

Student Guide to Online Learning & the Basics of Online Services



Table of Contents

How Do I Access MySouthwest?	3
Setting Up Rapid Identity Two-Factor Authentication	
How Do I Access Canvas and My Courses?	6
What Are the Other Benefits of Canvas?	8
Student Information System (SIS)	13
Admissions	16
Academic Deadline Information	16
Adding or Changing My Program of Study	17
Resetting my MySouthwest Password	18
Obtaining my Official SWCC Transcripts	19
How Do I Get My Books?	20
Brainfuse Online Tutoring	25
Financial Aid Verification & Information	26
Additional Information Regarding Verification And Other Financial Aid Policies	28
How Do I Access Student Advisement?	
Navigate Student	30
Academic Planning Tool	30
Student To-Do List	31
Scheduling an Appointment Using Navigate	32
SWCC Library	
Helpful Applications to Download on Your Mobile Devices	

Contact Information for Campus Departments Can Be Found on Page 38

How Do I Access MySouthwest?

Step One:

Visit *WWW.SW.EDU* from your computer's browser (i.e. Google Chrome, Microsoft, Edge, Firefox, etc.)



Step Two:

Click on MySouthwest located in the top menu of the main webpage.







INFO FOR...

Q

Step Three:

Sign in using your credentials. (Forgot Username/Password? - See Page 18)





Effective 2022 – Students will be required to set up multifactor authentication on their MySouthwest account. Instructions on signing in using this method are included in this manual on pages 4-5. For assistance, please call

Setting Up Rapid Identity Two-Factor Authentication

Step One:

Log in to MySouthwest using your MySouthwest username and password as instructed on page 2.

Step Two:

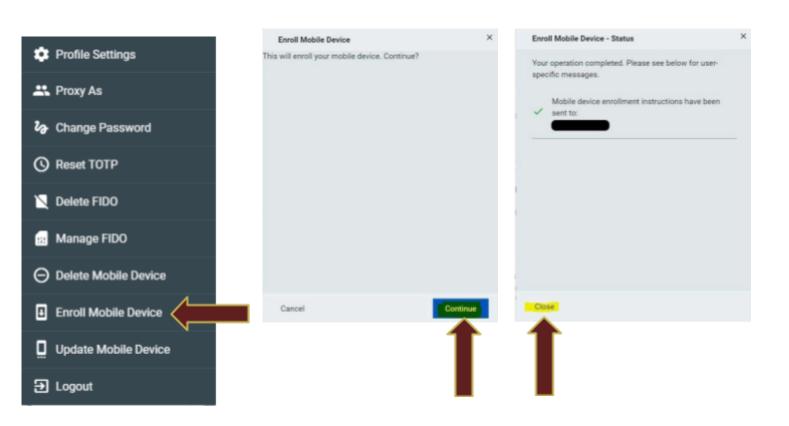
On your cell phone – open your Play Store (Android) or App Store (Apple) and search for the "Rapid Identity" application. It will look like the icon below:



Step Three:

From your computer, where you are signed in to your MySouthwest, in the upper right corner of your screen, you will see your name. Click the down arrow and select "Enroll Mobile Device".

Click "Continue" on the next screen and then "Close".



Step Four:

You will receive an email from *myvccs@email.vccs.edu* with a subject of "Register VCCS Push Authentication" with some links and an authorization code. The email will be sent to the email you have listed as your primary email in SIS. This will likely be your SWCC student email (@email.vccs.edu).

Note: It may take a couple of minutes to receive the email. If you don't receive the email in one account, be sure to check the other.

Step Five:

Open this email on your phone. If you do not use an email app on your phone, use a browser to check your email. Click on the link listed as "Tap this Provisioning URL..." If you are not able to click the link, copying the link and pasting into a browser on your phone.

Step Six:

Rapid Identity should be opened on your cell phone with your MySouthwest Username already entered. You will need to enter the authorization code from the email. Once you enter the code click "submit".

Step Seven:

The next screen should allow you to create a 6 – 9-digit PIN. This can be a pin of your choice. Enter the pin in both boxes and select "Submit". Select "Done" if/when prompted.

Step Eight:

Close Rapid Identity app on your phone and log out of MySouthwest.

Step Nine:

Logon to MySouthwest and you should be prompted on your cell phone to enter a pin. Enter the pin created and select approve.

