Success Academy FAQ

Q: If I participate in the Success Academy, do I have to re-apply for the fall?
A: No. If you take part in the Success Academy during the summer, you are a regularly admitted student at Georgia State University.

Q: How do I accept the invitation to participate in the Success Academy?
A: It is a one-step process. Go to http://success.students.gsu.edu/first-year-programs/success-academy/successacademy-intent-enroll/ and complete the Intent to Enroll. Completing the form will not only confirm your participation in the Success Academy, but will also indicate that you will attend Georgia State University.

Q: Where is the Commitment Statement to participate in the Success Academy?
A: The Commitment Statement will be available for you to sign during the Reception and during the Orientation. It will basically state that you understand that the program you are joining lasts for three semesters (summer 2016, fall 2016, and spring 2017) and that you will participate for the duration of the program.

Q: What if I have not completed my FAFSA? Will my application still be reviewed if I have not applied for this current year?
A: Your application will still be considered; however, you will need to complete the free FAFSA as soon as possible. Not doing so means that you would not be eligible for financial aid during the summer semester.

Q: Why do I have to complete 2 FAFSA Forms?
A: Financial Aid is determined on a calendar that begins with the fall semester and ends with the summer semester. Therefore, the 2016-2017 FASFA will determine how much financial aid you can receive for fall 2016, spring 2017, and summer 2017. Since the Success Academy begins in summer 2016, which is from the financial aid year 2015-2016, you must also complete the FASFA for 2015-2016 to receive financial aid during the summer semester.

Q: How do I apply for Housing?
A: Once you identify that you will participate in the Success Academy, you will be issued a campus ID and Panther ID. (Your campus ID will be the first letter of your first name, your last name, and a number. Your Panther ID will be a nine digits number.) As soon as you receive both IDs, you will be able to apply for housing.

Q: If I need to be on campus most of my weekdays, will there be opportunities for me to have fun in the summer?
A: Absolutely. We have many events and activities planned during the summer that are geared specifically for you to unwind and have fun. Many of those events are organized through Housing, which is another reason to live on campus this summer.
Q: What classes will I be taking in the summer?
A: It depends on which section of Success Academy you join. For summer, all sections will include:

- GSU 1010 New Student Orientation—This course is required for everyone in this program. The class is not part of the Core Curriculum, but it counts in the institutional and HOPE GPA. We have research that shows that students who actively participate in this course graduate faster, retain the HOPE scholarship at a higher rate, and have higher GPAs over their college career. This is the course that will provide us with the opportunity to assist you in developing solid academic skills and to aid in your college transition. We have dedicated resources for this class to provide study skills and learning styles assessments for students, as well as hired a peer mentor to be in the class to help you with your transition.
- Engl 1101 English Composition I—Required course for all students.
- Third course to be chosen from the Social Sciences or Humanities section of the Core Curriculum. The third summer course will count towards the fulfillment of the Core Curriculum regardless of your intended major.

Q: Are classes from Monday to Friday? Why do I have to be available on campus for most of the day Monday to Friday?
A: The class schedules vary, but students have class on all days during summer. We are staggering the classes in order to create opportunities for study skills workshops and other academic support. We will also have guest speakers from the community and across campus that will be scheduled during the time the students are here.

This is why you are required to commit to being here from 9:30am-4:00pm Monday-Friday (summer only). The goal is to teach you how to appropriately manage your time while accomplishing all of your academic responsibilities and getting involved on campus. You will have time during the day to relax and do fun things, but we are going to teach you how to schedule in those things in order to still get you work completed.

Q: Can I select my own classes?
A: Not for summer. The Success Academy aims not only to provide you with successful skills to help you do well at Georgia State, but also to form a small, friendly community within a large, research university. If you do not take the same courses as everyone else, you would not be fully integrated in the Success Academy community. You will have the opportunity to select certain courses for fall and spring semesters.

Q: Do I have to live on campus?
A: We strongly encourage students to live on campus because many events and activities are held on campus; therefore, living in student housing allows you to attend these easily. Another reason to live on campus is that Residential Advisors will be on your floor to assist you from transitioning to living on your own to organizing activities to helping you discover Atlanta. Finally, studies have shown that students who live on campus tend to stay in school and graduate at higher rates. Since we want to make sure you succeed at Georgia State, living on campus is a good place to start. This being said, we recognize that not all students may be able to live on campus, which is partly why, in order to alleviate this, we ask students to be available from 9:30am-4:00pm on weekdays.
Q: If I live on campus this summer, will I maintain the same residence hall room for fall?
A: In the summer, our students will all be in Piedmont North, which is the building where the dining hall is situated. For fall, however, you do not have to be in the same hall and can select another space. Please note that you still need to apply to Housing for fall semester. Living in Housing during the summer does not guarantee a spot for fall.

Q: Do I have to have a meal plan if I live on campus?
A: Yes, you are required to have a meal plan because the rooms in Piedmont North do not have kitchens. The dining facility is located on the first floor of the building. The dining hall will be open every day for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The facility is an all-you-can eat dining hall.

Q: Will I have time for a part-time job?
A: Potentially. You could work in the evenings or on the weekends because we don't intend to schedule too many required events then. If you are living on campus, there will be evening programs that you can attend to enhance your experience if you choose to participate.

Q: Are there any work/study opportunities at this time?
A: This would depend on your financial aid award. Once you receive your award, you will know whether you are eligible for work-study. If this is something that you need in order to attend Georgia State, we are going to have the Office of Financial Aid talk to the Success Academy students and you would have an opportunity to talk with them about your specific situation.

Q: I was hoping to join a Freshman Learning Community (FLC) in the fall. If I do Success Academy, will I be in the same classes as other FLC students? Or, is Success Academy an FLC?
A: The Success Academy is actually an FLC. The students will be together for 3 semesters, which is unique to our program. Studies indicate that if the students are together for more than one semester, they perform better. With the Success Academy, all of the classes in the summer are selected for you. However, in the fall and spring, 2-3 classes are pre-determined and you will select the others on your own. We will assist you when you are making your course decisions to ensure you from creating a schedule that will contribute to your academic success.

Q: I already signed up for INCEPT; should I still attend?
A: No. We are currently planning two specific orientations (Incept) for Success Academy students on Tuesday, May 31st and Wednesday, June 1st, 2016. Even if you live at home, you would be expected to participate in one of these events.

Other questions should be directed to successacademy@gsu.edu.