

Thaddeus Stevens Transition Checklist

Congratulations! We are so proud and excited that you are furthering your education beyond The School District of Lancaster. The Future Ready Center team is here to support you through the summer and into college! You can get support two different ways:

- Sign up for text messaging with the Future Ready Center:
www.tinyurl.com/McCaskeytext
- Complete this form to request a meeting:
www.tinyurl.com/TornadoRequest

Helpful Tip: If you are struggling with anything that isn't addressed here, you may also want to contact 211. Simply call 211 on your phone or message online with their staff at <http://www.pa211east.org/Lancaster>. All information is confidential, and they can refer you to local service providers who can help with anything including housing, food, and counseling.

Financial Aid

- ☐ **Complete Any Outstanding Financial Aid Verification:** Do you have any outstanding issues with financial aid that need to be addressed? If so, take care of those as soon as possible so you can access your federal aid to pay for school.
- ☐ **Complete Entrance Counseling for Federal Loans:** This is mandatory to receive federal loans. Failing to do so will leave you unable to use these loans for college. Complete the counseling carefully; this is important information about debt you are taking on.
- ☐ **Address Financial Gap by Requesting Additional Aid:** Your college may have additional aid available to assist you. Use SwiftStudent to complete a financial aid appeal, then submit the documents to your college's financial aid office. You can access the tool at <https://formswift.com/swift-student>.
- ☐ **Check For Outstanding Financial Aid Documents:** Access your MyStevens account, click Student Services, then My Financial Aid. Not sure of your MyStevens info? Email admissions@stevenscollege.edu.
- ☐ **Pay Tuition Bill:** Pay special attention to when your tuition bill arrives. There will likely be a fairly quick turnaround to submit your payment. To pay for your courses you will need to have all your financial aid finalized and loan counseling completed.

Registration

- ☐ **Submit final high school transcript:** Thaddeus Stevens requires a high school transcript as proof of high school completion
- ☐ **Submit Photo for Campus ID:** Send your photo to admissions@stevenscollege.edu. Send a photo where your face is forward. The photo should include a limited background and only show you from the shoulders up with no hat or sunglasses.

- **Attend Orientation Programming:** Thaddeus Stevens offers several different orientation programs. Check the Thaddeus Stevens website to find out more about these opportunities.

Get Campus Ready

- **Purchase a Laptop:** A laptop, while expensive, is extremely necessary for college classes. Regardless of the school you attend, it will be essential for completing your work. There are some low cost options, like Chromebooks. You don't need that MacBook pro unless you are in a program that specifically requires it. If you are struggling financially, contact your college, they may have loaner laptops you can borrow for a set period of time. Make sure to purchase whatever supplies you need for your program and anything you need for your dorm if you're living on campus. Here's a list of items you should plan on bringing: www.tinyurl.com/SeniorCollegeList.
- **Purchase Tools:** Tools are required on the first day of class. You can find a full list of tools at www.tinyurl.com/stevenstools. NOTE: If you receive the Stevens grant you will *not* need to purchase your tools, you do not need to order these items. Check your MyStevens portal to check if you are receiving this funding.
- **Purchase Textbooks:** Do this as soon as you're signed up for classes. Check your campus bookstore website for the list of books you will need for each course. NOTE: If you receive the Stevens grant you will *not* need to purchase your textbooks, you do not need to order these items. Check your MyStevens portal to check if you are receiving this funding. **DO NOT** purchase your books from your college bookstore if you can avoid it. Consider the following cheaper options:
 - **Rentals:** Great if you need them for a general education course not in your field of interest. www.Bookscouter.com allows you to see the cheapest rentals across all the largest textbook websites. Just make sure you return your books in time and in good condition, you don't want to get charged extra for them.
 - **Purchase Used:** Use www.Bookscouter.com to find the cheapest textbooks available. Simply put in your ISBN code and it will show the prices for that textbook across all the largest used textbook websites, so you can quickly compare and save money. You can then use Bookscouter again at the end of the semester to sell those same books back to those same companies.

Don't forget: You are brilliant! You are your own best advocate. Best of luck with your future endeavors, we are so proud of you. Don't forget to stay in touch!

Congratulations

Class of 2022!