



2015-2016
A GUIDE FOR PARENTS





For more information, please contact
**Morgan State University
 Parents' 411 Program**
 Office of Student Success and Retention
 Dr. Tiffany Beth Mfume, Director
 1700 East Coldspring Lane
 McKeldin Center, Suite 318
 Baltimore, MD 21251
 (443) 885-3651 | FAX (443) 885-8347



About this Guide

UniversityParent has published this guide in partnership with Morgan State University Office of Student Success and Retention with the mission of helping you easily navigate your student's university with the most timely and relevant information available. Photos provided courtesy of the Morgan State University Office of Public Relations.

Discover more articles, tips and local business information by visiting the online guide at:
www.universityparent.com/morgan

The presence of university/college logos and marks in this guide does not mean the school endorses the products or services offered by advertisers in this guide.

2995 Wilderness Place, Suite 205
 Boulder, CO 80301
www.universityparent.com

Advertising Inquiries:
 (866) 721-1357
ads@universityparent.com

UniversityParent

SARAH SCHUPP PUBLISHER
 MARK HAGER DESIGN

Connect:



facebook.com/UniversityParent



twitter.com/4collegeparents

© 2015 UniversityParent



contents



Morgan Guide

Comprehensive advice and information for student success

- 4 | Welcome to Morgan State!
- 6 | Did You Know...
- 9 | First Year: The Transition
- 12 | The Transfer Center
- 13 | Money Matters
- 15 | Parents Rights: What is FERPA?
- 16 | Student Engagement, Involvement, and Behavior
- 18 | Health, Wellness, and Safety
- 20 | Campus Map
- 23 | Other Resources
- 25 | Let Go!
- 28 | Office of Student Success and Retention
- 30 | Career Planning Tips for Parents
- 32 | Helpful Hints from the Office of Residence Life & Housing
- 34 | MSU Counseling Center Tips for Parents
- 36 | The Center for Academic Success and Achievement
- 38 | Communicating with your "Morganite"

Welcome to Morgan State!

Welcome, Morgan parents!
The first year of college and beyond will be a period of transition for both you and your family — emotionally, socially, and financially.

The support received from parents and family members plays an important role in a student's overall success. At Morgan State University, we believe that college represents a partnership between the student, the family, and the University.

For over 145 years, Morgan State University has been an important player in the higher education system in Baltimore City, the State of Maryland, and the nation. Morgan State University has been listed by U.S. News & World Report as "one of student's most popular universities" and named by Forbes magazine among "America's Best Colleges and Universities." Additionally, Morgan has been identified as "one of the 25 Best Universities for African Americans, Hispanics, and Women" by the Black EOE Journal, Hispanic Network magazine, and Professional Women's magazine.

Throughout its history, Morgan has served the community with distinction while meeting the educational needs of an increasingly diverse society. Its designation as Maryland's Public Urban University assures that Morgan will continue to play a prominent role in Maryland's education future.

Dr. David Wilson
12th President
Morgan State University ■





Did You Know...

Morgan serves an ethnically and culturally diverse population.

History

Founded in 1867; became public college in 1939; renamed Morgan State University by state legislature in 1975 to reflect expanded mission and scope.

Type of institution

Designated as Maryland's public urban university, Morgan serves an ethnically and culturally diverse population. Morgan is a Carnegie-classified doctoral research institution.

Enrollment

Morgan's more than 7,000 students come from all fifty states and numerous foreign countries. About 35 percent of all students are from outside Maryland.

Programs of study

Academic units include the College of Liberal Arts, the Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr. School of Engineering, School of Global Journalism and Communication, the Earl G. Graves School of Business and Management, the School of Graduate Studies, the School of Architecture and Planning, the School of Education and Urban Studies, the School of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences, the School of Community Health and Policy, and the School of Social Work. Students may choose from forty-six academic programs that lead to the bachelor's degree, thirty-five that lead to the master's degree, fifteen that lead to the doctoral degree, and one that leads to the post-baccalaureate certificate.

Outcomes

Morgan State University is one of Maryland's top producers of African-Americans earning the bachelor's degree, particularly in the fields of engineering and the sciences. Nationally, Morgan is among the top five institutions in producing African Americans earning bachelor's degrees in the fields of Engineering, Architecture, Finance, and Hospitality Management.

An above-average percentage of Morgan State University graduates enter graduate and professional schools.

Morgan ranks among the top four colleges and universities nationally in the number of black graduates who subsequently receive Ph.D. degrees.

Morgan is named on US News and World Report's "Short List" of Historically Black Colleges Where Students Come Back with more than 70% of students returning after their first year.

Typically, about 41 percent of our graduating seniors report in May that they have found employment, and about 35 percent indicate that they have applied to graduate or professional schools. Of the students seeking to pursue advanced study, 74 percent report that they have applied to programs directly related to their majors at Morgan.

Undergraduate student-faculty ratio 18:1

Honors program

Our curriculum-based Honors Program offers special academic opportunities, scholarships, and residential communities for high-achieving students.
www.morgan.edu/honorsprogram

Activities

Students may choose from more than one hundred campus clubs and organizations, including a wide range of music groups, honor societies, professional organizations, student government groups, and fraternities and sororities.

Army ROTC

Two-year and four-year programs are available.

Athletics

Morgan is a founding member of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC). All intercollegiate teams compete at the NCAA Division I level, with the exception of football, which participates in Division I-AA. Men's intercollegiate teams include basketball, cross-country, football, tennis, and track and field. Women's intercollegiate teams include basketball, bowling, cross-country, softball, tennis, track and field, and volleyball. Intramural activities include archery, gymnastics, racquetball, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, table tennis, tennis, track and field, volleyball, weight lifting, and wrestling. ►



Financial Aid

Need-based and merit-based scholarships, as well as grants, loans, and part-time employment, are available for eligible students.

Application

For priority consideration, applications for the Fall semester should be submitted by November 15; applications for the Spring semester should be submitted by December 1. Other applications will be considered on a space-available basis.

