

Welcome to CASA ACADEMY

WHERE CONFIDENCE, COMMUNITY, AND COLLEGE SUCCESS BEGIN

ESSENTIAL DETAILS ABOUT THE 2025 CASA PROGRAM FOR PARTICIPANTS AND PARENTS



CENTER FOR
ACADEMIC
SUCCESS AND
ACHIEVEMENT

FIRST TO SUCCEED





Dear Future MSU Scholar,

Congratulations! We are excited that you are beginning your journey at Morgan State University by participating in the CASA Academy Program. This program is designed to help you make a strong and confident transition into college life.

Over the next few weeks, you'll participate in engaging classes, workshops, and community-building activities. Your professors, peer mentors, and CASA Academy staff are here to support your journey as you learn what it takes to succeed in college. You'll also build relationships with fellow students and staff that we hope will last well beyond the summer.

More than anything, this program is about building confidence, finding your rhythm, and surrounding yourself with people who believe in you who will also help you believe in yourself. We are here to support you every step of the way. You just have to put in the hard work to get the best results from this program. Whether you're nervous, excited, or somewhere in between, you belong here, and we're committed to helping you thrive, and ultimately, become 'Morgan Made'.

This is the moment where confidence, community, and college success begin. We can't wait to meet you and begin this journey together. We're thrilled that you've chosen to take this important step toward your future. Let's make this summer count as you begin your journey to a college degree here at the National Treasure!

Wishing you the best,

Tiana Smith
CASA Academy Coordinator

IMPORTANT CASA INFORMATION

CASA STUDENTS MOVE-IN

SUNDAY, JUNE 29TH

8:00 AM-12:00 PM

RESIDENCE HALL LOCATION

FEMALE STUDENTS: CUMMINGS HALL

MALE STUDENTS: BALDWIN HALL

- **THERE IS NO SPECIFIC ADDRESS, SO IN YOUR GPS, TYPE IN MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY AND THEN THE SPECIFIC RESIDENCE HALL.**
- **THERE IS CONSTRUCTION TAKING PLACE ON CAMPUS. PARTICIPANTS MUST ENTER ONTO STADIUM WAY FROM ARGONNE DRIVE, ACROSS FROM MURPHY FINE ARTS CENTER. PLEASE FOLLOW DETOUR SIGNS AND CASA MOVE-IN SIGNS, ONCE ON CAMPUS.**
- **STUDENTS WILL FIND OUT THEIR ROOM ASSIGNMENT UPON MOVE-IN.**
- **IF YOU MOVE IN AFTER 12:00 PM, YOU WILL HAVE TO ATTEND THE OPENING CEREMONY FIRST AND MOVE IN AFTER.**

OPENING CEREMONY (MANDATORY)

1:30 PM -4:30 PM

UNIVERSITY STUDENT CENTER, BALLROOM

IMPORTANT CASA INFORMATION

IN YOUR MOVE-IN FOLDER UPON CHECK-IN, YOU WILL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING:

CLASS SCHEDULE

DINING HALL HOURS

LIST OF SUMMER ACTIVITIES/ EVENTS

SUMMER BEAR CARD

RESOURCE LIST

MANDATORY CAMPUS WEEKENDS

FIELD DAY & TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITIES

FRIDAY, JULY 11TH - SUNDAY, JULY 13TH

AND

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION PARTICIPATION

FRIDAY, JULY 18TH - SUNDAY, JULY 20TH

- **STUDENTS MUST BE ON CAMPUS FOR THESE SPECIFIC WEEKENDS AS A MANDATE OF THE CASA PROGRAM.**

CLOSING CEREMONY FOR ADMITTED STUDENTS

(MANDATORY, FORMAL ATTIRE)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1ST

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

UNIVERSITY STUDENT CENTER BALLROOM

MOVE-OUT STARTS AT 12:30 PM



**SUBMIT YOUR BEAR CARD PHOTO
(INSTRUCTIONS LISTED BELOW)**

**YOUR BEAR CARD IS YOUR KEY TO:
THE DINING HALL
RESIDENCE HALL
THE LIBRARY
CAMPUS EVENTS**

**UPLOAD YOUR PHOTO TODAY AT:
[HTTP://IDPHOTO.MORGAN.EDU/](http://idphoto.morgan.edu/)**

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION,
PLEASE VISIT:
[HTTPS://WWW.MORGAN.EDU/BEARCARD](https://www.morgan.edu/bearcard)**



PACK YOUR SUCCESS CASE!

