

Welcome and Warm-Up

What is your **ROSE** and **THORN** from the fall semester?



Agenda

- ❑ About At the Table
- ❑ Important Dates at CUNY
- ❑ CUNY Policy Changes: Withdrawal & Bursar
- ❑ Covid Policy Updates
- ❑ Recovering from a Rough Semester

About Us

- We were founded in Fall 2020 with a mission to ensure that **every student in foster care gets a good education, believes in their ability and potential, and is connected to people who support their dreams.**
- We do **college tutoring and academic advising** for students currently **and formerly** in foster care.
- We also provide **training + technical support** to staff + organizations working at the intersection of education and foster care.
- Most of our board members are people with **lived experience of foster care.**
- Since our founding we've provided over 2,000 tutoring and advising sessions to students and 300 hours of training + technical support for agencies.

At the Table



www.atthetable.org



www.twitter.com/atthetablenyc

Who's Eligible / How to Refer

In order to be eligible for At the Table, students must:

- Be currently or formerly in foster care in NYC
 - We accept students who have been adopted, discharged, or reunified **at any age**.
- Be currently in college or planning to attend within the next year

Refer students to At the Table here! www.atthetable.org/for-students

Of eligible students who filled out our intake form (as of Summer '21):

- **71%** have had 2 or more tutoring sessions (average of 15 sessions by Summer '21)
- **6%** just needed academic advising
- **7%** are assigned to a tutor, awaiting a first session
- **16%** did not engage

Important Dates at CUNY

Date	Item
Tuesday, January 18	Deadline to upload proof of COVID-19 vaccination documents to CUNYfirst for in-person and hybrid classes
Thursday, January 27	Last day to drop a class with a 100% refund
Friday, January 28	Start of Spring Term
Thursday, February 3	Last day to add a class
Sunday, April 3	R2T4 60% Date for the term
Tuesday, May 17	Last day of class Last day to drop a course with a grade of W

LaGuardia, Guttman, and Kingsborough have different dates:

<https://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/registrar/academic-calendar/Fall-2021.html>

CUNY Policy Changes You Should Know

- **Withdrawal Policy (as of Fall 2021)**
 - CUNY no longer counts unofficial withdrawals (WUs) as failing grades in the GPA.
 - Students who get WUs before the R2T4 deadline still risk returning financial aid!
 - This policy does not appear to be retroactive.
 - **Students should still make sure to *officially* withdraw from classes when they cannot pass (and communicating with profs is as important as ever).**
 - Students cannot get a WU if they take the final for the class.
 - More info [here](#) (see pg. 7).
- **Standard Grade Appeal Policy**
 - Students have 1 year from the end of the semester in which a grade was earned to appeal.
 - There's still time to appeal grades from Spring 2021!
 - More info [here](#) (see pg. 8).
- **Changes to Bursar Holds**
 - CUNY no longer holds transcripts for students who have account balances.
 - This was announced alongside the CUNY comeback program.
 - More info [here](#).

COVID Policy Update: What's new?

- **Students who are regularly on campus who are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine booster are now required to receive one for the Spring 2022 semester.**
 - Campuses must develop a plan and timeframe requirement for students to provide proof of booster vaccination.
- Additional requirements for students also include **mandatory pre-testing ahead of their semester return**, which will apply to all students who plan to regularly access campus.
 - Each campus will develop and communicate an ongoing testing plan to monitor for positive cases throughout the semester.

COVID Policy Update: What are the deadlines?

