THE CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS SOUTHERN MISS

How We Help Students

FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

Life can be overwhelming for students attending college for the first time. We provide support as students work through the difference between high school expectations and college. First year programs include:

- **Success Coaching** - Students meet four times a semester with a faculty or staff coach to make sure they are staying on track academically, financially, socially, and mentally.
- **Success Experts** - CSS staff conduct workshops with students on topics such as exam prep, stress, time management, prioritizing, and getting back on track when things get rough.
- **First Year Events** - We both host and promote cross-campus events that help first-year students learn more about the university environment.

SOPHOMORE STUDENTS

The "sophomore slump" is real. We provide programming and scholarships to help students overcome it.

- **Jubilee Scholars** - We work with 35 sophomores each year on professional communication and networking skills with our junior and senior scholars providing mentoring to younger scholars. Jubilee Scholars receive a $1500+/year scholarship for three years.
- **Sophomore Events** - We both host and promote cross-campus events that help sophomore students stay plugged in to university resources like the library and Career Services.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Helping transfer students get and stay connected to the Southern Miss community is critical to retention.

- **Transfer Mentors** - We offer one-on-one peer mentoring from our transfer student volunteers who understand the unique challenges transfer students face.
- **Transfer Student Association** - Our student group gives transfer students a chance to socialize, share tips, and support each other academically and personally.
- **Tau Sigma** - We host a chapter of the national transfer student honor society, which seeks to increase opportunities, visibility, assimilation, and retention in transfer populations

FIRST GENERATION STUDENTS

First-gen students often need extra support to feel like they belong.

- **Eagle First** - Our first-gen student group focuses on providing students with connections, resources and support.
- **National First-Gen Day** - We celebrate First-Gen Day for a full week, and make a special effort to connect first-gen students with proud first-gen faculty and staff.

How You Can Help Us Help Students

SIGN UP TO BE A SUCCESS COACH

Students who are able to form a connection with a faculty or staff member they trust are more likely to persist in college. Join our success coaching program to be matched with a student who is looking for a little extra guidance. We give priority consideration to "students experiencing difficulty with the transition to college. The more success coaches we have, the more students we can help. Training is provided, and coaches commit to meeting with their student four times a semester.

SCHEDULE A WORKSHOP INSTEAD OF CANCELING CLASS

Are you looking to schedule an in-person success skills presentation for your class? The Center for Student Success offers Success Experts: By Request for just that! A representative from CSS can be requested to present on a number of academic success topics ranging from time management to note taking. Please make requests at least one week in advance.

PROMOTE OUR TEXTBOOK SCHOLARSHIPS

We provide hundreds of textbook scholarships to students with demonstrated financial need every semester. If you have students who are struggling to afford their books, please refer them to the Center for Student Success, as we may be able to help.

ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENTS TO SEEK HELP

Southern Miss is committed to helping hard working students who come to us unprepared for college. They may have had a poor high school education, be first-generation, or have grown up with economic challenges that prevented them from enjoying the same life experiences as their peers. Even students who were in the top of their class in high school may struggle with basic skills such as notetaking or preparing for exams.

The Center for Student Success is an extension of this commitment. If you have undergraduate students who are struggling with preparedness, please suggest that they stop by our office in Cook Library 138 so we can assess their needs and help them succeed.

Our Partners

Click the icons below to learn more about our Southern Miss partners engaged in helping our students persist, grow, and succeed.

The Writing Center Southern Miss

The Speaking Center Southern Miss

TRIO Student Support Services

McNair Scholars Program

Need Help? We're here for you.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

The Center for Student Success
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EOE/F/M/VETS/DISABILITY