NEW STUDENT VISITS

Pathway missionaries are strongly encouraged to visit with Pathway applicants and newly admitted students in an effort to welcome students and discuss their needs prior to the beginning of the semester. Following are some guidelines for missionaries to use.

OBJECTIVES
Visits between Pathway missionaries and students should achieve three objectives:
1. Help students feel cared for.
2. Allow the missionary to get to know the students.
3. Ensure the students have a basic understanding of Pathway’s requirements.

PROCESS & SCHEDULING
1. Check the list of applicants at your site every day (located in the PATH administrative system under “Site Manager”).

2. Make immediate contact with every applicant to briefly introduce yourself and let them know you are available to answer questions.

3. Schedule a face-to-face meeting with every student listed in the “Overview” tab under “Need to Conduct Pre-Semester Student Visit.” Meetings should ideally be scheduled within 15 days of a student being admitted to Pathway. (Missionaries should schedule specific dates, times, and locations for these meetings. Phone contacts are only acceptable if all attempts to meet in person have failed or if distance prohibits it.)

Sample Email
Hello [Name of Student]! We’re Elder and Sister [Your Name Here] and are service missionaries for the BYU-Idaho Pathway program in [Your Location Here], and we just found out you were admitted to Pathway – congratulations!

We would love to get to know you and also help with any questions you might have. We are conducting brief, informal visits with students at the [name of institute or church building] on [insert date here] and have openings at [insert time] and another at [insert time]. It should only take a few minutes. Let us know if one of these times works for you and we’ll send you directions. Just come with any questions you need answered — no need to dress up. We look forward to meeting you!

GUIDELINES
During the meetings, missionaries should:
1. Get to know the student, and allow the student to get to know you
2. Determine the student’s understanding about Pathway
3. Review key Pathway information

Please print the form on the following page to use as you conduct visits. This form is for your personal use. After your meeting, log into PATH and check the “Interviewed” box located on the student’s record. As you find specific student needs or concerns, counsel the student appropriately. Enjoy this opportunity to begin building a personal relationship with each new Pathway student.
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Use the following form when visiting with new Pathway students for the first time. Use the back of this page for notes.

STUDENT NAME: ________________________________

Get to know the student

• Find out about the student’s family, previous education, educational and career goals, etc.

Ask the student what they currently know about Pathway and its educational opportunities, then provide additional information as needed.

• Inform students about what their options are after Pathway, including applying to the BYU-Idaho Online Degree Program, going to a local college/university, or simply increasing marketability in the workforce.

Find out the student’s understanding of Pathway’s requirements, then review key points:

• Have daily access to a computer with high-speed Internet

• Plan to spend 15–20 hours per week on coursework

• Take courses during all three of BYU-Idaho’s semesters. (Click here to find exact dates.)
  o Fall (Sept.–Dec.) / Winter (Jan.–April) / Spring (April–July)

• Attend Pathway gatherings every Thursday night. Attendance is a significant part of student’s overall course grade.

- Obtain the financial resources to cover tuition during the first year
  o Tuition: Tuition is due by the first day of classes (not the first gathering). Direct students to Pathway Support if they have questions.
  o Financial Aid: During Pathway, students are not classified as “degree-seeking” and are therefore not eligible for U.S. federal financial aid. Once they complete Pathway and matriculate into a degree program, they will be eligible to apply for financial aid. International students do not qualify for any type of U.S. federal financial aid but may be eligible to apply for the Perpetual Education Fund.