ACADEMIC SUPPLIES

ELECTRONICS:

- LAPTOP/TABLET AND CHARGER (REQUIRED)
- POWER STRIP WITH SURGE PROTECTION
- USB DRIVE OR EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE
- SURGE PROTECTORS

STUDY MATERIALS (ALL REQUIRED) :

- NOTEBOOKS AND FOLDERS
- PENS, PENCILS, HIGHLIGHTERS
- BACKPACK
- STICKY NOTES
- CALCULATOR TI-83 IF POSSIBLE, OR A NORMAL CALCULATOR

GENERAL CLOTHING:

- BUSINESS CASUAL ATTIRE (REQUIRED FOR THE CLOSING CEREMONY AND PRESENTATIONS/EVENTS).
- CASUAL EVERYDAY WEAR
- WORKOUT CLOTHES AND SNEAKERS
- PAJAMAS AND LOUNGEWEAR
- WEATHER-APPROPRIATE CLOTHING (JACKETS, RAINCOATS, UMBRELLA, ETC.)
- COMFORTABLE SHOES



PACK LIKE A PRO, DON'T FORGET THE ESSENTIALS!

BEDDING:

- TWIN XL SHEETS
- PILLOWCASES
- COMFORTER/DUVET
- PILLOWS
- MATTRESS TOPPER/PAD
- BLANKET



DORM NEEDS AND TOILETRIES:

- TOWELS AND WASHCLOTHS
- SHOWER CURTAIN/LINER, CADDY AND SHOES
- TOILETRIES (SHAMPOO, CONDITIONER, SOAP, TOOTHBRUSH, TOOTHPASTE, LOTION, ETC.)
- PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS (RAZOR, DEODORANT, ETC.)
- LAUNDRY BASKET/BAG AND DETERGENT
- FIRST AID KIT (BAND-AIDS, PAIN RELIEVERS, ETC.)
- BROOM, MOP, AND CLEANING SUPPLIES
- LOCK (FOR DORM WARDROBE CLOSET)
- FAN
- CLOTHES HANGERS
- ALARM CLOCK
- IRON (MUST HAVE AUTO SHUT-OFF)
- SMALL IRONING BOARD
- ROOM DÉCOR AND ORGANIZATION
- DESK LAMP
- STORAGE BINS/ORGANIZERS
- CLOTHES HANGERS
- BULLETIN BOARD OR DRY-ERASE BOARD
- STEREO AND TELEVISION (TVS LARGER THAN 32 INCHES ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS)



DON'T PACK YOUR EXIT PLAN.

WHAT **NOT** TO BRING!

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS OR ON CAMPUS. IF YOU ARE FOUND IN POSSESSION OF ANY OF THESE ITEMS, YOU WILL BE IN VIOLATION OF THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT AND MAY FORFEIT YOUR SPOT IN THE CASA PROGRAM.

- COOKING APPLIANCES (TOASTER OVENS, HOT PLATES, SLOW COOKERS, WOKS, GRILLS, ETC. ARE PROHIBITED).
- ANY WEAPONS, EXPLOSIVES, AND FIREWORKS
- CANDLES AND INCENSE
- ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES (DRUGS, ALCOHOL, ETC.)
- HOOKAH, E-CIGARETTES, OR VAPES OF ANY KIND
- HALOGEN LAMPS AND OCTOPUS LAMPS
- DARTS AND DARTBOARDS
- SPACE HEATERS
- CARS (CASA ACADEMY POLICY)
- PETS
- HIGH-END ELECTRONICS





CASA ACADEMY - STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT - SUMMER 2025

Please be aware that participation in the CASA Academy Program is a privilege. It provides an opportunity for you to gain full admission to Morgan State University. As a responsible, committed student, we will hold you to the highest standards of Professionalism, Community, and Respect. We hope these policies will bring clarity to our expectations and standards of excellence. We do not expect you to violate the Student Code of Conduct, but we will hold you accountable for doing so.

