

## **TRANSITION PRE-ORIENTATION PROGRAM**

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

#### **WHAT IS THE TRANSITIONS PROGRAM?**

Transitions is coordinated each year by the Intercultural Center and it is designed to assist students in making a successful transition to Saint Anselm College. This initiative provides first-year students with a valuable opportunity to connect with a large group of students, administrators, faculty, staff, and alumni. Many of the sessions and activities are led by returning student leaders who are very active on campus and dedicated to making this a meaningful experience for participants. Programs of this nature can be found at colleges and universities across the country; research has shown that they play an important role in facilitating student success. The Transitions Program has a 95% retention rate.

#### **WHO WILL BE ATTENDING?**

Transitions is particularly relevant for students from traditionally underrepresented (commuter, multicultural, and first-generation) groups but students from ALL backgrounds are encouraged to participate. There will be a diverse group of students attending the program. In terms of racial/ethnic diversity there will be White, Black, Asian, Hispanic, Native American and Multiracial people. There will be commuters and residential students. Some will be first-generation college students and others may have family members who are Saint Anselm alumni. There will even be international students who attend the program. Overall there will be many differences among the participants, but also many similarities! Although students are coming from different backgrounds they share the goal of wanting to be successful in their college careers. Our motto is "We are many voices. We are one community." Many lasting friendships are formed during this program.

#### **MUST I ATTEND ALL OF THE SESSIONS IF I ATTEND THE TRANSITIONS PROGRAM?**

**Yes.** Students who register to participate in the Transitions Program are expected to attend all of the scheduled sessions. If commuters have concerns about attending some of the evening activities, please discuss this with the Intercultural Center. We encourage commuters to attend all evening events, but can be flexible if there are conflicts, etc.

#### **WHAT IS THE PEER MENTOR PROGRAM?**

Transitions participants will be paired with continuing students at Saint Anselm to create a supportive and encouraging environment during their first year. Mentors use their familiarity with campus life and resources, as well as their personal experiences as students, to provide valuable advice and guidance to mentees. By creating connections between students, the Peer Mentor Program personalizes the Saint Anselm experience and creates opportunities for rewarding interpersonal relationships.

For the mentee, the Peer Mentor Program provides support and stability during the transition to the college environment, ways to get involved in campus activities, and opportunities to improve communication and self-advocacy skills. It also provides the opportunity to connect with a continuing student.

After the registration materials for the Transitions program have been submitted, participants will complete an application for the peer mentor program, providing personal and academic information, and preferences for matching. Matches may be made according to major, gender, or other criteria.

**DO I HAVE TO ATTEND BOTH THE TRANSITIONS AND THE LARGER ORIENTATION PROGRAM?**

Yes. Transitions is intended to compliment the larger college-wide orientation program. All incoming students are expected to attend the larger orientation as well. For more information visit: <http://www.anselm.edu/Parents-and-Families/New-Student-Orientation.htm>

**CAN MY PARENTS AND/OR FAMILY MEMBERS ATTEND THE PRE-ORIENTATION PROGRAM?**

Family and friends should plan to depart after the Welcome Reception and Parent Session.

**I AM A STUDENT ATHLETE. CAN I ATTEND?**

If you are involved with a particular sport (i.e. football, volleyball, soccer, etc.), please indicate that on the registration form. We will work with your coach so that you can participate. Every sport has different policies and requirements.

**WHAT TIME SHOULD I ARRIVE ON MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2019?**

Residential students will be permitted to arrive between 9am and 12pm on August 20. Student Mentors will be available to assist you with your move. Commuter students should arrive for the Welcome Reception.

**DO I HAVE TO PAY FOR ANYTHING ASSOCIATED WITH TRANSITIONS?**

All costs associated with meals and co-curricular activities are taken care of. If however you wish to purchase something outside this realm, it is at your personal expense.