

CHECKLIST 5: I'M OFF TO COLLEGE

LAST MINUTE SUMMER CHECKLIST:

- Complete housing application (if applicable) and pay deposit.
- Once you pick a college, request final High School transcript from the Registrar's Office – the request will be a separate form from the original transcript request and will become available to you in May.
- Do you have a current Bacterial Meningitis vaccine? Check your immunization record to see if you have been vaccinated in the last 5 years. If not, and if you do not have health insurance, you can pay for it at the Taylor County Health Clinic located at 850 North 6th Street Abilene, Texas 79601. Walk-in basis only on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Please bring immunization record with you. Call 325-692-5650 for current cost.
- Register for Freshman Orientation. (This typically happens in the summer and is usually mandatory. If there is a fee, but most universities will apply it to your bill in the fall. It is often when first-time freshmen register for classes.)
- Do you understand how the financial aid disbursement process works next fall? Check with your financial aid officer or college advisor if you need to review your award letter and get details on financial aid.
- Do you understand your college expenses and your debt ratio? Direct vs. Indirect costs? If not, talk to your college advisor or financial aid advisor at your college.
- Do you need to take any additional Texas Success Initiative Tests (i.e. Accuplacer)? If so, do they offer them at Freshman Orientation? If not, you can take them for a fee at Cisco College or TSTC. Call for times or appointments. Cisco College in Abilene @ 325-794-4400. TSTC in Abilene @ 325-672-7091.
- What is your transportation to your college campus... aka... do you have a ride?
- Who do you contact this summer or in the next few years while you are in college if you run into a financial aid, housing or other major college problem and cannot figure it out among your resources at your university?

You can always call COOL at 325-677-1444 ext. 1283 or christine.curtis-carr@abileneisd.org. DON'T DROP OUT, DON'T GIVE UP – CALL FIRST AND WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO HELP YOU NAVIGATE!



WHAT TO BRING TO COLLEGE:

- Bedding supplies: Find out what size bed you will have – twin or extra-long twin. Bring a sheet set, pillow, comforter or heavy blanket and pillowcases.
- Bath and Toiletries: Find out what your bath situation is. Do you have a private bath, do you share with another room or is it community? If it is community, you will want a bath tote to take your items to and from the bathroom/showers. If you share with roommates you will most likely be responsible for bringing your own toilet paper. Don't forget towels, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush and all those other personal items. Remember this is your new home even if you aren't going that far away.
- Laundry Supplies: Will you need quarters, are the washers free to students, or do you use the student card? Bring detergent (does it have to be high efficiency only), hangers, iron, dryer sheets and a laundry basket.
- School Supplies: Is your laptop, iPad or Kindle compatible with services offered at your university? Is there Wi-Fi in your dorm? Bring a charger and headphones. Desk lamps, pencils, notebooks, composition books, calculators, stamps and notebooks are all handy to have on you. Tests in college which require a Scantron must be purchased by YOU ahead of time and are not free like they are in high school. Remember all those chargers for phones and an outlet strip/surge protector, etc.!
- Clothing: Bring enough to fit in your closet space and drawers. Don't forget plenty of undergarments and socks. If you run out of money for the wash, if you have a couple weeks' worth you will be so very glad you do! Bring at least one business outfit for special classroom presentations or if you receive an interview for an internship.
- Room: Talk to your roommate about decorations. Many dorm policies restrict what can be placed on the walls so check your school policy. A dry erase board to exchange notes between you and your roommate or to let others know when you will be back is a great way to keep in touch. You can divide up who will bring curtains, wastebaskets, fans, rugs if interested. Let your roommate know how much you can spend so you aren't stuck with a big bill from him or her!
- Bring cleaning supplies such as glass cleaner and all-purpose cleaner with paper towels. If your dorm allows cooking supplies, a microwave, toaster or coffee maker give it a homey touch.
- Don't forget documents such as driver's license, insurance cards, emergency contact information, debit card and social security card.
- Remember your smile. It's a great way to make new friends.