As a CASA Academy participant and future Morganite, you are expected to abide by the University's Six Core Values: **Leadership, Integrity, Innovation, Diversity, Excellence, and Respect (LIIDER)**.

The CASA Academy Student Code of Conduct will be provided to you on your move-in date in its entirety. You will be expected to review and sign the Code of Conduct, along with your parent or legal guardian. Violations of the CASA Academy Student Code of Conduct can and will result in your dismissal from the program and the loss of your opportunity to join the incoming first-year class of 2025.

Your CASA Advisors will review the Morgan State University Code of Student Conduct with you during the CASA Academy Opening Orientation and during your first CASA Academy Orientation class. Given the uniqueness of the CASA Academy Program, the Center for Academic Success and Achievement (CASA) has developed these very specific and unique conduct policies to help ensure everyone's personal safety and your individual success in the program.

1. Use of Vehicles: CASA Academy students may not bring vehicles to campus. Students who violate this policy risk being dismissed from the program. Any exceptions of this policy will be extremely limited and must be requested of the CASA Director before the program begins. All such requests must be made in writing. Any student granted an exception will be under strict guidelines and may NOT use their vehicle once they arrive for the program or ONLY at the discretion of the CASA Director. Any student found in violation of this policy may be dismissed from the program, OR if he/she uses the vehicle to transport other students or leaves campus without permission.

2. Curfew Violation: All CASA Academy students will be under a strict curfew for the entirety of the program. This curfew is meant to keep program participants safe and accounted for at all times. Repeated violations of curfew will result in dismissal from the program. Curfew violations will have the following consequences:

- **First violation** – Meeting with the Program Coordinator and your CASA Advisor
- **Second violation** – ‘Official Warning’ and notification to parent/legal guardian
- **Third violation** – Meeting with the Director to determine participation status and potential dismissal from CASA Academy program.

3. Tardiness Violations: On-time attendance to CASA Academy programs is required at all times. Students must inform the Program Coordinator or Instructor of any late arrival with reasonable explanation as to the cause. Oversleeping or forgetting is NEVER a reasonable explanation. Tardiness to class, tutoring sessions, and/or special programs will result in the following consequences:

- **First violation** – Informal warning and notation in student record by instructor of the violation.
- **Second violation** – Meeting with the Program Coordinator and Advisor
- **Third violation** – ‘Official Warning’ and notification to parent/legal guardian
- Any subsequent violation - Meeting with the Director to determine participation status and potential dismissal from CASA Academy program.

4. Unexcused Absences: Unexcused absences are defined as any absence that does not have documentation from a physician, the University Health Center, or one that has not been approved by the Director. Students leaving early on Friday for the weekend, vacations, flights, buses to go home, ride to go home, etc., are categorized as unexcused absences. Multiple unexcused absences from class, tutoring sessions, workshops,/seminars, and other program activities will not be tolerated result in the following:

- **First violation** – Meeting with the Program Coordinator and your CASA Advisor
- **Second violation** – ‘Official Warning’ and notification to parent/legal guardian
- **Third violation** – Meeting with the Director to determine participation status and potential dismissal from CASA Academy program.

5. Behavior Management: All students are expected to follow the student P.A.T.H. as proscribed by the Division of Enrollment Management and Student Success. As part of our community, every CASA Academy student will demonstrate **Politeness, Accountability, Timeliness and Honesty (P.A.T.H.)**. Disruptive, disorderly, or reckless conduct will NOT under any circumstances and will be met with strict consequences. All such behaviors are specifically and thoroughly explained in the CASA Academy Student Code of Conduct. Below are some disruptions, disorderly or reckless conduct that have been found to severely inhibit or interfere with the educational/academic environment and well-being of others may result in immediate dismissal from the CASA Academy Program.

Classroom Disruptions:

1. Use of electronic devices (cell phones, texting, receiving or making calls
 2. Use of a laptop/tablet for unrelated coursework
 3. Engaging in conversation with peers without the permission of the instructor
 4. Leaving class without permission from the instructor
 5. Insubordination or disrespectful behavior toward instructors or fellow students
 6. Sleeping in class or having your head on the desk
-
- **First violation** – Removal from the class session* with an informal warning and notation in the student's record of the violation by the instructor.
 - **Second Violation** – Removal from class session* with an 'Official Warning' and notification to parent/legal guardian, as well as a meeting with the Program Coordinator and your CASA Advisor
 - **Third Violation** – Removal from the class session* and meeting with the Director to determine participation status and potential dismissal from the CASA Academy program.

