

Sophomore Success Plan: A Guide for Students

At William Paterson University, we are intentional about providing support and guidance past the freshmen year on a student's pathway to a career and/or graduate school. This Success Plan is the roadmap for sophomore students:

1. Engage/meet with your Success Team professional advisor at least once each semester to check in on progress, receive guidance on registering for the next term's classes, and discuss any other needs that may be important for which your advisor can assist or through referral (e.g., navigating financial challenges, academic or personal support needs, extracurricular opportunities).
2. Meet with your Success Team faculty mentor at least once each semester to discuss your academic and career goals, the course options that are available to you in that pursuit, and what might position you well through your coursework or outside of class for a possible downstream internship, graduate school admission, or other experiential opportunity.
3. With the advice of your faculty mentor, attend at least one event per semester that aids your success in college, connect with others in your degree program, hear from alumni or others speak about their careers that came through your major or from their William Paterson education.
4. Each semester, attend faculty office hours for every class, to seek clarification regarding any course-related questions you may have.
5. Join or learn about an academic club(s) within your department, college, or at the University.
6. Engage with the Career Development Center through your Success Team Career Counselor, following their guidance for career preparation by sophomores, and when meeting with your professional staff advisor and your mentor, share what you have learned/experienced.
7. Attend at least one Pesce Family Mentoring Institute event to learn more about that opportunity in your sophomore, junior, or senior years.
8. Review your financial plan for college with your Success Team Financial Aid Counselor at least once a year in the Spring Semester in preparation for filing the FAFSA for subsequent year funding.
9. As you prepare to register for classes, explore courses that may have free or low cost materials, and thoughtfully inquire to the department chair if in the future it might be possible for a course to consider adopting such materials if they are not currently.
10. Throughout your academic career at WP, be mindful of the fact that your Student Success Team members want you to succeed. Be proactive and ask questions.