

Roadmap Survey Results Interpretation

University of Minnesota Duluth

#1 –Co-Curricular Activities: You are encouraged to be actively involved in at least one student organization and to attend a variety of campus events and activities. These activities foster your connection to UMD and allow you to use marketable skills, such as team work, communication, and leadership. Read the flyers posted on campus walls and become involved. Remember that student organizations post announcements because they want you to attend.

#2 – Preparing for Class: You should minimally spend two hours outside class for every hour in class. College-level learning takes effort and a variety of strategies - all of which take significant time.

#3 – Faculty or Staff Member: Research shows that students who know one faculty or staff member that they can turn to with questions or concerns are more likely to stay in college and graduate. Stop in to chat with your academic advisor, meet with your instructors during office hours, or chat with the department secretary. Connect with at least one professional on campus.

#4 – Good Friends: Having a few good friends makes life more pleasant and will increase your sense of belonging at UMD. Be open to making new friends by joining a student club, attending campus events, talking to classmates before class, or doing homework in a public space. Instant friendship is a lot like love at first sight - more fantasy than reality. Valued friendships take time and effort.

#5 – Grades of C or Better: Grades matter. If you begin to struggle in a course or two, don't wait until the next exam to take action. Assess your study habits and techniques and set specific goals related to what you want to learn before the next exam/assignment. Evaluate your course attendance and whether you're making the most of campus resources, like faculty office hours and the Tutoring Center. Change a few habits, put in more time, and try additional study strategies - it will pay off.

#6 – Motivated to Earn a Degree: Motivation might be one of the most significant elements in determining whether or not a student stays on track for graduation. If your motivation isn't where you'd like it to be, consider meeting with your academic advisor or a counselor in Health Services or Career Services. The good news is there are strategies for improving your motivation. A little guidance will help.

#7 – Paying for College: Numerous financial resources exist to help pay for college, e.g. scholarships and grants, federal student loans, and private student loans. You need to set a plan for how you will finance your education (all 4 to 5 years) as early as possible. Financial aid counselors in the Student Assistance Center, 23 Solon Campus Center, can assist you and direct you to resources.