Campus Connectors
Fall 2023
Campus Connector Info

- Started in 2015 - Housing & Student Life
- Research shows that students who are connected with staff/faculty member are more likely to be successful academically
- Research also shows that students who are involved and engaged on campus (sense of belonging) are also more likely to be successful
- Average 6 - 8% higher retention into year 2 (higher for underserved students)
GOALS

○ **CONNECT:** Get to know the student/provide adult “mentor”

○ **ENGAGE:** Help create a sense of belonging

○ **TRANSFORM:** Assist in creating a positive first-year experience
Campus Connector
Outcomes

- A Sense of Belonging
- A Resource at their Fingertips
- Roadmap Transition into the East Bay Community
Campus Connector Virtual Experience

COVID Precautions

Logos for Zoom, Instagram, YouTube, Houseparty, Soundcloud, and BaySync
Take a stroll around campus.
Cheer them on with a text or zoom sesh!

What’s 6 feet apart?
Imagine two large dogs standing nose to tail.
Keeping space between yourself and others helps avoid spreading illnesses.
Fall
Proposed Activities
CONNECT ~ ENGAGE ~ TRANSFORM
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Proposed Activity</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July-August</td>
<td>Campus Connector review online resources to prepare for role</td>
<td>Ensure CCs feel comfortable with initial meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Provide CCs with assigned student contact info</td>
<td>CCs make initial contact with students</td>
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<tr>
<td>First month of Fall &amp; Spring semester</td>
<td>Reach out to with assigned students</td>
<td>Check in on how transition to college is going</td>
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<td>Throughout Fall &amp; Spring Semester</td>
<td>Invite assigned students to virtual outing</td>
<td>Coffee, lunch, attending sporting events, etc. (optional)</td>
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<td>Week 8/9 of Fall/Spring</td>
<td>Interact with assigned students</td>
<td>Check-in/answer questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14/15 of Fall/Spring</td>
<td>Interact with assigned students</td>
<td>Check-in/final exams/holiday plans</td>
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Gear Up for Success with Your Campus Connector Student
First 1 Month of Semester

- Reach out and make a first connection to student!
  Goal of 15 minute check-in - Phone, Zoom, Gchat Video
- Sample questions:
  - How is your first week (s) going?
  - How were the virtual classes?
  - Did your books arrive on-time?
  - Did you enjoy any campus activities?
FAQ

Common questions during the early transition period for new students (1st month):

- Virtual East Bay Experience
- Campus & Housing Resources
- General Education
- Financial Aid
- Job - Which can lead into chats about importance of getting involved and getting experiences.
- Academics - Which can open into sharing about academic culture and expectations (i.e. importance of going to class, getting to know faculty).
Throughout Semester
Periodic Check-In

- Say “Hello” and invite to attend a virtual campus event together!
- Sample questions/conversation starters:
  - How are things going?
  - Did you hear about [_____] activity?
  - Do you have time for zoom chat?
Tips & Tricks!

- Identify if your student prefers text, emails, or other types of communication. If you are open to the option, many students prefer to text!
- Utilize BaySync to identify upcoming campus events.
- Don’t forget about U-Hour that offers many programs on Tuesday/Thursday during lunch, and without fear of class conflict.
“How’s it going?”
Sample questions/conversation starters:
- Have you heard about [department], let me help introduce you to them. They can help you learn more about..
- Have you consider Office Hours with your faculty.
- Did you know that about these free online resources?
Quick Check-In to Inquire:

- Upcoming Final Exams
- Holiday Plans
- Congratulate student on nearly finishing their first semester, and let them know you/campus are excited to see them return in January for Spring Semester
Tips to Creating Impactful Interactions with Students

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Following 10 “Tips” identified from research to support underserved students

Huynh, M. D. (2008) Student Validation and Persistence in College: The Relationship of Underserved Students and Their Interactions with Institutional Member
10 Quick Tips

Show Interest - Initiate!
Provide greeting, address by name, show recognition of student.

Listen to Students
Listen first to understand student/needs, prior to jumping into solution mode.

Demonstrate Care & Affirm Belonging!
Show student we value them! “Show” by taking time to speak to them, timely response, and follow-up with student.

Normalize Challenges
Show empathy & understanding when student shares about challenges. Affirm perception of challenge, provide reassurance, and guide to resources.

Celebrate & Value
Acknowledge students’ success, achievements, resiliency, and more!
10 Quick Tips

Share Your Story!
Just remember that personal stories are not meant to compare achievements or ability to navigate challenges of students to you.

Partners in Learning
Work together to create plan for next steps and provide support as needed.

Recognize Holistic Experiences!
Remember students' experiences could include personal past and current lives, curricular and co-curricular experiences.

Build Support Networks
Help your student build a web of support and resources throughout campus that is tailored to their needs.

Thank You - Come Again!
Invite students to engage with you again. Do so via follow-up email, text, check-in call and more.
Together Let’s Provide Campus Connections

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Contact Us At:
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