It is already November!

As leaves change and fall, the weather gets cooler, daylight savings comes to an end, your well deserved BREAK is just days away!

You made it through midterms, Way to Go! Although the challenge was stressful, even nerve wracking at times, what matters the most is that you worked hard and tried your best. Keeping your eye on the prize while continuing to take advantage of STRIVE services will get you closer to achieving your set goals at HCC. STRIVE is here to support you and guide you every step of the way. Reach out to your STRIVE Counselor, together you can plan your next step toward achieving academic success. It is not how you get there that matters the most, is your resilience to overcome challenges that define and shape your path along the way!

A goal properly set is halfway reached.
–Zig Ziglar
IMPORTANT DATES:
Campus is Closed for Veteran’s Day
Monday, November 11th.

Tuesday, November 19th is the last day to withdraw and receive a “W” for a grade. If this is something you’re contemplating, see your STRIVE Counselor first so you understand the consequences. This may impact your financial aid!

Open registration for Spring 2020 begins Tuesday, November 12th!

Wednesday, November 27th, Classes follow a Friday Schedule!

SAVE THE DATE:

Social Hour

Wednesday, December 4, 2019 @ 11:00 a.m.

The College will be Closed November 28, 29, and 30 for the Thanksgiving Holiday/Recess break!

The concept of "First-Generation" students was introduced into federal policy by the TRIO community in 1980. In 2017, the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) and the NASPA Center for First-generation Student Success marked November 8th as the National First-Generation College Celebration Day!

We invite you to join us!

When: Thursday, November 7, 2019
Time: 11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.
Where: Campus Center Cafeteria

We will be handing out “Celebrate First-Gen” buttons!
#CelebrateFirstGen

Social Hour

When: Wednesday, November 13, 2019
Time: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Where: DON 368

When: Thursday, November 21, 2019
Time: 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Where: Campus Center 227H
(Snacks will be available)
Our transfer visit to Westfield State University!

We had fun painting pumpkins at last month’s social hour!
We are pleased to introduce Saúl Cabán as our new STRIVE Learning Specialist!

Saúl comes to us from Westfield State University where he held the position of the Career Counselor Employer Relations Specialist for the Career Center Employer Relations Department. As an alumnus of TRIO Student Support Services program from Westfield State University as well as a TRIO Mentor, Saúl is well versed in the needs and expectations of first generation to college students, students with financial needs (low income), and students with disabilities. His experience providing career development advising and assessments, one-on-one academic support and guidance, and coordination of disability services aligns with TRIO goals of increasing retention and graduations rates among our participants.

We are very excited to have Saúl join in our efforts in providing excellent student support services that promote, engage, and enhance academic success!

Welcome Saúl to the STRIVE Family!

ASK a Tutor or Learning Coach!

Need Help? Set yourself up for success!

STRIVE offers our students the opportunity to meet weekly with math tutors, writing tutors, and learning coaches to help you meet your goals.

Contact Raisa Amirova to help you get started!
Please join us in congratulating STRIVE students Elizabeth Busker, Sara Clausell, Reagan Os, and Luiginsa Rosa on their induction to the Holyoke Community College Alpha Xi Omega Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society!

The mission of Phi Theta Kappa is to recognize academic achievement of college students and to provide opportunities for them to grow as scholars and leaders. Phi Theta Kappa is the world's largest and most prestigious honor society for two-year colleges. This year's induction ceremony took place October 24, 2019.

**CONGRATULATIONS** from the STRIVE COMMUNITY!

Luiginsa Rosa

Elizabeth Busker

Brandon Bass

(current PTK member and this year's student speaker)
BUILD Research Competition: Call for Submissions

Better Use of Information and Library Databases (BUILD) is now accepting entries for research papers from Winter 2019, Spring 2019, Summer 2019 and Fall 2019 semesters.

The competition is open to all currently enrolled students whose research projects meet the following requirements:

**Eligibility:**

- All students enrolled at Holyoke Community College are encouraged to submit research papers/projects.
- Both individuals and teams may submit papers/projects. (Prize will be divided among team members.)
- Papers/projects submitted must be the result of work completed for a credit course at HCC during the following semesters: Winter 2019, Spring 2019, Summer 2019 or Fall 2019.
- Research papers/projects must be endorsed by the faculty member responsible for the course.
- Individuals or teams must agree that the winning paper/project will become the physical property of the HCC Library and Archives.

**Application Deadline:**

Friday, February 7, 2020

**Application:**

Students can pick up a BUILD competition application packet at the Circulation Desk (library lobby area) or download the packet at: [https://www.hcc.edu/library/events-and-activities/build-research-competition/application-procedure-and-deadline](https://www.hcc.edu/library/events-and-activities/build-research-competition/application-procedure-and-deadline)

Don’t forget to file your 2020-2021 FAFSA!

For help contact your STRIVE Counselor.

The Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators will be awarding several scholarships for students to attend the 12th Annual 2019 AHSIE Best Practices Conference. Scholarship categories include: associate’s level, bachelor’s level, and graduate/doctoral levels.

Recipients will be selected based on the eligibility requirements and criteria as detailed below.

- First-Generation college student
- Attend an HSI in U.S. or Puerto Rico
- Enrolled full-time in Fall 2019 and Spring 2020
- Pell-eligible (undergraduate applicants only)
- Undocumented students are eligible to apply
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Completed application (including 3 imbedded short essays)
- Scholarship recipients must attend the AHSIE Conference

The ideal candidate will demonstrate not only academic achievement, but also the potential for leadership and contribution to the community. By attending this conference, we hope to provide students the ability to broaden experiences, develop networks and foster mentorship possibilities with HSI designated campus professionals.

The award package includes cash scholarship, conference registration, round trip airfare and lodging and recipients will be honored at the AHSIE Conference. The conference will take place at the Bonaventure Resort & Spa in Weston, Florida from March 8-11, 2020.

Deadline to apply is MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2019, 5:00 p.m. PST.

Review the Scholarship Guidelines and complete the online application at [http://www.ahsie.org/scholarship/](http://www.ahsie.org/scholarship/).

Remember to always check-in and meet with your STRIVE Counselor!