Campus

The University has the advantages of both suburban life and proximity to an urban center. Built on two slopes, the campus is strategically located in the picturesque northeastern section of Baltimore, a city with a population of more than 657,000, and is surrounded by rapidly growing residential communities. The center of the city is easily accessible from the University campus.

Information about Baltimore

Morgan's campus in northeast Baltimore provides easy access to all the good things the city has to offer: world class museums... the Baltimore Symphony... great jazz clubs... ethnic festivals... fabulous restaurants... major league sports... shopping and sightseeing

at the Inner Harbor. You'll also find great opportunities for internships, community projects, and other off-campus experiences in the city that Chase Econometrics hails as one of the top ten future employment markets in America.

Where To Stay

Morgan's suburban-like setting is a spacious 140- acre campus located in a pleasant residential neighborhood, nestled among rolling hills in the northeast section of Baltimore City. The campus can be reached from hotels in the Inner Harbor area in about fifteen minutes. The campus is ten minutes from lodging in the Towson area and 10–15 minutes from hotels in northern Baltimore County. ■



First Year: The Transition

ACADEMICS: THE BASICS

After all is said and done, college is about developing students' academic and social skills and abilities, with the goal of producing well-rounded, well-informed global citizens who are well-prepared for employment, graduate school, and life.

The high school transcript and SAT scores may or may not reflect your "Morganite's" potential. You may find that your student will perform about the same as in high school, better than in high school, or take a couple of semesters to hit his/her stride. Here are some basic terms you should know:

Final High School Transcript:

An admission decision is contingent on successful completion of any courses in progress or that were planned to be taken prior to entry to Morgan. Admitted freshmen should have their final high school transcripts sent to the Office of Undergraduate Admission & Recruitment

by August 1. Transcripts from any post-secondary institutions that may have been attended during high school, or after high school graduation, must be sent to the Office of Undergraduate Admission & Recruitment.

ACCUPLACER Placement Test and Profile:

Accuplacer is a computer-based diagnostic test that determines readiness for college level work and provides a profile to guide advising and establish the course schedule for the first semester. For information:

www.morgan.edu/administration/academic_affairs/office_of_student_success_and_retention/placement_testing.html

Major and School:

Each student has a major (unless undeclared) and that major is in a department within a school (see www.morgan.edu/Academics/Academic_Programs.html). ►

Banner/WebSIS:

Banner is a web-based, administrative software application developed by Ellucian specifically for higher education institutions. Banner provides data through an online environment that allows University employees and students to perform various functions in a highly effective manner that is totally integrated and shared among departments across the University. Self-Service Banner, which we call WebSIS, is a user-friendly online tool that allows for management of personal and academic information. The majority of University employees and all students use WebSIS. Students access their mid-term and final grades, academic transcripts, financial aid awards, and their bills online through WebSIS.

Morgan email:

The University email system is an operational tool for enhancing communication and information dissemination across the University. All students and faculty are required to use a valid Morgan email account to send official information and notices. The University will send important information including financial aid and billing notices to students' Morgan email address, so it is important that students check their Morgan email regularly. Technical problems pertaining to email should be directed to the Morgan HELP Desk at (443) 885-4357.

Orientation, Advising, and Registration:

First-time, first-year students report for orientation, advising, and registration in the school where his/her major resides on the Wednesday morning of their ACCESS Orientation Program week. Using the ACCUPLACER test results as a guide, assigned advisors help develop the student's course schedule and approve the schedule; students register for the approved schedule online using WebSIS.

Online Tutoring:

Through Blackboard, Morgan students have access to 24-hour online tutoring through SMARTHINKING, a company currently working with over 1,000 institutions in the USA and abroad to help students succeed. Using the Internet to connect students with professional educators, SMARTHINKING has the online tutoring, writing services, and homework help that students need to succeed. Tutors are available up to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in a variety of subjects.

GPA:

Grade point average (based on a 4.0 system). Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA to remain in good academic standing.

Satisfactory Academic Performance (SAP):

SAP must be attained by each student to be in good academic standing and continue at the University. A student with a GPA less than 2.0 may find themselves on academic probation or suspension from the University.

Academic Calendar:

The academic calendar is the official university schedule of important events and dates related to academic work. The Academic Calendar is found online at: www.morgan.edu/Academics.html and in the back of this guide.

Academic Tools (Calculators, PC or Laptop, Flash Drives, Books, Calendar or PDA, etc):

Basic equipment students need to do their work.



ACADEMICS: IT'S NOT HIGH SCHOOL ANYMORE

College is not like high school. Understanding and appreciating this difference takes time. It is probably the hardest transition your "Morganite" will make. What are the main differences students may encounter?

- ✓ **High school principals vs. college deans:** At a university a dean is a person with significant authority over a specific academic unit, college or school, or over a specific area of concern, or both. Unlike high school, where there is only one principal or chief administrator, universities have a dean for every college or school within the University. When college students experience challenges with their courses or with faculty, they should seek help from the faculty member first, the department chairperson second, and then their dean.

- ✓ **High school classes vs. college classes:** College classes are all over the campus; they typically meet one, two, or three times a week; team work and projects often supplement individual work; assignments, homework, and tests may be submitted electronically via Blackboard (morgan.blackboard.com). Tutoring and study groups are a must!
- ✓ **High school teachers vs. college professors:** College professors expect students to do their work, meeting all deadlines and completing assignments as outlined in the course syllabus; college professors have high expectations for academic work and habits; college professors are normally seen during scheduled office hours; college professors are culturally diverse.
- ✓ **High school assessment vs. college assessment:** In college, evaluation of academic work and what students must do to earn a grade for each course is outlined in a course syllabus, that includes assignments, timelines, and due dates; tests, exams, papers and other opportunities for assessment are fewer than in high school, and more spaced out. A student's ability to know how they are doing in class is important.
- ✓ **High school workload vs. college workload:** The college workload is double or even triple the high school workload; there is significantly more reading and writing; absolutely more study hours are required to master the subject matter; specificity and detail are required. ■



The Transfer Center

Looking for an exciting and welcoming university, a diverse student body, and generous transfer-credit policies? Let us help you with your transfer journey.

