credential.
- Complete any required placement testing.
- Brush up on skills to get ready.
  - Study skills
  - Math/reading/writing
  - Technology
- Consider a Work Ready program through Adult Education.

RESEARCH CAREER & EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS
- Examine transferrable skills.
- Update your resume and identify jobs or roles you enjoyed.
- Explore careers at careeronestop.org, including things like roles and responsibilities, salary, and required education.
- Use mainespark.me/adult-promise/adult-promise-hub to find a college that offers programs you are interested in.

GET PREPARED FINANCIALLY
- Identify the status of and resolve any issues with prior student loans. Check Federal Student Aid at StudentAid.gov.
- File the FAFSA at FAFSA.gov, search for scholarships, and make a plan to pay for college.
- Determine the cost of books and be prepared to purchase them.
- Create a budget to keep you financially on track during your program.

Visit the Adult Learners section of FAMEMaine.com/Education for tips about education planning.

We’re here to help Maine people reach their higher education goals.