

Path: I Want to Go to Continue My Education

Course: What Community Activities Can Help  
Me Continue My Education?

Lesson: Participating in College Experiences

## Participating in College Experiences

*For students who want to continue their education*

### What Do Colleges Offer Students?

Colleges offer many experiences that can help you prepare for a career and have fun outside of work or class.

College experiences can help you:

- Learn new skills
- Earn a degree or certificate
- Prepare for a career
- Have fun
- Make new friends
- Have a balanced college experience



### Types of College Experiences

#### Elective Courses

- Elective courses are classes you choose to take. Some examples are bowling, photography, or biology classes.
- These courses give you a chance to explore your interests.
- You may learn about new career opportunities by taking an elective course.
- There are three types of elective courses:
  - General education electives – classes that count towards the requirements for your degree or certificate
  - Area of study electives – classes you pick geared towards your degree requirements
  - Free electives – classes you can take that may not be required to get your degree



## Work or Volunteer on Campus

- A college's career center can help you find work on campus or a volunteer opportunity.
  - Campus jobs are paid, part-time positions that are flexible, and work around your class schedule.
  - Volunteer opportunities have flexible hours to fit your schedule.
- Working on campus can help you:
  - Earn extra money to pay for college, everyday expenses, or provide extra money to do fun things
  - Learn skills
  - Gain work experience to add to your resume
- Volunteering can help you:
  - Learn skills
  - Explore different career options
  - Meet new people



## Getting Involved with Your College Community

- There are a lot of things you can do when you are not in class. This can include:
  - Making friends
  - Finding a new hobby
  - Exploring things around campus or town
  - Doing things that you enjoy
  - Working with other students on a project
- Learning to manage your time is a skill you will need as a college student.
  - You will need to manage your time between your classes, assignments, and things you enjoy.



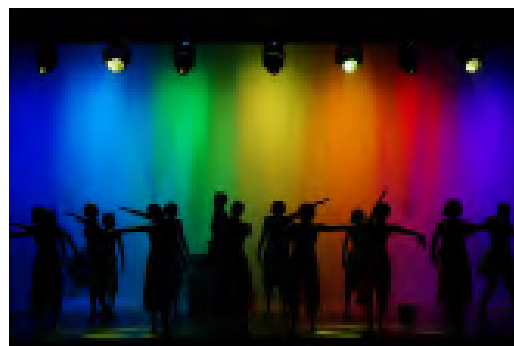
## Student Clubs and Organizations

- You can join student clubs or student organizations.
  - A student club is a group created by students who meet regularly to do fun activities and share common interests.
  - A student organization is a group that is organized by the college but is run by students.
- Student clubs and organizations can help you:
  - Meet new people
  - Have fun
  - Learn skills that may be helpful in a career
  - Use skills you are learning in your classes
  - Add experiences to your resume



## Recreational Opportunities

- There are many recreational opportunities you can participate in at college.
  - You can participate in recreational opportunities during:
    - Sporting events
    - Art and theater events
    - Special events like a family weekend
    - Intramural sports
  - You can participate in recreational opportunities at places like:
    - Recreation and fitness center
    - Student center
- Recreational opportunities can help you:
  - Meet new people
  - Explore interests
  - Learn skills
  - Reduce stress
  - Have fun with friends
- Colleges will post recreational opportunities on the college's campus calendar, website,



## Wrap-Up

- There are many experiences for you to enjoy while in college.
- These experiences include taking elective courses, working on campus, connecting with your college community, joining student clubs and organizations, and participating in recreational opportunities.
- These experiences can help you prepare for a career or life after college.
- College experiences can also be fun and help you explore new interests.