July 28, 2020

Dear Bloodhounds,

We’re just two weeks away from the start of the Summer Bridge program on August 10! You probably received the message from John Jay College last week that our fall classes will be fully online (with the exception of a few science labs). You may have questions or feel a bit worried, but just know that we have your back and Summer Bridge will ensure that you feel connected to the Bloodhound community and fully prepared for college and online learning!

Here’s what to expect from the fun-filled learning experiences during Summer Bridge:

**Support of a Slack virtual community.** Like most first year students, you’re probably concerned about not knowing anyone and not knowing who to turn to when you have questions. The Slack virtual community will give you a designated space to interact with your Area of Interest classmates, your peer success coach (think about them as your college guide), and First Year Program staff. You’ll receive an invitation for this next week.

**New challenges, different learning.** Summer Bridge will give you a fun, but informative, preview of what to expect when you actually take your First Year Seminar and other classes this fall. You’ll learn from awesome professors, familiarize yourself with different teaching styles, fine tune your time management skills, and learn to overcome different challenges you may experience as a college student.

**Guide to technology used in the fall.** Online learning includes virtual platforms that you’ll need to be familiar with before the start of classes. We’ll show you step-by-step how to access and use this tech, so there’s no need to stress!

**Program structure - daily quests.** You will have daily quests (aka events, activities, and assignments) to complete each of the 11 week days during Summer Bridge. You should prepare to spend between 1-3 hours each day to complete these quests for a total of around 25 hours for the entire course - some at a designated time out of a few options, but most when it’s convenient for YOU that day.

**A laptop is preferred for the work you’ll do in Summer Bridge and in online classes this fall. If you are in need of a laptop or Chromebook loan, the John Jay College Technology Helpdesk has devices available for pick-up on a first-come, first-served basis. Complete this form right away and you’ll be contacted by a laptop loan representative.**

Look out for messages from your Summer Bridge welcome crew and an invitation to Slack next week! In the meantime, hope you’re as excited for this as we are to welcome you!

All the best,

Nancy

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