



TIME TO FILE THE FAFSA AND CHECK-IN ACADEMICALLY

Dear MCC Community,

October is a pivotal month in the fall semester. With midterms underway, spring planning on the horizon, and financial aid decisions beginning, students are juggling a lot. Your steady support and meaningful conversations can help your Highlander feel grounded and confident during this busy season.

It's also a great time to pause, reflect, and make small adjustments before the final stretch. Thank you for continuing to walk alongside your student—we're grateful for your partnership in their journey.

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ADVISING & SPRING REGISTRATION PREP

Spring planning is underway! Advising has started, and spring registration is just around the corner, opening on October 29, 2025. Before your student can register, they must meet with an academic advisor to select and approve their courses. Encourage your student to schedule their advising appointment soon—delays can lead to limited course options or missing out on required classes. This is a great time to talk with them about what's working this semester, what they might want to adjust, and what support they need to plan confidently for the next term.

TRY ASKING

- "What kind of classes or schedule would help you feel successful next semester?"
- "Have you thought about when to meet with your advisor?"

LINKS

- [Advising](#)
- [MyMCC \(for students\)](#)

IMPORTANT FALL DATES

- **October 17:** MCC closed for Fall Break
- **October 29:** Registration for Spring 2026 opens
- **November 26 - 30:** MCC closed for Thanksgiving Break
- **December 8 - 11:** Final exams
- **December 12 - January 4:** Winter break

COACHING WITH CARE

This month's check-in moments are a great opportunity to build your student's confidence by asking open-ended questions that prompt self-reflection. Below you'll find coaching-style prompts to help guide the conversation at home.

FILE THE FAFSA & EXPLORE SCHOLARSHIPS

We recommend talking with your student about completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for the 2025–2026 academic year as soon as possible. The application opened on October 1, and early submission increases the chances of receiving financial aid.

MCC scholarship applications for next fall are also open now and will remain available through January 15, 2026. Since parents play a key role in the FAFSA process, be sure to complete your portion promptly to avoid any delays in your student's financial aid.

TRY ASKING

- "How are you feeling about the financial aid process this year?"
- "What's your timeline for getting the FAFSA submitted—and do you want to talk it through first?"

LINKS

- [MCC Financial Aid](#)
- [FAFSA](#)
- [FAFSA explained \(videos\)](#)
- [MCC Foundation Scholarships](#)

MIDTERM GRADES & COURSE ADJUSTMENTS

Midterms are grade checkpoints for students to evaluate what's working—and what's not. Encourage your student to review their progress on Brightspace and make use of campus resources if they're feeling off track.

TRY ASKING

- "What's something you're proud of academically so far?"
- "What are you learning about your study habits or routines?"

LINKS

- [Brightspace](#)
- [Success Coaching Services](#)
- [MCC Tutoring](#)
- [Upswing](#) (Online Tutoring)

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