What You Should Know About Your Student's Advisor

As we get ready to adjust our clocks back, our students fall forward into spring registration! We are almost two-thirds of the way through the semester and yet it is time to begin spring registration. Academic Advisors are a powerful resource for supporting students through the registration process. While most freshmen will not be registering until late November or early December, they should be reaching out to their academic advisor now to discuss their spring courses and academic progress. Be sure to ask your student about their spring registration plans. Here are a few tips for your student to make the most of the time with their advisor.

1. **Start right away.**
   Your student should establish a relationship with the advisor as soon as possible. The earlier the two start meeting, the more quickly the advisor can get to know your student's goals, learning style and expectations and then tailor advice for a perfect fit. All first year students are assigned an advisor by the end of September. If they have a minor, they will have an advisor for their major and minor, and the same for a second major or minor. In other words, each major or minor will have an advisor. Advisors are listed on the student's PROWL account. If your student can't find the information, ask him or her to come to **Student Success** in the Malone Student Center Building, Suite 301 and a staff member will show them how to find their advisor.

2. **Show Initiative.**
   It's up to your student to schedule meetings. Encourage him or her to make frequent appointments—and write them down in a calendar as a reminder.

   As a reminder, all first year students will have an "advisor hold" on their account and cannot register for spring classes until they see their advisor. Any holds on the student’s record for academic, financial, student conduct, or other reasons may inhibit eligibility for registration. A student is not considered registered until official clearance has been obtained from Student Accounts and successful registration through PROWL has been processed by the Office of the Registrar.

**Spring Registration** begins November 9 and continues through December. Student registration dates are dependent on credit hours earned, so most freshmen will not register until late November or early December.

Your student can find his or her registration date on their PROWL account. Again, if your student cannot find that information, ask him or her to come to **Student Success** in the Malone Student Center Building, Suite 301 and a staff member can assist.
3. **Be prepared.**
In order to make the best of advising appointments, students are encouraged to become familiar with the degree requirements, coursework within the major and other information about academic policies. LMU students must be pro-active in understanding the academic requirements, policies, and procedures. When meeting with their advisor, he or she should arrive with a rough draft of their course schedule and well-developed questions. Students should also focus on possible conflicts or alternative course choices in their discussion with their advisor. All course information is available in the [University Bulletin](#) available on the webpage for the [Office of the Registrar](#).

If your student has any questions or concerns, encourage them to visit the [Student Success](#) in Malone 301. The FYE team is ready and available to support them through this process. Be on the lookout for our message about LMU Sorority and Fraternity Life.

Until next time!

Lisha Maddox
Associate Director of Student Success

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**If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at lmuparentprograms@lmu.edu.**

Visit our [Parent Pride website](#) for additional articles and resources!