- For students who attend 15-week schools, the spring semester begins 1/28/22
 - ~~12/17/21~~ deadline for first dose of Moderna Vaccine
 - ~~12/24/21~~ deadline for first dose of Pfizer Vaccine
 - 1/14/22 deadline for single dose of Johnson and Johnson Vaccine
 - 1/18/22 deadline to upload proof of vaccination on CUNYfirst
- For students who attend LaGuardia CC & Kingsborough CC, the spring semester begins 3/5/22
 - 1/22 deadline for first dose of Moderna
 - 1/29 deadline for first dose of Pfizer
 - 2/19 deadline for single dose of Johnson & Johnson vaccine
 - 2/26 deadline to upload proof of vaccination on CUNYfirst

*****Students enrolled in in-person classes who do not upload their proof by the deadline will be assigned a grade of WA.** This is an administrative withdrawal grade that does not affect GPA. Students will not be charged tuition for these classes because they will be removed BEFORE the 100% refund date.***

COVID Policy Update: How do students get verified?

- Steps to upload proof of vaccination in CUNYFirst.
 1. Sign into their [CUNYFirst](#) and go to the .
 2. Under “Student Center,” click the “[Vaccination Verification](#).”
 3. Students will need the [dates](#) they received the vaccine, the [location](#) where they got their vaccine, and a [scan/photo of their CDC COVID-19 vaccination record card](#).
 4. After students verify their vaccine info and it is approved, they will be able to display their VaxPass on the Everbridge smartphone app along with their student ID card to enter campus.
- Unvaccinated students with an exemption still need weekly testing!



Recovering from a Rough Semester

In one of our previous workshop Wednesday presentations, we heard from students who'd had very difficult starts to college and then went on to excel. How do we support students toward making an academic turnaround in college?

Agenda:

1. Discussion:
 - a. What are the common reasons for struggling academically?
 - b. How do we talk to students who struggled?
2. Common Challenges After Difficult Semesters
3. The Bounce Back Checklist
4. Questions



Let's Discuss

1. What are some of the reasons you've been seeing students struggle?

Let's Discuss

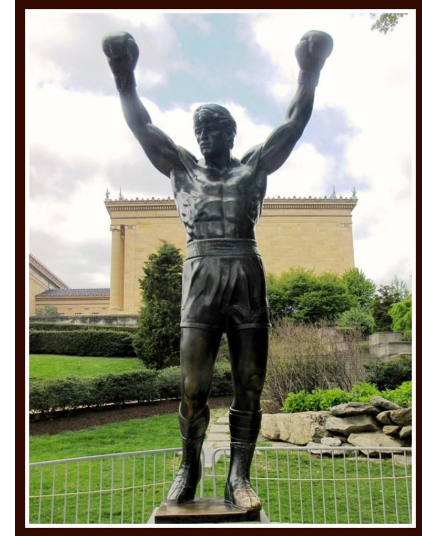
1. What are some of the reasons you've been seeing students struggle?
2. How do you talk to a student about the reasons that they struggled in school? What messages do you want to send?

Common Challenges after a Difficult Semester

- **Academic dismissal**
 - Students on academic probation need to hit a minimum GPA OR get back in good standing or else face dismissal the next semester
 - Dismissal appeals are often successful the first time they're made
- **Account balances** (due to return of Title IV funds)
- **Loss of financial aid** (either because of credits or <2.0 GPA)
- **Having to file appeals** (grade appeals, fin aid appeals, dismissal appeals)
- **Replacing F's and re-registering for classes**
 - Might have to change schedule because the student failed a prerequisite to one of their next-semester classes.
 - CUNY allows students to replace up to 16 credits of failing grades on their transcript by retaking classes. This can have a huge impact on GPA.
 - Students need to earn at least a C in order to replace a failing grade.
- **Student feeling frustrated/demoralized!** (+ receiving negative messages from others)

The Bounce Back Checklist

- Talk** about what happened (no judging allowed)
- Make a plan** for next semester (Are they ready to try again? What grades do they need to earn? What support do they need to get those grades?)
- Check for account balances** and resolve them
- Submit any needed **appeals**
- Register for classes**, making sure to **retake Fs if it's possible** to do so (this might mean reworking the previously-planned schedule)
- Connect to resources** (disability accommodations, tutoring, help purchasing books, child care, emergency funding)
BEFORE the semester starts



Questions?

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