

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Hope College! We are here to provide guidance and support to your student throughout their time at Hope College. This information will act as a guide to you as your student starts the next phase of life.

To get started at Disability and Accessibility Resources (DAR), your student needs to fill out our online accessibility accommodation form, schedule a welcome meeting and provide any necessary documentation. The earlier your student can meet with us, the better!

You can help make the transition to independence for both you and your student go more smoothly by considering these tips:

1. Encourage your student to be responsible for their own college experience. You can foster independence by encouraging your student to:
  - a. Check their email daily, and respond to emails in a timely fashion. Email is the primary form of communication at Hope College.
  - b. Meet with professors right away when questions or challenges arise.
  - c. Maintain contact with the DAR throughout the semester.
  - d. Take advantage of college resources, such as the Academic Success Center (ASC), Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), Klooster Center for Writing Excellence, and DAR.
  - e. Practice self-advocacy.
  - f. Comply with college policies.
2. Ask your student to keep you informed about their academic progress.
3. If your student reaches out to you because they are very upset, don't panic. Listen to what they have to say, and then advise them to seek help from the appropriate college resources. This could include professors, academic advisors, the ASC, the Registrar's Office, Residence Life staff, Housing and DAR.
4. A part of college is learning to be an independent adult who can function effectively in

1. Please do not ask your student to give you their Hope College password. This information is confidential. Instead, encourage your student to keep you informed of important information, such as grades.
2. Please do not contact faculty members and ask them for information about your student. Instead, talk directly with your student.

Our desire is to see your student fully participate during their time at Hope and grow as an individual. We are ready to provide guidance and support whenever your student needs us.

Thanks!

