

For Parents: Essential Information for Supporting Success



Strong family support for new university students is a gift that cannot be understated. We are here to help you support and empower your child as they make decisions and transition into independence.

How to Empower Your Child as They Make Decisions

1) Foster Self-Awareness

You have watched your child grow up and you understand their skills, talents, interests, and goals. Take time to talk with your child about the activities they are involved with, the emotions they feel, and the challenges they face. You can help them identify what is important to them and encourage them to step out of their comfort zone and try something new.

2) Encourage Independence and Self-Advocacy

This is your child's future, so let them take the lead. Encourage your child to own the process of applying to universities, acquiring financial aid, paying deposits, and registering for courses. Through this, your child will begin to develop the skills needed to navigate the next four years independently and with self-advocacy skills.

3) Explore Different Options

Help your child understand their options by researching universities and programs with them. Use an online search to create a shortlist of top choices. Then, if you can, visit every

university on that shortlist with your child. While visiting a campus, your child will begin to see whether that university or program is the right fit.

4) Encourage Involvement and Engagement

There is more to university life than academics. There are many activities outside of the classroom to get involved with, which support leadership development and personal growth, foster long-lasting friendships, and result in memories to last a lifetime. Encourage your child to ask questions about campus size and location, institutional faith affiliations, residence, clubs, and leadership opportunities.

5) Seek Advice from the Experts

Rely on the experts to get the help you need. Help your child book an appointment with an Admissions Counsellor or Student Advisor. Admissions Offices can also connect your child with a current student in the program or university they are considering.

Remember that the transition to university is a significant milestone for both you and your child. Trust CMU to provide a supportive and nurturing environment that prioritizes your child's success and wellbeing.

Why CMU?

Whether pursuing social work, sciences, arts, music, or business, CMU provides a transformative educational experience that equips students to make a meaningful difference in their communities and the world. We strive for academic excellence and rigour, emphasizing hands-on learning through undergraduate research and work-integrated learning placements.

CMU students have unique opportunities to:

1) Be Part of an Inclusive and Nurturing Environment

CMU offers a welcoming and close-knit community where students are known and supported. With small class sizes, dedicated faculty, and a strong sense of belonging, students receive personalized attention, mentorship, and opportunities for deep engagement. CMU embraces diversity, fosters respectful dialogue, and values the unique perspectives and contributions of each individual. This inclusive and nurturing environment creates a supportive and enriching community where students can thrive academically, spiritually, and personally.

2) Integrate Faith and Learning

CMU's commitment to integrating faith, learning, and service sets us apart. With a focus on holistic education and servant leadership, CMU equips students to apply their knowledge and skills to make a positive difference in the world. Students are encouraged to explore how their faith informs their academic pursuits, social engagement, and personal growth. Whether studying social work, sciences, arts, music, or busi-

ness, students are encouraged to critically reflect on ethical and moral issues, engage in social justice, and live out their faith in tangible ways.

3) Develop an Interdisciplinary and Global Perspective

CMU values interdisciplinary study and recognizes the interconnectedness of knowledge across various disciplines. Students are encouraged and expected to explore different fields, make connections between subjects, and engage in critical and creative thinking. CMU also emphasizes the importance of global awareness and encourages students to develop a global perspective through international study opportunities, inter-cultural experiences, and engagement with pressing global issues. This interdisciplinary approach and global perspective prepares students to address complex challenges, think broadly, and make a positive impact in an increasingly interconnected world.

Stay Connected

We want to welcome you to the CMU community, too! Sign up for our monthly e-newsletter, Through This Place. Attend public lectures, community events, music ensemble performances, athletics games, and weekly chapels (many of these events are livestreamed for accessibility purposes). If you like, you can also send a care package to your child living in our dorms.

