

Straight Talk

It takes a lot of hard work to succeed in college, but it's worth it. Read what some former ScholarShop students say about their college experiences. They offer some good advice to help you prepare for the challenge.

Getting an education is very important. You need to know what is beyond your neighborhood and your current experience. In college, you'll have more options and learn more about the world.

Dominic Ball, sophomore, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

College is a lot of fun, but it's a lot more work than you would expect. Take the harder classes in high school because then you won't be blown away by what college is really like. Allow a lot of time to study, but you will also want to get involved in activities on campus. College can help you become a well-rounded person. Try out a new sport or volunteer in the community. People skills are very important. You will need to get along with the new people you meet in college. People skills will also help you deal with the new situations you will find yourself in. You will need to be able to speak up for yourself.

Tiffany Freeman, sophomore, St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN

College is a big learning experience. In high school, you go from bell to bell. In college, you don't have teachers telling you what to do; you have to assume responsibility. In college, you want to maintain balance with academics, spirituality and social life. You have to have good study skills and make time to study. It's very important to maintain a social life, but academics are top priority. Watch the company you keep. Be very mindful of peer pressure – it can change your whole life. Get involved in clubs and organizations that can benefit you and help you grow as a person. Your goal in college is to find yourself.

Christina Lewis, sophomore,
Albany State University, Albany, GA

**Always reach for the moon
because if you fall short,
you will still be among the stars.**

