College is your first job and juggling classes, social activities, and family can become overwhelming. However, college expenses can add up quickly. The choice to work during college can be very beneficial. Although it does take extra effort to hold down a job and still get good grades, you can do it!

5 REASONS TO CONSIDER WORKING:

1. CAN HELP AVOID DEBT
   A part-time job and careful budgeting can help reduce the amount you borrow to pay for school

2. PROVIDES VALUABLE JOB EXPERIENCE
   Even a job that is not directly related to your field can make you much more competitive after graduation

3. CAN TEACH TIME MANAGEMENT SKILLS

4. YOU APPRECIATE YOUR EDUCATION MORE WHEN YOU HAVE TO WORK FOR IT

5. TEACHES CONFIDENCE AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS

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PROCEED WITH CAUTION

• Figure out how much money you need. Is the job the main source of your tuition money? Or just a way to have extra cash on the weekend? Figuring out how much you need/want will help figure out how many hours you will work.

• Aim to get a flexible job. Being a working student, you’ll have unique requirements, like wanting additional time off around the holidays and the possibility of not being around when campus is closed. Consider an on-campus job, that provides the flexibility you need.

• What do you want out of your job? Besides money, are you looking for experience? Networking? Time away from school?

• Check your schedule. Make sure you are not over-committed. It is not good for you to be under constant stress. Your grades and your health may suffer.

• Get your money’s worth. You are paying for school—don’t miss class. Get to know your professors. They can provide networking opportunities in the future. A college education will give you the biggest payoff down the road.

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