Student Experiences:

For first-year students, the spring semester is often a time of self-discovery where they begin to transition from high school to college. This transition often involves new academic responsibilities. It’s important for your student to create a daily routine that prioritizes self-care (good sleep, exercise, healthy eating, physically distanced socialization, etc.), while balancing the demands of their coursework. For some students, this may mean exploring college life outside of their academic course work. For others, this may mean participating in our WeCU Here program after spring break, but for others this may mean exploring opportunities to connect with their network at WCU.

January brings a mix of anxiety about starting anew and excitement about a fresh start. Getting back into the routine after a long (and hopefully restful) winter break is often a challenge, so remind your student that readjustment takes time. While this promises to be another unprecedented semester, it will also be another opportunity to grow and learn in new ways.

Upcoming Opportunities for your Student:

- Get Engaged and Connected! Spring 2021 Upcoming Events
  - Sign up for RamConnect: a 5 week peer facilitated series that helps students find their place at WCU. In addition, OCCS partners with places4students to host events (3/3/21 & 3/25/21) for students to meet potential off campus roommates.
  - New School Year, new ways to get involved. If your student struggled with getting engaged outside of the classroom last semester there are plenty of ways they can get involved this semester. The Office of Campus Activities and Community Services (OCCS) is the number one way to encourage your student to check out RamConnect. You as a family member could also see RamConnect as a great way to get connected to campus life. If your student is having any problems with getting involved please encourage them to reach out to Student Engagement and Involvement.

- Financial Aid Updates
  - We are also preparing to disburse financial aid for the spring term. Students should review MyWCU to confirm that their Financial Aid package is ready. Award letters are scheduled to go out via email in the next few weeks, returning student awards letters are scheduled for March, and we are still accepting FAFSA filing appointment requests at wcupa.edu/finaid.
  - A new financial aid guide is now available online at wcupa.edu/finaid.
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- Good News from WCU
  - The Financial Aid Team is getting ready for next year’s financial aid awards!

- ON THE HORIZON

- Get Involved in the Spring! (3/25/21)
  - A new financial aid guide is now available online at wcupa.edu/finaid.

- Important Dates and Deadlines
  - FAFSA Filing Priority Deadline for WCU is February 1st!
  - Last Day of the Spring Session - May 10 - 14
  - Spring Break - March 15 - 21 (No Classes)
  - Fall 2021 Financial Aid Priority Deadline for New Students - March 1, 2021

- Success Coaching
  - A free, peer-to-peer program is available to all WCU students and individualized to their needs.
  - That you should know about is Success Coaching. This new program is designed to help your student with study skills, note-taking techniques, test preparation, time management, effective communication, combatting procrastination, and stress reduction, as well as help them learn to set goals and manage priorities.

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- If this enrollment discrepancy holds on your account, please contact us at 484-365-3499 or via email at AMcCarthy@wcupa.edu. The Office of the Registrar is happy to help you with any questions you may have about your classes or your schedule. If you have specific questions about your account, please contact us at 484-365-3499.

- Upcoming RamConnect Events:
  - Save the Date
    - Meet and Greet Program for incoming 2021 WAU and WCU students. Spend spring semester building virtual leadership skills (problem solving, communication, team work, all skills employers want to see from graduates).
    - Encourage them to join the RamConnect program for incoming 2021 WAU and WCU students. Spend spring semester building virtual leadership skills (problem solving, communication, team work, all skills employers want to see from graduates).

- Getting Ready to Apply for Spring 2021
  - While contributing to the WCU Family Fund.
  - Applications open February 1 – March 15.

- Show Your Ram Fam Pride
  - Visit wcupa.edu/parents to learn more about Ram Fam Pride.

- Good News from WCU
  - Financial Aid

- Get Involved in the Spring!
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