We care about your smooth transition to Morgan State University and we understand how important it is to you that your credits transfer. The Transfer Center is a vital and important educational and career resource center not only for students but also for faculty, staff, and the community. The Center is designed to assist transfer students as they transition to university life and to prepare them to map out their academic future.

The Transfer Center provides credit evaluation, support services, and resources to prospective and current students. Our staff is trained specifically to meet the needs of transfer students after they have applied to and been accepted for admission by the University and as they pursue a degree. The Transfer Center is the best place to learn more about special programs and the evaluation of external credits; e.g., the awarding of military hours for credit, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and CLEP examination credits. The Transfer Center staff works with students to ensure their information is accurate and up to date.

The Transfer Center is located in the Montebello Complex, Suite D-325. Contact the Transfer Center at (443) 885-3711. ■



Money Matters

College costs money, regardless of who is paying for it (parents, separated parents, student, relatives, scholarship/loan grant, or employer). There is a juncture where academics and the cost of attendance meet. This is where the rubber meets the road!

Tuition and Fees/Room and Board:

Basic cost for sitting in a classroom, sleeping, and eating. Costs are different for Maryland residents and non-residents. See tuition and fees at www.morgan.edu/administration/finance_and_management/office_of_the_bursar/tuition_and_fees.html. Other expenses not included in the tuition and fees that should be considered when calculating the cost of attendance include books, supplies, and equipment.

Billing and Payment:

Once a student registers for classes, a fee assessment (bill) is generated. A full payment or payment arrangements must be made by a specific date determined by the Office of the Bursar (Billing). Students' bills are paid through direct cash/credit payments, a financial aid package, or a combination thereof to the Office of the

Bursar, which is responsible for billing and collecting payments. Demonstrating the ability to pay and making financial arrangements by the required deadline is the single most important financial process and procedure to be understood and followed in order to keep your student in class, with a place to lay his/her head, and eating. Note: The bill is mailed to your student, not to you. Your student can also view his/her bill (student account) on WebSIS.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):

The FAFSA is the federal application for financial aid to be completed by a prospective or currently enrolled student. The application is also used to verify the need for aid from other sources such as scholarships and loans. Each US citizen or permanent resident is required to file a FAFSA to be considered for any aid. Each year, starting January 1st, you and your student can begin to update the FAFSA for the next academic year. The FAFSA generates a Student Aid Report (SAR) which is downloaded to a university at the request of the applicant. Application deadlines for your state may be different from the federal deadlines. For more information about FAFSA and application deadlines, please go to www.fafsa.gov. ►

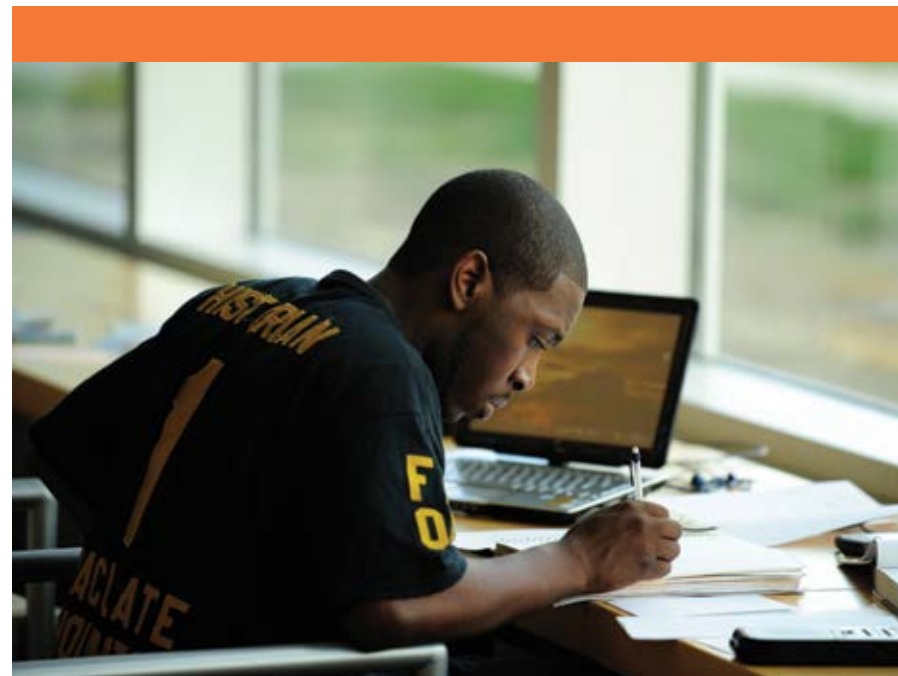
Financial Aid and Financial Aid Counselor:

The Office of Financial Aid is responsible for the administration of all student financial aid programs such as federal loans and grants, institutional scholarships and federal work study employment programs. Once the FAFSA is completed and the SAR is downloaded to the University, the student is assigned a Financial Aid Counselor. Financial aid awards (whatever the source) are posted on WEBSIS and students must accept or decline loans and submit their decision. Student must make Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to maintain their financial aid eligibility; to meet SAP requirements, students must pass a minimum of 67% of their attempted credits. Any questions about Financial Aid go to Montebello Complex A-203, (443) 885-3170.

Paying the Bill

We recommend having a family conversation regarding money matters, particularly bill payment. Some questions that should be answered are: What is the short term/long term cost of education? How much money does the family have available to support education over the long term? What is each person's role in contributing to the cost of education? Who will manage and monitor the payment process? ■

Parents Rights: What is FERPA?



Student education records are considered confidential and may not be released without the written consent of the student. University faculty and staff have a responsibility and obligation to protect student education records in their possession. Access to student data is restricted to individuals who need this information for legitimate educational purposes.

Securing a student's educational records is a top priority. While recognizing a parent's wish to know about academic and disciplinary performance, the

University respects the need for privacy in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

FERPA is a federal law that protects the privacy of a student's academic records. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), also known as the Buckley Amendment, provides for the confidentiality of student records and information for students 18 years and older. In compliance with this federal regulation, in order for a parent to receive confidential information regarding their son or daughter, a student must complete and sign a release form authorizing the release of such information. For more information about FERPA at Morgan, please contact the Registrar in the Office of Records and Registration at (443) 885-3300. ■

UniversityParent.com

Get what you need to
help your student succeed.

**Sign up for the
UniversityParent E-News!**
<http://eepurl.com/url2H>



Student Engagement, Involvement, and Behavior

Morgan State University is an excellent place for academic and intellectual growth. A wide range of co-curricular activities provide Morgan students with diverse opportunities to engage with faculty, enhance the classroom experience, expand the mind, develop leadership skills, and contribute to the greater good. Morgan students choose these activities based on their interests and career path. Participation in these activities promotes a sense of service and civic responsibility that we expect to continue after students graduate from the University.

Morgan students are expected to act with dignity and integrity at all times, in ways that reflect positively on themselves, their family, and the University. Although the freedom and independence experienced during the first year offer many behavior options, it should be noted that each option comes with consequences. The Student Code of Conduct is a guide for behavior in all instances — academic, personal, and social — and should be read and understood by students and their families. Infractions lead to adjudication that could lead to suspension or expulsion and should be avoided at all costs. For more information about the Student Code of Conduct, please go to morgan.edu/Documents/ACADEMICS/Code-of-Student-Conduct.pdf.

The Office of Student Activities

The Office of Student Activities is dedicated to providing quality activities and programs in a learning environment that promotes academic excellence, leadership development, community activism and personal growth in students. There are over 75 student organizations to join at Morgan, including the Student Government Association, 19 fraternities, sororities and social fellowships, and the student newspaper and yearbook staffs. Annual events like Back to School Week, the Student Organizations Fun Fair, Homecoming, and I Love Morgan Day are only a few of the many activities that make

Morgan State University an exciting place to be. In addition, our state of the art University Student Center serves as the hub of student activism and a breeding ground for new leaders. Find out more by visiting our website at www.msustudentcenter.com.



WINSTON
APARTMENTS
1260 Rossiter Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21239
410-323-7300

- Spacious Interiors
- Newly Redesigned Kitchens
- Convenient Laundry On-Site
- Short walk to Campus!

APARTMENT SERVICES, INC.

See why MSU Students call Winston Apartments Home
Baltimore's BEST Apartments & Townhomes

www.apartmentservices.com
410-683-3333



Health, Wellness, and Safety

As a parent, you have every right to be concerned about your student's health, wellness, and safety at Morgan State University. A healthy mind and body are essential for good academic performance. Encourage your student to practice healthy eating habits, exercise, and make time for rest and relaxation. Stress, climate change, diet, and lack of exercise or rest can affect the body. Each provides a distraction from good academic performance.

The Harriet A. Woodford Health Center (UHC) is a valuable resource for your student. The Health Center provides information about basic health and medical care. Note: To receive treatment in the UHC and acquire housing on campus, students submit a completed Health Entrance Form to the UHC. The Health Entrance Form indicates all required

immunizations and addresses additional health requirements. For more information related to health services, please contact the UHC at (443) 885-3236. Required health and immunization forms may be accessed online: www.morgan.edu/healthcenter or www.morgan.edu/healthservices.

The Police and Public Safety Department is responsible for maintaining a secure campus and protecting the university population. Morgan is an open campus and common sense should prevail. For emergencies, the campus has an Emergency Operations Plan and a Mobile Alert Text Messaging System is in place. Sign up on the university website at: www.morgan.edu/Campus_Life/Safety_and_Security/Mobile_Alert_System.html.

For more information about the Police and Public Safety Department, please contact (443) 885-3103.

MSU's Student Health Insurance Plan

Morgan State University is pleased to offer our students and their families a Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) that complies with the student insurance requirements under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. All full-time undergraduate students taking 12 or more credits and J-1 Visa Exchange Students and Scholars are automatically enrolled and billed each semester for the SHIP when registered. Students who have other creditable health insurance may elect to waive out of the SHIP. Part-time, graduate students and students participating in the NEXUS program are eligible to enroll in this insurance plan. Graduate students completing their thesis are also eligible to enroll on a voluntary basis. The UHC serves as the primary care provider (PCP) and first stop for health care needs while students are enrolled at Morgan. Through the student health insurance plan, students are covered even when they travel home or to another country, throughout the school year.

If students are covered by health insurance (i.e., through family plans, or employer-sponsored plans), you may decline the Morgan State University sponsored student insurance health plan by completing the online waiver form. For more detailed information about the waiver process, go to Morgan's website and look for the "Student Insurance Waiver" heading.

Crime Prevention Objectives at Morgan State University

- Heighten crime and drug abuse prevention awareness
- Generate support and participation in campus anti-crime efforts
- Strengthen campus spirit and police/community relations
- Send a message to criminals that our campus community is organized to fight back ► *(continued on p. 22)*

Campus Map

- Parking Lots
- Buildings

Legend:

- No. Building Name:
- 40 Alumni House
 - 3 Baldwin Hall
 - 15 Banneker Hall
 - 16 Blount Towers
 - 21 Calloway Hall
 - 5 Carnegie Hall
 - 1 Carter-Grant-Wilson Administration Building
 - 52 Center for the Built Environment and Infrastructure Studies (CBEIS)
 - 35 Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr. School of Engineering
 - 36 Communications Center
 - 4 Cummings House
 - 47 Earl S. Richardson Library
 - 7 Harper House
 - 51 Helen Roberts Faculty-Staff Dining Room
 - 28 Hill Field House
 - 8 Holmes Hall
 - 38 Hughes Memorial Stadium
 - 10 Hurt Gymnasium
 - 48 James E. Lewis Museum of Art
 - 30 Jenkins Behavioral Science Building
 - 26 Key Hall
 - 31 Marshall Apartment Complex
 - 24 McKeldin Center
 - 27 McMechen Building
 - 41 Montebello Complex
 - 25 Murphy Fine Arts Center (Gilliam Concert Hall)
 - 2 O'Connell Hall
 - 13 Parking Garage
 - 42 Post Office
 - 14 President's Residence
 - 37 Rawlings Dining Facility
 - 39 Rawlings Residence Complex
 - 11 Richard N. Dixon Science Research Center
 - 29 Soper Library
 - 9 Spencer Hall
 - 12 Student Center
 - 17 Truth Hall
 - 18 Tubman House
 - 46 Turner Armory
 - 49 University Chapel
 - 6 Washington Service Center
 - 43 William Donald Schaefer Engineering Building
 - 22 Woolford Infirmary
 - 53 FUTURE Business School Complex
 - 54 Parking
 - 55 FUTURE CBEIS Parking Garage

Lot - Permitted Parking Lots:

- A Faculty / Staff / Resident Students
- BCD/ER Faculty / Staff
- CC Faculty / Staff
- E Faculty / Staff
- F Faculty / Staff
- G Faculty / Staff
- H Reserved / Visitors
- I Faculty / Staff
- K Faculty / Staff
- L Faculty / Staff / Resident Students
- M Faculty / Staff
- LR Faculty / Staff
- N Resident Students

Lot - Permitted Parking Lots:

- P Faculty / Staff
- Qn Faculty / Staff / Commuter Students
- S Procurement Loading Dock
- T Resident Students
- U Faculty / Staff
- V Resident Students
- W Faculty / Staff
- X Faculty / Staff
- Y Faculty / Staff and Commuter Students
- Z Faculty / Staff

* Located at Portage Ave. off of Cold Spring Lane next to 7-11

Foot Patrol: Morgan State University Police and Public Safety has two foot patrol assignments. The purpose of the foot patrol is to provide visible police presence to the areas on the campus where it is essential to deter criminal activity and have the campus community feel safe knowing that they are under a watchful eye.

Bicycle Patrol Unit: Implemented in 1999, the Bicycle Patrol is a proactive crime prevention patrol program established as part of the department's commitment to community based policing. The Bicycle Patrol Unit provides a visible public safety presence to Morgan State University. It has become a valuable tool in patrolling the center campus and university housing because of its swift response to incidents and its ability to deter crime. As a result of the implementation of this unit, there

has come to be more personal contact between the public safety officers and the community.

Crime Prevention Tips:

- Be aware of your surroundings and walk in well-lit areas.
- Have keys readily in hand when going to vehicles.
- Scan inside, under, and around vehicles on approach.
- Travel in groups.
- Report all suspicious persons and/or activity immediately to the Morgan State University Police Department.

If you need the assistance of the Morgan Police at any time, 24 hours per day, please call (443) 885-3103. ■



Other Resources



Books

There are many, many books on the transition from high school to college and quite a few written for parents. In our search to give you guidance and information, we recommend the following books most often cited by parents and administrators to help you understand the issues parents and students face in making the first year transition:

- Barkin, Carol. *When Your Kid Goes to College: A Parent's Survival Guide*. New York: Avon Books, 1999.
- Coburn, Karen L and Madge Lawrence Treeger. *Letting Go: A Parents' Guide to College Years*. New York: Quill, 2003.
- Johnson, Helen E. and Christine S. Miller. *Don't Tell Me What to Do, Just Send Money: The Essential*

Parenting Guide to the College Years. New York: St. Martin's Griffin, 2000.

- Savage, Marjorie. *You're On Your Own (But I'm Here if You Need Me): Mentoring Your Child During the College Years*. New York: Fireside Books, 2003.
- Marian Edelman Borden, Mary Anne Burlinson, and Elsie R. Kearns, *In Addition to Tuition: The Parents' Survival Guide to Freshman Year of College*, Checkmark Books; 1996.
- Schwemm, Diane (Editor) *UniversityParent Guide to Supporting your Student's Freshman Year*. UniversityParent, 2014. ►

Websites

- www.morgan.edu. Your best resource for everything Morgan, including a complete directory with phone numbers, the University Catalog, academic calendar, WebSIS and Morgan email access.
- www.collegeparents.org. College Parents of America. Articles on campus life and issues.
- www.ecampustours.com. ECampus Tours. College website with tips for students, parents, and educators. Articles on campus life and the transition.
- www.fafsa.gov. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Complete FAFSA online.
- www.fastweb.com. Fastweb. An all-purpose website for college parents and students that includes the largest online database of college scholarships.
- www.universityparent.com/topics. UniversityParent has the information you need to help your student succeed.

Campus Resources

- Student Information Line: (443) 885-8500
- Admission & Recruitment: (443) 885-3000
- Bursar's Office: (443) 885-3108
- Center for Career Development: (443) 885-3110
- Counseling Center: (443) 885-3130
- Disability Support Services: Earl S. Richardson Library Room 127A, (443) 885-1719
- Financial Aid: (443) 885-3236

- Health Services: (443) 885-3236
- Police and Public Safety: (443) 885-3100
- Residence Life & Housing: (443) 885-3217
- Records & Registration: (443) 885-3300
- Transfer Center: (443) 885-3711
- Office of Student Success and Retention: McKeldin Center Room 318, (443) 885-3651
- Center for Academic Success and Achievement (CASA) (Tutoring and Advisors for Undeclared Majors): Communications Center Room 107, (443) 885-3380 ■



Let Go!

Support, Coach and Mentor Your “Morganite”

Your “Morganite” is about to begin an exciting time in life — a time of joy, discovery, and perhaps a few disappointments. You may even experience the same happiness and disappointments secondhand. We want you to survive the first year, so here are some guidelines that might help you. Hopefully, these tips will prepare you for some predictable first year issues.