(*Students removed from class cannot make up the coursework they have missed.)

Disruptive, Disorderly, or Reckless Conduct:

1. Alcohol or drug use or possession*
 2. Possession of a weapon*
 3. Inappropriate use of social media that causes harm or distress to fellow students
 4. Intentional and/or reckless operation of scooters or other motorized transportation
 5. Trespassing into any prohibited areas (this includes unauthorized entry into Residence Halls, campus buildings, or off-campus properties)
 6. Failure to comply with the directives of University officials/administrators
- **First violation** – Meeting with the Program Coordinator and your CASA Advisor
 - **Second violation** – ‘Official Warning’ and notification to parent/legal guardian
 - **Third violation** – Meeting with the Director to determine participation status and potential dismissal from CASA Academy program.

***First violation will result in Immediate dismissal from the CASA Academy Program.**

A SUMMER WELL READ, A FUTURE WELL LED

“BETWEEN THE WORLD AND ME” TA-NEHISI PAUL COATES



Ta-Nehisi Paul Coates was born on September 30, 1975 in Baltimore, Maryland. His father, William Paul Coates was a Vietnam veteran, former Black Panther, publisher and librarian. His mother, Cheryl Lynn Coates was a teacher. His first name Ta-Nehisi is derived from an ancient name for Nubia.

He attended Howard University but left before earning his Bachelors of Arts degree. He began his career as a fellow journalist. He also attended Middlebury College to learn French to prepare for a writing fellowship in Paris. He has written a number of publications including *The Washington City Paper*, *Philadelphia Weekly*, *The Village Voice*, and *Time*, among many others

His other works include *The Beautiful Struggle* (2008), *Black Panther and Captian America* (2016), and *The Message* (2024). The latter work was dedicated to his sons, Samori and Chris.

AS YOU READ *BETWEEN THE WORLD AND ME*, TRY TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

1. WHAT DOES THE TITLE OF THE WORK SUGGEST ABOUT THE THEME?
2. HOW DO THE EPIGRAPHS FOR EACH SECTION ANTICIPATE OR SUGGEST THE THEME OF THE SECTION?
3. WHY DOES THE AUTHOR FIND IT IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS THE VIOLENCE HIS FATHER ADMINISTERS?
4. OVERALL, WHAT IS THE AUTHOR TRYING TO CONVEY THROUGH THE USE OF ALL THE EPIGRAPHS IN THE WORK?

Definitions:

- **Allusion:** a brief, indirect reference to a person, place, literary, cultural, or historical entity of significance.
- **Theme:** the message about life conveyed in a work.
- **Epigraph:** a short quotation or saying at the beginning of a book or chapter intended to suggest its theme.
- **Majoritarian:** governed by or believing in decision by a majority.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DO I HAVE TO LIVE ON CAMPUS IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS? YES

All participants are required to reside on campus in the designated residence halls for the duration of the program. Students may return home on weekends with prior written permission from a parent or guardian. To request weekend leave, parents or guardians must complete, sign, and submit the official Weekend Off Form. Students must return to campus no later than 10:00pm on Sunday evening. As part of the program requirements, students are expected to remain on campus for at least two weekends during the session (Mandatory dates listed on Page 4 of Packet).

I AM COMMITTED TO A WORK SCHEDULE, VACATION, SUMMER CAMP, OR ANOTHER ACTIVITY THAT REQUIRES MY ABSENCE DURING THE FIVE-WEEK PROGRAM. CAN I STILL PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM? NO

To be admitted to MSU, students must earn a grade of “C” or higher in each course and actively participate in all mandatory tutoring sessions and program activities. Consistent attendance and engagement are essential for success. Failure to attend classes or participate in required tutoring and activities may jeopardize your academic performance and eligibility for admission to the university.

WILL I RECEIVE COLLEGE CREDIT FOR ANY OF THE CASA ACADEMY SUMMER CLASSES? NO

You will not receive college credit for any of the summer program courses. These courses are developmental in nature and are designed to strengthen your academic foundation in preparation for college-level coursework in the fall. As such, they do not count toward degree or major requirements.

