

TEN TIPS FOR COLLEGE BOUND ADULT LEARNERS

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GED Scholars Initiative

1. **Make the decision to actively pursue higher education**

First and foremost for you to understand is if I can achieve higher education so can you. Seek out ABLE teachers to assist you with locating colleges, their application deadlines, financial aid personnel, and a college advisor.

2. **Create a support team**

It's a nice idea to have people who believe in your dream of higher education. Family is always an excellent choice, but if you don't have a close family support system, you will have to be your own strongest proponent for your academic success. If you look, you will find people within your ABLE group to be on your support team. **KEY POINT:** Always be willing to pull yourself along the road to academic success; you must believe in yourself even if no one else will.

3. **Get organized**

Purchase a good date book and also a large home calendar so you don't miss important deadlines and/or family medical and school appointments. Choose either the first thing in the am or the last thing in the pm to check your schedule and calendar. Have a separate folder and tablet for each class. Keep it neat and tidy.

4. **Create a space for learning**

Look around your home for a space for your learning to take place separate from the rest of the family. It doesn't have to be fancy, just functional with all of your supplies: pens, markers, highlighters, stapler and staples, paper clips, rewritable CDs, computer and shelf for books.

5. **Designate the best time for you to study and write**

Life happens all the time and it might not be possible for you to study at the same time each day, but try as much as you can to keep the same schedule. The most preferable time is when you have the most undisturbed time, and also when you are the least tired.

6. **Take care of your health**

I've found that it works best for me if I stock my home with the necessary medical supplies to combat colds, flu, stomach ailments, and such before an event happens. The better planning you do, the less time will be spent running back and forth to the store whenever someone needs medicine. Get as much sleep as you can, drink plenty of fluids, eat fruits and veggies, you've heard it all before.

7. **Have back-up for family emergencies**

Arrange for a friend or family member to be on call in case your child needs help at school before you can get to him or her, or you have an important exam to take. Have their name and contact information on file at your child's school. Have a copy of your school schedule in plain view at your home for sitters and family.

8. Plan healthy meals & snacks to take with you to school

You will not do your best if you aren't adequately fueled. Also, snacks and drinks at college are very expensive.

9. Get connected

Locate and join an in-school support group for adult learners (non-traditional students). I found that such a group provides a wealth of invaluable information regarding computer training, tutors, workshops, and test taking tips. In addition, a support group allows you to share common interests and do some trouble shooting.

10. Be discouraged... but don't give up

Realistically, you can expect to be discouraged at some point in your journey towards academic success, this is normal. But, in order to achieve, you must not give up. I've discovered on my own journey that for every problem I encountered, there was always someone who either knew the answer or was able to direct me to someone who did know. Look for support in all things and you will find it. It has been my experience that most people will be proud of your pursuit and will be willing to assist you; those who are not..don't matter.

Good luck!

Marianne

GED SCHOLARS INITIATIVE

MENTEE PERSONAL INFORMATION

Information provided in this profile is confidential and will be used only to assist us in partnering mentors and mentees. Please complete the information in relation to your current experiences and return to Judy Franks, Mentoring Program Coordinator.

Personal Information *(Please include the information you wish your Mentor to utilize):*

Name _____ Date _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Gender Male Female Ethnic Background African American Native American Asian Pacific Islander Caucasian Multi-racial Hispanic Other _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____

Class Status FR SO JR SR Campus Location Kent Regional _____

Academic Concentration/Major _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone _____

1. How important is it for you to be able to talk about personal, as well as academic issues with your mentor? What kinds of issues are most important to you? What characteristics are desired in your mentor?

2. What are your expectations for this mentorship? Your answers will help you and your mentor develop a good and satisfying relationship.

3. Please describe any special interest/hobbies you would like to share or discuss with your mentor.

4. How frequently and at what times would you be able to meet with your mentor?
 How much time are you prepared to commit to mentoring? _____hours per month
 Can you commit to meet once a week with your mentor? _____yes _____no
 Do you have other obligations; such as employment, that should be considered in scheduling your time?

5. How did you find out about the GED Scholars Initiative?

6. Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

7. Do you have any special needs?

Thank you for becoming a part of the GED Scholar's Mentoring Program

Ohio Literacy Resource Center

Research 1 – 1100 Summit St., Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 44242
Judy Franks, Mentoring Program Coordinator
330-672-0753 or jfranks@literacy.kent.edu

OFFICE USE ONLY

Begin mentoring on	____/____/____	with	_____
	Date		Mentor

***Example of GEDSI Bridges Mentoring Form
Please make adaptations as necessary for your program.***