10 Tips

1.

Allow time to get adjusted.

The first few days/weeks of school require many adjustments to new situations as well as concentration on the academic transition from high school to college. Believe it — they are missing home at the same time they are adjusting to cultural, academic, and social change. You can help if you write. Send a card with a handwritten note or write a letter letting them know that you are going through a period of adjustment as well. Better yet, use the available technology (email, text messaging) or whatever works best for you. A care package loaded with all their favorite treats will let them know how much you love them and are thinking about them.

2.

Ask Questions.

Of course you want to know how things are going. Believe this, it won't hurt to ask. Let them know you are interested in what's going on with them. Be a good listener and point them to useful resources. ►



3.

Expect change to occur gradually (or maybe instantly, like having a roommate) and be patient.

College brings change and maturing that takes time. Give old habits a chance to weed out and new ones a chance to develop as your Morganite finds out what works best for them.

4.

Don't worry (too much) about "nothing-is-going-right...I-hate-this-place...I want to come home" phone calls, letters, emails or text messages.

Let them get it off their chest, but try to find out what's really bugging them and why. Ask about rest, relaxation, and recreation opportunities and about the things they do in their spare time that they enjoy. Suggest a way to have them integrate those things into college life. Encourage them to stay on campus on the weekends so they can really experience college life. Let college grow on them. Know what resources are available to help if they hit a snag and, whom to call if the going gets too rough. Encourage them to seek out the services Morgan has to offer. A friendly reminder about the services discussed at ACCESS Orientation would be great!

5.

Visit.

Yes, you want to see them, and they want to see you. Visits by parents are another of the first year events that freshmen are reluctant to admit liking but appreciate greatly. Spur-of-the-moment "surprises" usually are not appreciated, so give advance notice. They will want to impress you about how clean they keep their room.

6.

Give them a sense of security.

Help provide the tools they need. Secure their finances. College costs money. Pay their bills on time. Then, send money for everything from books, to flash drives, to snacks or the movies and laundry. Establish a bank account, cash card system, and definitely put them on a budget. Have health insurance and a process in place for a health emergency.

7.

Give them their space!

Your "Morganite" will be growing into independence. When they come home for the holidays, allow them to share their time with family and to catch up with old friends. They like to eat, and, after dorm food, they will spend plenty of time at home.

8.

Connect with the University.

Morgan is your friend. Establish contacts in various offices that can provide appropriate information and help your student when needed. Attend Homecoming in the Fall. Give thanks when you get help; you may need it again!

9.

Most importantly, trust them.

You know in your heart that you have done everything in your power to raise your student well. They won't forget you or what you have taught them. Independence will come through the freedom of experience, not instruction. Mistakes will occur. Let them be a learning experience.

10.

Relax, let go and let Morgan! ■



Office of Student Success and Retention



Someone may be wondering what is “student retention?” And, most importantly, what difference will it make in the academic lives of Morgan students?

Quite simply, Morgan State University student retention staff are advisors, teachers, coaches, and sometimes “cheerleaders” providing needed words of support and encouragement. The MSU student retention team does everything possible to ensure student success and achievement. Some students, particularly new students, may not know where to turn when they are having academic difficulties. Other times, outside forces unrelated to campus life can create stress and problems that make studying all but impossible. Some students respond to stress by dropping out or losing focus in their work. Often, capable students are lost in the maze of difficulty that comes with succeeding in college. Just having someone to “coach” students through a difficult time can mean the difference between failing or passing; “dropping out” or persisting to graduation.

Morgan has an excellent reputation for offering a nurturing environment to students. We strive to ensure that students admitted to Morgan successfully graduate from Morgan. The Office of Student Success and Retention (OSSR) ensures improvement in student retention and increased persistence to graduation by focusing on academic success and achievement through early intervention and systematic tracking of all undergraduate students. The OSSR collaborates with the Office of Financial Aid to reduce attrition related to students’ ability to pay for college and maintain their funding. This is a serious issue, considering that approximately 95% of Morgan’s students receive some type of financial assistance. The OSSR also sponsors and coordinates various campus-wide programs and works in collaboration with the major academic units of the University. The schools’ retention programs are coordinated centrally to ensure that campus-wide goals are met. But, beyond that, each school develops unique retention strategies.

Here are several of the Campus-Wide Retention Initiatives:

- **Summer Programs for Freshmen** – facilitating the ACCESS Orientation Program, mandatory for freshmen
- **Placement Testing (Accuplacer)** – proctoring, scoring & disseminating 1,200–1,600 tests per academic year
- **Academic Advisement for First-time Freshmen** – (Summer & the first year of matriculation)
- **Mid-term grades of “D” or “F”** – monitoring & intervening with students to prevent final grades of “D” or “F”
- **Academic Probation** – monitoring & intervening with students to restore Satisfactory Academic Progress
- **Academic Recovery Program** – engaging and rehabilitating students who are eligible for dismissal/suspension
- **Alumni Mentoring program** – pairing freshmen with alumni volunteers to foster networking
- **Reclamation Project** – providing support and grants to students in good academic standing who have stopped out but are still within their 6-year graduation window
- **Financial Literacy** – providing a financial education curriculum designed to enhance students’ financial skills
- **Financial Aid Probation** – working to reduce number of students ineligible to receive financial aid
- **Starfish Early Alert & Response System** – assisting faculty with intervention for students performing below expectations
- **Parents’ 411 newsletter** – mailing to the permanent address of all undergraduate students each semester
- **Peer Tutoring** – coordinating programs in the academic schools/ departments

Specific measures are used on an annual basis to evaluate every program and initiative sponsored by the Office of Student Success and Retention. And, the overall results show that when students participate in targeted retention programs and initiatives, they earn higher GPAs and have higher retention and graduation rates. For more information about the programs and initiatives offered by the Office of Student Success and Retention, please visit our website: morgan.edu/administration/academic_affairs/office_of_student_success_and_retention.html ■

Morgan State University Intercollegiate Athletics

The Morgan State University intercollegiate Athletic Department would like to invite you to “Feel the Roar” of the mighty Morgan State University Bears. The MSU Athletics program competes on the N.C.A.A. Division I level while sponsoring 14 men and women sports. Please take the time to support all of the Bear squads, whether they be on the road or in the friendly state-of-the-art facilities on campus.