IF I DON'T EARN A GRADE OF "C" OR BETTER IN ALL THREE CLASSES, CAN I STILL BE ADMITTED? NO

In order to be admitted to MSU through the CASA Academy program, you must earn a grade of “C” or better in all three summer courses. Failure to meet this academic requirement will result in ineligibility for admission under the program.

WILL THE CASA ACADEMY PROGRAM PAY FOR ME TO ATTEND MSU IN THE FALL? NO

Please note that acceptance into the CASA Academy program does not determine or guarantee any financial aid award from the university.

To be considered for financial aid, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Be sure to use MSU's school code: 002083.

It is your responsibility to contact the Office of Financial Aid at (443) 885-3170 to review your financial aid package and the Bursar's Office at (443) 885-3108 to make payment arrangements for the fall semester.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CAN I BRING MY CAR? NO

CASA Academy participants are not allowed to have cars on campus during the summer program.

WILL THE CASA ACADEMY PROGRAM SECURE MY HOUSING FOR FALL? NO

Acceptance into this summer program does not determine or guarantee housing arrangements for the Fall 2025 semester. You must complete an online housing application. The housing application for Fall 2025 is open. It is imperative to apply for housing now. Do not wait until after CASA academy. There is a \$200 housing application fee. To find out more information, visit www.morgan.edu/residencelife. Contact the Office of Residence Life& Housing to discuss housing arrangements at (443) 885-3217.

CAN I SELECT MY ROOMMATE FOR THE CASA ACADEMY PROGRAM? NO

students will be randomly assigned roommates of the same gender. Students will receive their casa residence hall assignments on the day of move-in, Sunday, June 29th.

WHAT DOES A TYPICAL DAY FOR CASA ACADEMY STUDENTS LOOK LIKE?

Students are in class from 8:30am to 4:00pm, with lunch from 11:00am to 12:30pm. Mandatory tutoring is incorporated into every class session. Throughout the summer, there will be evening and weekend activities for students to participate in.

DO STUDENTS HAVE A CURFEW? YES

Students are required to abide by the 11:00pm curfew.

CAN STUDENTS HAVE VISITORS?

Students are allowed to have visitors on campus; however, visitors are not permitted inside the residence hall rooms.

While family members and friends are welcome to visit campus, access to student housing is restricted to program participants and authorized staff to ensure the safety and privacy of all residents.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHEN DO I REPORT TO THE CASA ACADEMY PROGRAM?

CASA Academy begins with check-in on Sunday, June 29th.

Students must check in to assigned residence halls between 8:00am - 12:00pm to ensure being on time for the Opening Ceremony. The opening ceremony is on Sunday, June 29th, from 1:30pm-4:30pm. The program ends on Friday, August 1st, at 10:00am with the closing ceremony for admitted students.

To ensure the success of the closing ceremony, we kindly request that all families remain in the Ballroom until the end. If you are unable to stay for the entire duration, we kindly ask that you refrain from attending. Formal attire is required for students attending the closing ceremony.

HOW DO I ACCESS MY MORGAN EMAIL?

It takes approximately 2-3 days to activate your Morgan email from the date of your confirmation email. Your Morgan email can be found in your initial admission email or letter.

Your temporary password information can be found here: <https://www.morgan.edu/dit>.

The first letter of your first name is capitalized + the first letter of your last name in lowercase + your 8-digit student IDnumber + two exclamation marks.

Example: Name - John Doe ID Number - 12345678 Initial Password = Jd12345678!!

HOW DOES MY BEAR CARD WORK?

Students will receive their bear card upon move-in. You can only swipe your bear card in the on-campus summer dining hall. If you eat at a different eatery other than the dining Hall, you will have to pay out of pocket. Your bear card can also be used to swipe for laundry. You can add money to your bear card using the Morgan bear card station located in the Student Center. If you lose your bear card, there is a \$25 fee to replace it.

The background is a collage of three images. The left side shows a blue-tinted image of a mascot, possibly a bear or dog, wearing a jersey with a logo. The right side shows an orange-tinted image of a large crowd of people, likely at a sporting event. The bottom of the image shows a blue-tinted image of a modern university building with a curved facade and large windows.

Welcome
CASA Academy
Class of

2025

MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY