GET INVOLVED

Tip 1: Getting involved will allow you to become connected to ODU. ODU is full of resources and opportunities, but the responsibility is on you to seek them out. It helps to build community and discover new friends with similar interests.

Tip 2: It will allow you to discover your passions and strengths.

Tip 3: It’s a résumé builder: Freshman year is not too soon to begin thinking about positioning yourself for future employment. Keep a record of everything you do as you will want to write about your activities in your applications, resumes, and interviews. Keep in touch with everyone you meet, too; employers and club leaders can write recommendations.

Tip 4: And most importantly, research shows that busier students do better in all areas: This will vary a lot by the student, of course, but more free time does not always equal better grades. Being involved will require some organization and time management from you—and that’s a good thing.

Tip 5: Learn these four terms: consistency, development, leadership, and initiative. Say them to yourself, time and time again. These are what colleges are about.

- **Consistency**: Find an activity that you like and stick with it. If you are a junior or senior and you’re busier than ever, don’t give up activities. *This is the time to shine.*
- **Development**: Get more involved as time goes on. Try to develop in at least one activity.
- **Leadership**: Try to take on leadership roles. Begin planning activities. Begin assisting leaders. Do as much as you can. It will help you take on the real world when you graduate.
- **Initiative**: Everyone has great ideas. Use them. There are so many things you can do. Start a chapter of a non-profit at your school. Volunteer for a local politician. Give speeches and presentations, plan events, become the features editor of the newspaper. Go above and beyond. The sky is the limit with your passions.

Try this now...

Explore these options on campus:

**Job Opportunities**: There are likely many part-time jobs on and off campus that can provide a good way to get involved with a business or organization.

**Sports Clubs**: One can get involved with sports by simply going to sports facilities, joining an intramural organization, or through some sort of club organization.

**Social Organizations**: There are many social organizations that a student can get involved in.

**Academic Organizations**: There are many different academic organizations tied to departments and organizations for the university.

**Volunteer Opportunities**: Every community has volunteer opportunities.

While the main purpose of going to college is to get an education, getting involved can have a positive impact on our academic performance.