Thank You,

Floyd Kierr
Director of Athletics





Career Planning Tips for Parents

Recommendations from the Center for Career Development (CCD):

Career planning is a lifelong process of defining and working to achieve career goals. As parents and family members, you have the opportunity to play an integral role in your student's career development process. Your student will grow in many ways while at Morgan State University and some of the biggest decisions they will face relate to what they do with their time here and how they will prepare for what comes next. The Center for Career Development is here to assist your student with all aspects of career planning — including self-assessment,

career exploration, gaining real-world experience via internships, job search assistance and graduate school planning. Together we can make their “dream” job a reality.

Take some time to review this information and encourage your student to take advantage of our services; insist that they start early.

Career Assessments

Whether students are choosing a major, planning ahead for their first career, or thinking about making a career change, [MyPlan.com](https://www.myplan.com) can help students explore options and bring clarity and insight into figuring out what's right for them.

[MyPlan.com](https://www.myplan.com) integrates self-assessment with in-depth career information. Highlights include career assessments (Personality, Interests, Values), career profiles, salary calculator, video library and much more...

Internships

Recent studies indicate that internships are the primary way that employers identify entry-level employees. Therefore it is imperative for today's college students to participate in multiple internships. An internship connects the abstract theories learned in the classroom with the world-of-work. It allows students the opportunity to “test” out the career to confirm it is the perfect fit for them while enhancing their resume, making them more competitive for today's job market.

Connect with Employers

The CCD hosts three major events each year to bring students and employers face-to-face to explore opportunities for career employment as well as internships. Encourage your student to attend and ensure they have appropriate business attire to make a great first impression. Business suits in conservative colors, with dress shoes should be a part of every college student's wardrobe. The Dress for Success Closet (located in the CCD) provides donated professional clothing for those students without appropriate attire.

eBear

Students do not have to confine their job search to generic job search engines; encourage them to get an eBear account.

Students can use our online database (eBear) to search for part-time jobs and internship opportunities and learn about upcoming career fairs, employer information sessions, career development workshops, and more!

Insist that they Visit the CCD, Early and Often

Career Counselors/Advisors can meet with students one-on-one to discuss/ formulate career plans, review resumes and cover letters, learn job search strategies, practice interview skills, investigate career options, find internships and jobs, and plan for graduate school. The staff is available for assistance on a walk-in basis or by appointment. Whether they are a first-year or transfer student trying to decide a career, someone looking for hands-on experience, or an alumnus navigating a career transition, relax—the CCD is here to assist. ■



Together we can make their “dream” job a reality.



Helpful Hints from the Office of Residence Life & Housing

Residency on campus is voluntary and there is no requirement for freshmen or other students to live on campus. All newly enrolled students who live on campus in the residence halls, however, must participate in a University dining plan.

Housing at MSU is not guaranteed, and we suggest that new students apply for housing as early as possible. Please be advised that acceptance of your student's housing application and the required non-refundable fee of \$200 is not a guarantee of a room assignment.

Housing assignments for new students are processed in July and are emailed to your student's MSU email address before they arrive on campus for the fall semester (no later than August 1). It is your student's responsibility to activate and regularly

check their MSU email account and to keep the Office of Residence Life and Housing (ORLH) informed of their correct email address.

A residence hall assignment cannot be confirmed until satisfactory financial arrangements are made to cover the entire cost of your student's tuition, fees, and room and board for the fall semester. Please see our webpage at reslife2.morgan.edu for detailed instructions and information.

The Checklist for Living On-Campus at MSU

Is your student ready to live on campus? Complete this checklist with them to be sure:

Yes!

- ☐ We read about the University Residence Halls online, including the contract.
- ☐ We have considered our finances and read the rate information.
- ☐ We have logged onto reslife2.morgan.edu to complete the housing process by completing the application and paying the \$200 non-refundable application fee.
- ☐ We understand that the University Residence Halls are owned and operated by Morgan State University.
- ☐ We are no longer interested in exploring other housing options in the Baltimore area.
- ☐ We read the cancellation policy and understand that a student can be released from a housing contract only if he or she submits a cancellation within the designated cancellation time frame.
- ☐ I realize that if my student signs and submits a Housing Application and the non-refundable fee, he or she (and the co-signer, if applicable) will have a legally binding agreement subject to the terms and conditions of the contract. If the student is under 18 years old, the housing application must also be co-signed by a parent or legal guardian, and that a signature forms a binding legal contract.
- ☐ I want my student to live in University Residence Halls — the choice most new students make each year! ■

MSU Counseling Center Tips for Parents



Even when you're not seeing your son or daughter regularly, many parents can hear a difference in the way their sons or daughters sound on the phone — changes in mood, energy, tone of voice.

The Counseling Center is available to help with your concerns about your son or daughter through the process of consultation. During a consultation with a member of our staff, usually by phone, we listen to your concerns and offer some advice or recommendations about what you can do. Generally, we assist you in working further with the student rather than contacting the student ourselves. In so doing, we are respecting the student's right to privacy and self-determination in seeking psychological assistance.

When to consider a consultation

Look for changes in a student's behavior, including appearance, lower academic functioning, and level of energy or interest. For example, missing classes or work may reflect difficulty sleeping at night, trouble being in public, fear of disappointing others by a low performance. Behavior that is out of the typical range for university students may also represent a psychological problem. Or, a general sense of depression (the blues) may be reason to consult the Counseling Center.

