

Fully Integrated Resource, Support and Transition Program (FIRST)

Students who are accepted to the University of Dayton as participants in the FIRST Program will be asked to sign and return the following Terms of Agreement along with their deposit. We have added annotations in blue to explain each part of the contract.

I, the above named student, agree to meet the following expectations during my participation in the FIRST Program. I understand that my acceptance to the University depends on agreeing to all of the following:

I will –

- Enroll in and complete up to 15* semester hours of courses during the fall semester as outlined below:
 - The Art and Science of Learning (2 semester hours)
This class is the core of the FIRST program. Students will meet together in class twice a week to learn about themselves and each other, learn about learning and how to make it work best for them, and plan for a successful life at the university. Strategies and techniques taught in this course will be usable in all areas of the student's college life.
 - ASI 150/BAI 150/EDT 109/EGR 100/HSS 101/VAR 100, depending upon major (1 semester hour)
This is the one credit introduction to the university course that is required of all entering first-year students.
 - Up to 12* semester hours (4 courses) of other first-year studies. Specific courses will be determined in consultation with and approved by the appropriate Dean's Office. One or two of my courses will have formal learning support sessions attached.
FIRST students will enroll in up to 12* credit semester hours of other courses, for a total of 15 (16*) credit hours for the semester. This approach will allow students to focus their attention on a standard number of courses and take full advantage of the array of academic support and co-curricular learning opportunities available to them through the program.
 - *Science majors may be required to take an accompanying lab course for an additional 1 semester hour.
- Attend and participate in all learning support sessions scheduled in association with my courses unless prevented by documented illness or emergency. I will take responsibility for learning material and information covered in any sessions I miss due to documented illness or emergency.
When FIRST students are registered for fall courses, in one or two of those courses they will be assigned to sections that have formalized learning support attached to them. This means students will attend two regularly scheduled study sessions outside of class hours with other students in the class. These are not study halls or additional lecture sessions, and there is no additional homework. Rather, they are time for students to work collaboratively with a trained peer leader and the other students to solidify their understanding of class material. Students might work with others to compare and complete notes from class, prepare together for an upcoming test, practice solving problems like those the instructor is introducing, or draw concept maps to help organize and learn new material from class.

- Conform to all course policies, including the class attendance policy, as set by the instructor of each class.
Research on first-year college students from around the country demonstrates that regular attendance in class is one of the most important factors in students' success in college.
- Adhere to University regulations as detailed in the University of Dayton *Student Handbook* and show proper respect for all individuals and the community.
Living and learning responsibly in community is one of the major emphases of a University of Dayton education.

I understand that if I do not achieve the minimum GPA required to be in Good Standing as defined by the University, I will be placed on Academic Probation and if I do not achieve the minimum GPA required to be in good standing at the end of my second semester, I may be dismissed from the University.

We ask both parents and students to sign this contract to demonstrate that they all understand and agree to the comprehensive nature of the FIRST program and the commitment that is expected of FIRST students.

I have read these Terms of Agreement and understand that my acceptance to the University of Dayton for fall 2010 will be based on my agreement to the conditions and expectations presented above.

Student signature _____ **Date** _____

I have read the Terms of Agreement and I understand that acceptance of my student to the University of Dayton for fall 2010 will be based on my student's agreement to the conditions and expectations presented above.

Parent or guardian signature _____ **Date** _____

Acknowledged by _____ **Date** _____
Representative of the Office of Learning Resources

Acknowledged by _____ **Date** _____
Representative of the Academic Unit Dean's Office