



Success for Students  
Who Learn Differently

# Summer for Success — Virtually!

## Sunday, July 12 – Friday, July 31, 2020

Beacon College is reimagining summer for students who learn differently.

To ensure the safety and good health of participating students, faculty and staff in light of the challenges of COVID-19, we regretfully are canceling plans for our on-campus 2020 summer experience.

But Beacon's *Summer for Success — Virtually* offers you and your college-bound rising high school junior or senior **an all-new approach that recognizes the unique learning needs of neurodiverse students in a digital environment**. It will feature the same expert staff and faculty as our on-campus program and build on our two years of national leadership in online college transition support.

*Summer for Success — Virtually* is unlike any other summer program available to students who learn differently. Our goal is to provide a comprehensive and collaborative learning opportunity where students *and* families are supported with structured programming that enhances college readiness skills, even during the age of coronavirus. It will also help prepare students for the new realities of college and the college search during COVID-19.

Our program is designed to:

- Develop **independent living skills**
- Promote and support student **mental health** during this time of stress
- Offer rich **opportunities for social engagement** in a digital space

### Pre-Program Webinars

To help students and families proactively prepare for *Summer for Success — Virtually*, Beacon College will host four pre-program webinars that address critical issues related to online learning. Each webinar will begin at 5 p.m. (EST)

<b>Tuesday, June 9</b>	Shifting to a Virtual Summer Program: Expectations, Programming, and Changes
<b>Tuesday, June 16</b>	The College Transition Process During COVID
<b>Tuesday, June 23</b>	Understanding Student Expectations: How Best to Engage in the Program
<b>Tuesday, June 30</b>	Troubleshooting a Virtual Program

### Cost of Attendance

The cost for *Summer for Success — Virtually* is \$2,250 for three consecutive weeks of classes, one-to-one sessions, extracurricular experiences and more.

NOTE: Scholarships awarded to students who have already applied to the on-campus *Summer for Success* will be honored at an amount proportionate to the original cost of attendance.

## July 12 Virtual Orientation

Our online orientation will provide essential information for students and parents participating in [Summer for Success – Virtually](#) and will include:

- Welcoming Remarks by Beacon President George Hagerty, PhD
- Program Overview
- Introduction to our Classes & Instructors
- Organizational Best Practices to Promote Remote Learning

### Daily Schedule

The program runs every Monday through Friday, 12 noon to 8 p.m. (EST), using 45-minute blocks.

<b>12:00 – 12:15 pm</b>	<b>Community Meeting</b>
<b>12:30 – 1:15 pm</b>	<b>Class #1</b> ( <i>choose one</i> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Writing Strategies for College</li><li>• Animals In The Spotlight</li><li>• History on Stage</li></ul>
<b>1:30 – 2:15 pm</b>	<b>Class #2</b> ( <i>choose one</i> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Technology Skills &amp; Application</li><li>• College Readiness 101</li><li>• Disney History &amp; Fanfare</li></ul>
<b>2:30 – 3:15 pm</b>	<b>Class #3</b> ( <i>choose one</i> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• College Planning During COVID</li><li>• Math Strategies for College</li><li>• The Science &amp; Study of Human Behavior</li></ul>
<b>3:45 – 4:30 pm</b>	<b>Independent Living Skills</b>
<b>4:30 – 6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>6:00 – 8:00 pm</b>	<b>Evening Social Clubs &amp; All-Program Events</b>

The **course offerings** will use multiple learning styles — from lectures and presentations to videos and discussion groups — to fully connect with students based on their personal learning styles.

The program's **Independent Living Skills**, **Evening Social Clubs** and **All-Program Events** add even more topics, interests and engagement opportunities for participating students. Also included are key resources for parents (see *back cover*).

### Course Offerings

#### Writing Strategies for College

Most colleges require at least one writing intensive course. Students who struggle with writing and reading often must take non-credit bearing courses to prepare for this intensive writing class. This course will help you develop strategies to improve your understanding of academic text when writing and reading.

#### Math Strategies for College

Nearly half of all college students fail freshman math. At Beacon College, nearly all our students successfully complete their math course, thanks to our individualized approach to mathematics and the support of artificial intelligence. This course is custom designed to meet you where you are in your math abilities. You'll build your confidence and develop the fundamental skills needed for success across various college math courses.

#### NEW! College Planning During COVID

Current sophomores and juniors in high school are now at a disadvantage when it comes to planning for post-secondary life due to the closure of colleges and the limited access to campuses. Because the college search process takes longer for students who learn differently than their peers, this disruption could have significant impacts on the student's (and family's) ability to plan accordingly. This course will work with current 10th and 11th graders on how to begin the college search process, and how to find information pertinent to their wants and needs. Students will complete the program with an organized and individualized list of colleges to explore further.