How to bring it up...

Should you be concerned about your son or daughter, here are several tips to consider. The Counseling Center is available for consultation or referral, if necessary.

If a student appears troubled but does not tell you so, you can broach the subject in a caring, supportive way. It's often a relief to students having difficulties to know that people they care about notice what's going on.

Here are some suggestions of how to start a conversation:

- I'm concerned about you. I've noticed you have been looking (or sounding) tired and you seem as if there's a lot on your mind lately. Would you like to talk about how things are going for you?
- You mentioned that you've been missing classes lately, and that can set you back a lot. I'm bringing this up because I care about you. Is there anything going on that is getting in your way?
- I'm concerned about how you are doing. Your grades are lower than usual this semester. Is there something that's keeping you from studying or learning?

How to talk about it...

Whether you broach the topic or a student does, it is often very helpful to talk about a student's concern to the extent you feel comfortable. Make sure to have privacy and some time without interruption. Here are some tips for empathic listening:

- Listen, listen, listen...let the student tell his or her story without interrupting.
- Don't try to solve a problem too quickly with advice or reassurance...let the student express emotion (often it has been building up or bottled up)...let the person know it is all right to talk to you about personal concerns...avoid questions that can seem like blame or judgment...show that the situation is one many students have dealt with (if that is true)...ask if the student has found anything that helps with the problem.

Referring to the Counseling Center

Some students may be reluctant on their own to contact the Counseling Center. You can address this reluctance by letting them know that hundreds of students use the Counseling Center every year and counseling is a part of general health care, with a focus on emotional and interpersonal satisfaction. It helps students to hear that seeking counseling is not a sign of weakness, "craziness," or an inability to handle one's own problems, but rather a sign of strength in seeking out resources. Note to the student that services are confidential and free. You can give the student our brochure (call our office if you would like a copy) or phone number (443) 885-3130.

Take a look at our website so that you can be familiar with our services and comfortably tell your son or daughter about us: www.morgan.edu/Counseling or go to the Morgan webpage and type "counseling" into the search box. ■

Whether you broach the topic or a student does, it is often very helpful to talk about a student's concern to the extent you feel comfortable.



The Center for Academic Success and Achievement

The Center for Academic Success and Achievement (CASA) exists primarily to promote and to enhance the academic and personal development of all Morgan State University students through professional academic advisement, peer tutoring, and supplemental instruction programs.

Academic Advisement

Academic advising is a strategy for improved student persistence and retention. The Center for Academic Success and Achievement houses a team of professional academic advisors who serve as a critical link in the retention of students at the University. Professional academic advisors assist students in defining and reaching educational and developmental goals.

Specifically, our advisors are assigned to and aid all degree-seeking undergraduates in the following student populations:

- **CASA Academy Participants** – first and second-year students who have successfully completed the CASA Academy or Pre-College Studies programs.
- **Exploratory Learners** – students who have not yet decided on or declared an academic major.

CASA Resource/Tutoring Center

The CASA Resource Center provides an intellectual learning environment and is open to all Morgan State University students. In the Resource Center, Morgan students can utilize a wide array of services including personalized study skills management, access to computer printing and academic-related internet research, study space, and one-on-one tutoring.

Tutoring Services

The Center offers a structured, comprehensive peer tutoring program and services for all students attending Morgan State University. The dedicated staff of peer tutors serves as an invaluable resource for students as a supplement to classroom and lab instruction, enabling them to achieve academic success and develop lifelong learning skills. Tutoring sessions are one hour. The Resource/Tutoring Center is located in the Communications Center, Room 120.

CASA Hours

The Center is open from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

CASA Appointments

Students should come to the Center to schedule an appointment with a tutor in the appropriate subject. One-on-one tutoring is provided to students. If tutors are available, walk-ins are welcome. ■



Communicating with your “Morganite”



The University Post Office is located on the Lower Level – Montebello Complex C Wing, Room 07. The hours of operation during the Spring and Fall semesters are Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Current mail services for students are first class mail, certified and priority mail, post office express, and insured mail. In order to utilize the services of the post office students must present a Morgan State University Bear Card; no other form of identification is acceptable. All letters, accountable mail, packages, etc. must be addressed with students' name and residence hall included in the mailing address.

Helpful Hints

All mail received must have students' given name – We cannot identify students by nicknames.

Do not send cash through the mail – While it is not against the law, students cannot be reimbursed if lost.

When making purchases online via the Internet – Purchases must be addressed to students by their name and residence hall. Otherwise, the Post Office cannot release the package, it will be returned.

If family member(s) are making purchases on a student's behalf (they are the account holder) – The packages may be addressed to them in care of the student's name and residence hall, otherwise it will be returned.

If a company or banking institution cannot include a line for a student's residence hall name – Suggest that they use three to four letters to represent the residence hall name.

- Example: (Blt. – Blount Towers)

It is imperative that the correct zip code is on mail or packages. Incorrect zip codes may delay student's mail or packages up to twenty-one (21) days. ■

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MORGAN?

VISIT

UNIVERSITYPARENT.COM/MORGAN

FOR ANSWERS

What are some of the area's best restaurants?

Where can my son store his belongings over the summer?

What's the best way to get from the airport to campus?

Where should we stay when we come to visit our student?

What banks are near campus?

What are some fun things to do in the area?

Who should I call if I want to send my daughter flowers?



www.universityparent.com/morgan

For advertising inquiries, please visit reachcollegeparents.com or email: ads@universityparent.com

A PLACE YOU CAN CALL HOME!

**The Gardens
Apartment
Leasing Center**

In Loch Raven

Call: 410-444-4411

SIMPLE QUALIFICATION PROCESS!

5% STUDENT DISCOUNT!


HENDERSEN-WEBB, INC.
YOUR HOMETOWN PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMPANY FOR OVER 75 YEARS

2423-B Wellbridge Drive
Baltimore, MD 21234

Call: 410-444-4411

www.aptrrent.com

