

Texas Wesleyan University

ADVISING

Parent Responsibilities

1. Become knowledgeable about college programs, resources, degree requirements, policies and procedures
2. Maintain an open and regular line of communication with your student
3. Ask your student questions related to their personal well-being and social adjustment in addition to academics
4. Discuss each other's expectations regarding money, grades, studies, contact, work, relationships and life skills
5. Encourage your student to ask for help
6. Encourage your student to seek out campus resources
7. Be available to support and encourage your student
8. Offer advice (when appropriate)
9. Encourage your student to do things they can do for themselves
10. Allow students to make mistakes in this safe environment
11. Recognize that college is an important step in the process of your student realizing their autonomy

Parents: *How you can help*

These questions are suggestions from the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) website as conversation starters to help your student gain insights into their college adjustment and experience.

Ask your student:

- What do you know about your professors? Their backgrounds, educational training or interests?
- Have you found any faculty members to be particularly encouraging or helpful?
- Do you understand the objectives of each of your classes?
- Have you had to do any report or research writing?
- What skills do you now know you need to be a better student?
- Have you experienced any anxiety or sleeplessness?
- Was there anything about the campus that surprised you?
- Any ideas about your future academic plans or focus?
- What will your academic load be like next semester?
- Academically, what has been the most interesting class or topic for you?
- Can you think of anything we can do to help?
- Are there any groups or organizations you are thinking of joining?
- Have you been using any of the resources on campus?
- Has there been any point in which you wanted to leave and just come home? Why? How did you overcome it?
- How much of a shock is college life compared to high school?
- Can you spot those who you know will succeed academically from those who are going to have difficulty?
- What advice are you going to offer your [younger sibling, relative or friend] about what to do in preparation for college life?