

## Questions to Ask a College Advisor

Would you like to talk to someone about starting college classes, but don't know what to ask? Here is a list of questions that you can ask when you call or visit your local college. Whether you would like your classes to start right away or in the future, these questions will help you get the information you need from your early childhood education advisor. Some of the questions may not apply to you or your situation. This list is meant to be a helpful to all, no matter your goals

### GETTING STARTED

1. Are you an ECE or Education programs advisor? If no, how do I locate/contact this person? If yes, can I schedule a phone or in-person appointment to ask some questions?
2. How do I apply for admission to the college? Is there an admissions fee? If there is an admissions fee, is there a waiver or funding available to cover the cost?
3. Will I need a student ID? When and how do I get one? Is there a cost?
4. Is there a test that is required before I can register for classes?

### FUNDING

1. How can I afford to pay for college?
2. What is the cost of tuition?
3. How much will my textbooks usually cost each quarter
4. Is financial aid available? How do I apply for financial aid? When can I apply for financial aid? What will the aid cover?
5. What is FAFSA and WASFA? Do I need to apply for either of these to be eligible for financial aid?

### EARLY LEARNING PLANNING

1. What Early Childhood Education certificate and degree programs are available at this college?
2. Do you have a list of the courses I need to complete to get my certificate or degree?
3. Do you have the certificate or degree I need for my job or for my future goals?
4. What career opportunities will I have when I graduate from this program?
5. Which certificate or degree is what I need for current education requirements?
6. Is there a way that any of my prior experience or credentials may help count for credit through a prior learning assessment? (example CDA or prior experience)
7. Do I have to complete any prerequisite courses before I can enroll in a specific course that is required for my program?
8. If I need an education plan for my employer, how can I obtain one from the college?
9. How long will it take to complete my certificate or degree?
10. How do I plan my class schedule so that I don't have to adjust my work schedule?
11. If I have other college credits, will you accept them? Is there a cost?
12. Is there anything else I need to know to be successful in this program? (For example – registration process, financial aid requirements, college orientation.)
13. Can I do this? How much time will my classes and homework take? Will I be able to keep up? Do I need to have prior experience and knowledge to be successful in my program?

### DELIVERY METHODS

1. When are classes offered? (evenings? weekends?) Will I be able to complete my education within the time I have available?

2. How do online classes work? How do hybrid classes work? What is the difference between these options and a face-to-face class?
3. When are face-to-face or hybrid classes offered?
4. If I need help in my classes, is there tutoring available? Whom do I ask? Is there a cost?
5. English is not my first language. What services or classes are available for me (interpreters, tutoring, etc.)?

#### STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. What happens if I fall behind in a class or cannot complete a class? Who can I talk to if I am having trouble understanding my assignments or I am not doing well on tests?
2. At this time, I am not sure if I will want to continue my education after this certificate or degree. If I finish my certificate or degree and then I want to come back to college in a few years, will my certificate or degree and college credits count toward another program?
3. If I do not finish my program at this college, can I finish it at another college?

#### STUDENT SUPPORTS

1. Do you have on-site child care? Can the college help me with transportation?
2. What kind of student support services are available on campus to help me while I am enrolled at the college? (lending library, food bank, emergency fund, tech support, computer lab, library hours, food pantry)
3. What other funds are available that I can access to help with purchasing student supplies, transportation, or other emergency needs.

#### OTHER

1. Can I talk to a current student in the program to find out what it is like?
2. Do I need to buy a parking pass? If so, are there waivers or funding that can help cover the cost? Where do I go to get a parking pass?