Success Matters | Reboot | Personal Success Plan

The personal success plan is designed to help you develop a plan for returning to good academic standing. Below you will find guided steps and an exercise for each step to help create your plan. Be honest with yourself about the commitment and effort you will invest in making the resulting plan relevant and achievable for you.

**Step 1: Identify the Obstacle**

Let’s take a stroll down memory lane. Describe two obstacles you encountered last semester. Then, describe how it impacted your ability to be successful. Think along the lines of cause and effect—what happened and the result of that happening.

Examples *(identified by students in the past)*:
1. I missed reading, assignments, or exams.
2. I made choices regarding my health, sleeping, and eating habits that didn’t support my success.
3. I had trouble adjusting to Clemson.

Your turn:

1. ____________________________________________________________
2. ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

**Step 2: Solutions for Overcoming the Obstacle**

Now that you’ve listed your obstacles let’s generate potential solutions for overcoming these obstacles. Create two viable solutions for each obstacle. Just like doing a puzzle takes trial and error, in the end, there will always be a solution.

Example *(based on the obstacles in Step 1)*:
1. I will engage with resources available to me at the Academic Success Center to create effective study habits.
2. I will set an effective daily schedule to set aside time for taking care of myself because I matter.
3. I will meet with my academic advisor to discuss my schedule and seek out groups and workshops for support.

Your turn:

1. ____________________________________________________________
2. ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

**Pause to Remember: Your Academic Advisor is a Resource!**

*Your academic advisor and the Academic Success Center team are committed to supporting you on your path to an excellent semester. If you’re interested in talking through this resource with someone, please do not hesitate to connect with your academic advisor. If you’re not sure who that is, please contact Dr. Jessica Owens at: dean4@clemson.edu.*
Step 3: Commit to Achievable Solutions

Congratulations! You are almost to the final step. Identify the two solutions you are most willing to try and commit. There are two questions to answer for each solution that will strengthen your commitment towards achievement.

Example (based on the solutions from Step 2):

1. I will engage with resources available to me at the Academic Success Center to create effective study habits.
   a. How will this solution help me?  
      It will help me be consistent with schoolwork and have my grades and G.P.A. in good standing.
   b. What will this solution require of me in terms of time and effort?  
      I will be required to set priorities and practice using the resources given to me at the Academic Success Center.

Your turn:

1. ___________________________  __________________________________________________________
   2. ___________________________  __________________________________________________________

How will these solutions help you?

1. ___________________________  __________________________________________________________
   2. ___________________________  __________________________________________________________

What will these solutions require of me in terms of time and effort?

1. ___________________________  __________________________________________________________
   2. ___________________________  __________________________________________________________

Step 4: Set Your Goals for the Week/Month/Semester

You’ve reached the final step! We hope you’ll wrap up your student success plan by identifying at least one goal for the upcoming semester. Ask yourself the following questions as you set your goal(s):

1. What exactly do you want to achieve?
2. How will you know when you have achieved this?
3. Is this something you have control over?
4. Why is this goal applicable to my life?
5. When do you want to achieve this goal by?

Your Turn:

1. ___________________________  __________________________________________________________

The “Setting S.M.A.R.T. Goals” resource provided by the Academic Success Center may be a valuable resource for you in the upcoming semester.