



Homelessness and Higher Education

JORDYN ROARK, BSW

Choosing a College

Class sizes

- “Personalized Education”

Distance from support system

- Winter and summer break

Diversity

Housing options

- Year-round options/open during December options

Public transportation/allowance of car on campus

Cost Comparison





Learning Communities

Example: Honors College, Leadership Learning Community, Nursing Learning Community

Benefits

- Live with or near classmates
- Structured relationship building opportunities
- Benefits like laptops, scholarships, prioritized housing and class registration

Freshman Year

Financial Aid

Subsidized vs.
unsubsidized Loans

Refunds

Work study

Dorm Selection

Open during
Christmas?

Cost?

Required meal plan?

Ask questions and
explain circumstances

Meal Plan Selection

Dining meals vs.
“dollars”

Dining
locations/hours

Freshman Year Continued

Dorm supplies

- Civic organizations, churches, fundraisers

Transportation to orientation

- Car pool

Textbooks

- Chegg, Amazon, Online Bookstore Ordering



Holidays

Start talking about December break before college starts

Talk with Housing and Residence Life

Make a plan

- Housing
- Food
- Transportation
- Social Supports
- Other



Summer Break



Summer camps or other residential employment

- Pros: Make money without worrying about food or housing and can build resume
- Cons: There is often a one-three week break before and after summer season and school beginning

On-campus summer housing

- Pros: Get classes out of the way
- Cons: Cost/financial aid issues



Sophomore and Junior Year

Developing a strong support system

- Social capital = increased opportunity
- Internship/volunteering
- Religious organizations
- Clubs/Civic organizations

Financial Literacy

- Building credit
- Checking and savings account
- Taxes

Senior Year

Housing

- Off-campus year-round options

Loan Counseling

Employment

- Career Center
- Resume and cover letter
- Interview practice

Graduate School

- Open house
- Advanced standing/fast track programs





UNC Pembroke
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Following



#SpotlightSaturday Jordyn Roark is this year's recipient of the Outstanding Senior Award. Jordyn will graduate with an undergraduate degree in social work, is a member of the Maynor Honors College, a student ambassador and has more than 500 volunteer hours in the local community.



Social Work Student Nominated for Award

November 30, 2017 / [News](#)

Jordyn Roark (Social Work '18) is a finalist for WRAL TV's local philanthropist of the year award. She is making a real difference in the homeless community with her tireless effort, speaking at local events, publishing online, and presenting at conferences. You can vote [here](#) through December 17th.

Other Resources

Counseling and
Psychological
Services

Often free with
individual and
small group
options

Trio/Student Support
Services

Tutoring, study
space, workshops,
mentor, MONEY

Office of
Admissions/Contract
Employment

Find your niche,
feeling of
belonging,
networking

Student
Involvement/Campus
Engagement

Events, clubs, and
organizations

Participating in CoCs

Continuum of Care

- Coordinated Entry
- Rapid Re-Housing /PSH
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Young Adult Shelter/Supportive Housing
- Point-In-Time Count
- Community Awareness
- Training

The Power of Language

Homeless is what I am, not who I am

- Homeless student
 - Student experiencing homelessness
 - Experience of transience
 - Doubled-Up
 - Etc.

What do you use?



Questions



Stay Connected!

JordynTRoark@gmail.com

(910) 739-4249

 @JordynTRoark