#### College Readiness 101

This course will introduce you to the key concepts that are critical to effective decision-making — in and out of the college classroom. You'll learn practical strategies and explore some of the typical situations students face during their first year away from home. Topics include effective organizational techniques, methods of problem-solving, and the essential social integration skills needed to navigate a new college campus.

### **NEW! Animals In the Spotlight**

This course will critically examine famous animals, real and fictional, across a diversity of media. The class would explore events surrounding these animals, reactions by people, and the impact on society. Students would be responsible for maintaining a blog, podcast, or other social media of their choosing, to engage in active reflection and analysis of course material.

### **Technology Skills & Applications**

Now more than ever, technology has changed the way the world works. Individuals who understand how technology works and how to apply it are in high demand. Enhance your computer literacy and build your skills through this important course focusing on desktop productivity!

### **The Science & Study of Human Behavior**

What's going on in the human mind? Why do people do the things they do? This course provides an introduction to psychology and examines the mind, brain and human behavior. Gain a better understanding of your own thoughts, feelings, and behaviors, as well as those of the people around you.

### **NEW! Disney History & Fanfare**

Why are citizens of the world obsessed with Disney? Why do people flock to Central Florida throughout the year to take a picture with Mickey Mouse? This course will explore the history of Disney — both the creation of the three parks and the movies — and explore what draws billions of people to this entertainment source.

### **NEW! History on Stage**

Broadway has always drawn inspiration from historical events. Whether it be *Hamilton*, *The Sound of Music*, or *Jersey Boys*, the stage has been a way to explore true stories in a musical way. This course will look at the interplay of history and musical theater by focusing on a new Broadway show each day, and noting where creative liberty has removed some of the accuracy of the story!

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### **Independent Living Skills**

Students will opt into one of four Independent Living Skills tracks each week to learn, enhance, and practice essential tasks to increase independence.

### **At-Home Workouts**

Students will have an intense and creative fitness class each day to explore different ways to work out and remain healthy. Classes may include cardiovascular exercises, yoga, or Zumba as a means to showcase how individuals can remain fit, even when quarantined!

### **Financial Management**

Most students and parents are concerned about the financial independence that comes with college. Understanding cause and effect, consequences of overspending, and the importance of maintaining a budget are all skills often not directly taught in the classroom. This week-long seminar will focus on money management best practices to enhance student awareness of spending while also teaching fundamentals of financial literacy.

### **The Basics of Cooking**

You don't have to turn to the Food Network to learn to cook! This seminar series will explore easy recipes that the whole family can enjoy. Topics include the fundamentals of food safety, meal preparation tips and tricks, and cooking demonstrations to enhance your culinary creativity.

### **Emotional Self-Care**

Without a doubt, COVID has created a culture where many people may be struggling to manage their mental well-being. This seminar series will look at strategies around emotional self-care as we cope with COVID. Students will be able to normalize their experiences by learning mindfulness techniques, new ways of processing their thoughts or emotions, and prosocial behaviors to enhance personal well-being.

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### **Evening Social Clubs**

Held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, students will opt into a social club based on personal interests. This will allow students to share their passions and begin to develop new relationships with their peers across the country!

**Club #1:** E-Sports

**Club #2:** Film Club

**Club #3:** Performing Arts

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### **All-Program Events**

**Trivia Tuesdays:** Play our weekly trivia game that provides prizes to the winners!

**Workshop Wednesdays:** *Summer for Success — Virtually* is for parents too! During the summer, parents will have access to three different workshops that focus on college readiness skills for students who learn differently. Topics may explore common trends in higher education, the separation process, and methods of increasing independence.

**Togetherness Thursdays:** Participate in a structured social activity by region each week. With staff support, you'll interact with peers in your geographic area, with hopes of staying connected after COVID!

## Additional Services

### Program Intervention

During the program, staff will conduct engagement evaluations in each section. Students and parents alike will receive reminders via text message and/or email to help prompt students to join their session, or check in if they are not in attendance. If students are struggling to engage, they will have scheduled family sessions with our Academic or Residential Life Coordinators to process through difficulties and create organizational systems to increase participation.

### Transition Consultation

Beacon College's Transition Center will schedule individual consultations with all families to explore post-secondary options, make recommendations, and provide answers to questions to enhance proactive planning.

## Questions?

For questions or assistance, contact Alexander Morris-Wood at **352-638-9777** or **[amorriswood@BeaconCollege.edu](mailto:amorriswood@BeaconCollege.edu)**



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