Preparing to Transfer

1st Semester
- Attend New Student Orientation
- Register for classes and meet with an Academic Advisor
- Explore possible majors
- Visit the Career Planning & Placement Office for info on how your major fits your career plans
- If you have a specific major and college in mind, pick up a transfer guide from the Academic Advising Office, the Transfer Services Office, or www.morton.edu under Transfer Services
- Talk with college representatives when they are at Morton – Check www.morton.edu and our calendar of events for a schedule
- Meet with an Academic Advisor to discuss college choices and design an educational plan
- Visit college campuses, or take a virtual tour online

2nd Semester
- Request information from colleges via mail, and review everything they send
- Continue visiting college websites and take advantage of MC’s campus visits
- Changing your mind about a major is OK: make sure to visit Career Planning again to explore your new choice
- Meet with an Academic Advisor to let them know about your new career plans — a new educational plan may be needed
- Identify the academic requirements for each school you are considering — these may include GPA, a specific number of transferable credits, supplemental applications, ITBS score, essays, references, and recommendations
- Begin researching financial aid options, such as scholarships which are available for your major — start at the 4 year college’s website, then branch out to more general sites like Fastweb.com
- Find out when the college(s) of your choice will be hosting transfer day events — these are great opportunities to visit the campus and obtain information

3rd Semester
- Make a final decision about your major — now is the time!
- Narrow down your list of colleges you will apply to — pick 3 or 4
- Gather all your information about financial aid options and apply — begin with FAFSA, which is available after January 1
- Keep careful track of all scholarship, financial aid and application deadlines! Making a calendar can help you monitor dates paperwork is due
- If one of your application deadlines is this semester, apply online and save yourself some time, paper, and a stamp or two — increasingly, online is the preferred or even only way to apply
- Start requesting multiple copies of all your transcripts, and create the final drafts of your essays if needed
- Remember — all required documents must be received by the 4 year college by the application deadline! Being late can seriously hurt your chances of getting in

4th Semester
- Continue to keep track of application deadlines; some colleges have deadlines in the spring
- Create a backup plan with your Advisor, just in case you don’t get in — retaking some courses or reevaluating your career / major choice can be your ticket to getting in next time around!
- Planning on graduating with an AA or AS degree? Remember to file a graduation petition in the Academic Advising Office by April 4
- Check your mail for decision letters! Most colleges start sending out letters in April
- If you haven’t visited your future college yet, do it now! The first day of class should not be the first time you have been to the campus — many colleges even require you to attend an orientation
- Decide on the school that best fits your needs, and carefully weigh the pros and cons of attending before you decide
- Most schools require you to notify them of your intent to enroll by May 1, so check your decision letter to find out if you must inform your college you are planning to attend — if you don’t notify them in time, you could lose your seat!