



**STUDENT SUCCESS PLAN**

**About Me**

First, it will be helpful to reflect on a few aspects of your life as you begin to develop a clear plan for college success. Answer the following questions about yourself as completely as possible.

**1** I WAS MOTIVATED TO PURSUE A COLLEGE DEGREE BECAUSE...

**2** AFTER I GRADUATE, I PLAN TO USE MY EARNED COLLEGE CREDENTIAL(S)  
[DEGREE, DIPLOMA, CERTIFICATES] BY...

**3** THINK ABOUT SOME OF THE CHALLENGES, BARRIERS, OR OBSTACLES THAT YOU MAY FACE  
NEXT SEMESTER AS YOU PROGRESS TOWARD YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS BEFORE COMPLETING  
THE FOLLOWING CHART.

CHALLENGE	STRATEGIES	STRENGTHS	RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO YOU
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**My Study Habits**

GENERALLY, I STUDY \_\_\_\_\_ HOURS A DAY.

GENERALLY, I SIT DOWN TO STUDY \_\_\_\_\_ TIMES PER WEEK.

CLEARLY DESCRIBE THE SETTING(S) WHERE YOU FEEL MOST PRODUCTIVE STUDYING?  
WHY DO YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE IN THESE SETTINGS?

I FEEL I COULD IMPROVE MY STUDY HABITS BY...

**My Personal Success Team**

NAME:

HOW HE/SHE/THEY SUPPORT YOU:

NAME:

HOW HE/SHE/THEY SUPPORT YOU:

NAME:

HOW HE/SHE/THEY SUPPORT YOU:

NAME:

HOW HE/SHE/THEY SUPPORT YOU:



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**Academic Success Reflection**

Think about the courses you have taken so far. Use the following worksheet to highlight two courses in each category.

COURSE	I SUCCEEDED BECAUSE...	THE SUCCESS STRATEGIES THAT I USED WERE...
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COURSE	FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO ME NOT SUCCEEDING AS I WOULD LIKE...	I BELIEVE I COULD HAVE SUCCEEDED IF I HAD...
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## STUDENT SUCCESS PLAN

### Meeting with My Academic Adviser

ADVISER:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

BUILDING/OFFICE:

BRAINSTORM FOUR POTENTIAL QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR ADVISER:

### Discussion Points with My Adviser

It is important to know *why* you choose an academic program. In the box below, brainstorm a few reasons why you chose your major. For ideas, visit the following webpage where you can find a description of what is learned in your respective program: [ist.psu.edu/prospective/undergraduate/academics](http://ist.psu.edu/prospective/undergraduate/academics)

Courses to Explore: If you are also deciding between courses within a department and have questions about those courses to discuss with your adviser, please check out the *Penn State Undergraduate Degree Programs Bulletin* to get a baseline understanding: [bulletins.psu.edu/university-course-descriptions/undergraduate](http://bulletins.psu.edu/university-course-descriptions/undergraduate)

BRAINSTORM A FEW REASONS WHY YOU CHOSE YOUR MAJOR:



## STUDENT SUCCESS PLAN

### Mapping Goals for My Academic Success

Understanding how to calculate your grade-point average is extremely important when setting academic goals.

**[LEARN HOW TO CALCULATE YOUR GRADE-POINT AVERAGE](https://ist.psu.edu/current/careers/development/process/gpa-calculator)** (<https://ist.psu.edu/current/careers/development/process/gpa-calculator>)

### Grade-Point Average Projection

MY CURRENT OVERALL GRADE-POINT AVERAGE IS:

TO IMPROVE MY GRADE-POINT AVERAGE TO A:

I MUST EARN THE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF CREDITS:

AND MUST EARN THIS GRADE-POINT AVERAGE:

### My College and Career Goals

To achieve college and career success, it is important to set personal goals and then develop an action plan to achieve them. Develop three academic and/or personal goals (two short-term and one long-term) below and describe how you will achieve the goals and give yourself a deadline for completion.

### S.M.A.R.T. Goals

S.M.A.R.T. goals are ones that set objectives and key performance indicators (KPIs) in a precise and easy-to-communicate way. First described in print 1981 by author George T. Doran and later expanded by Professor Robert S. Ruben, S.M.A.R.T. is an acronym that stands for:

- **S**pecific
- **M**easurable
- **A**chievable
- **R**elevant
- **T**ime-bound

S.M.A.R.T. states that clear, attainable, strategic goals are the most effective way to create concrete milestones and metrics. Instead of a general goal like “increase sales,” we might consider a S.M.A.R.T.er goal like “increase February’s year-over-year premium subscription sales in California by 4 percent.” S.M.A.R.T. goals are the individual steps of a well-considered strategy to achieving larger objectives. If you were running a marathon or climbing a mountain, S.M.A.R.T. goals would be the mile markers along the way, letting you know where you are and how well you’re doing. It isn’t just about getting to the end, but rather what steps to take to get there. S.M.A.R.T. KPIs are what S.M.A.R.T. goals use as the accountable measurements, with a start and end.



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**Mapping Goals for My Academic Success**

**SMART GOAL WRITTEN GUIDE** (<https://www.tableau.com/learn/articles/smart-goals-criteria>)

**SMART GOAL #1**

How I will achieve this goal

Deadline (Month, Year)

**SMART GOAL #2**

How I will achieve this goal

Deadline (Month, Year)

**SMART GOAL #3**

How I will achieve this goal

Deadline (Month, Year)