When signing into MySouthwest from this point forward, you will be required to use the Rapid Identity application to approve log in requests on your student account every time you wish to login.

How Do I Access Canvas and My Courses?

Step One:

Select the icon on MySouthwest labeled "Canvas" as seen below:



Step Two:

Each course will have its own Tile icon on your Canvas "dashboard." Select the course you wish to enter by clicking on the course tile.

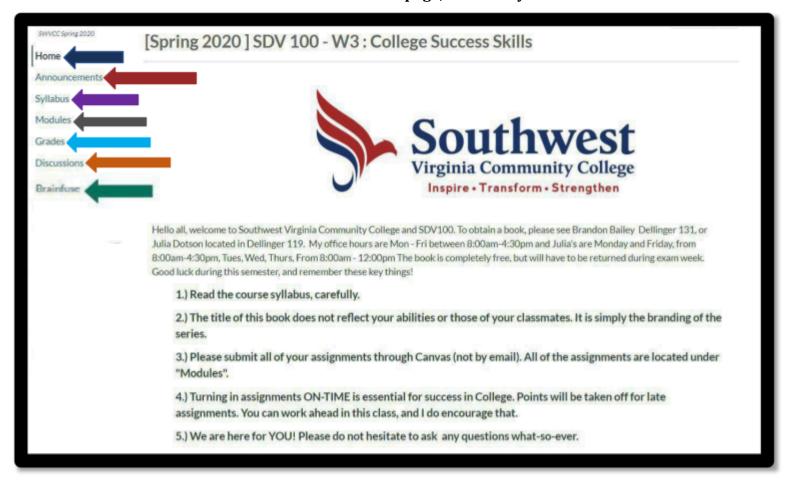
For example:



Step Three:

Review your course. Each course should have most, if not all, of the following links. Below is a color-keyed description of each link.

NOTE Not all courses share the same homepage; it will vary from course to course.



HOME: Returns you to the home screen as seen above.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Your instructor will communicate important information to you. You can view all the announcements sent by clicking here. These announcements also go to your student email.

SYLLABUS: A very IMPORTANT part of your course. This contains important information such as your instructor's introduction, contact information, assignments, due dates, and other relevant information. (ALWAYS REVIEW SYLLABUS BEFORE BEGINNING COURSE)

MODULES: An organized view of the assignments that are due in the course. Some instructors have them organized by week, while other instructors may have them organized by due date. This information should also be included in the syllabus.

GRADES: Another very IMPORTANT part of your course. This link takes you to your personal grades for the course.

DISCUSSIONS: Your instructor may have you contribute to what is known as a "discussion board." This is where you can post and interact with your fellow classmates in a social media style manner with posting, commenting, etc.

Brainfuse: An online tutoring tool to aid you in your courses. Use this link to access tutoring for your course(s). Included in this service is a writing lab to provide expert analysis of your essays for your course(s).

Please Note:

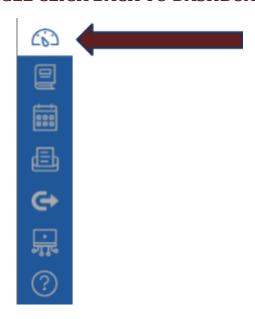
Proctored testing on campus is arranged in advance and requires approval from the Dean of each department and the Director of Distance Learning.

Contact your instructor to arrange testing services if required.

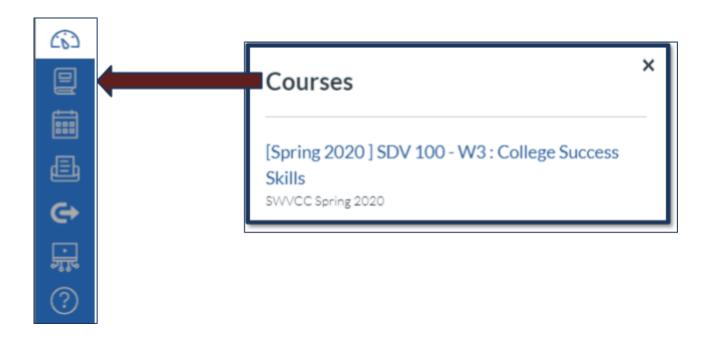
Otherwise, your instructor will notify you if you must utilize specialized software for online testing.

What Are the Other Benefits of Canvas?

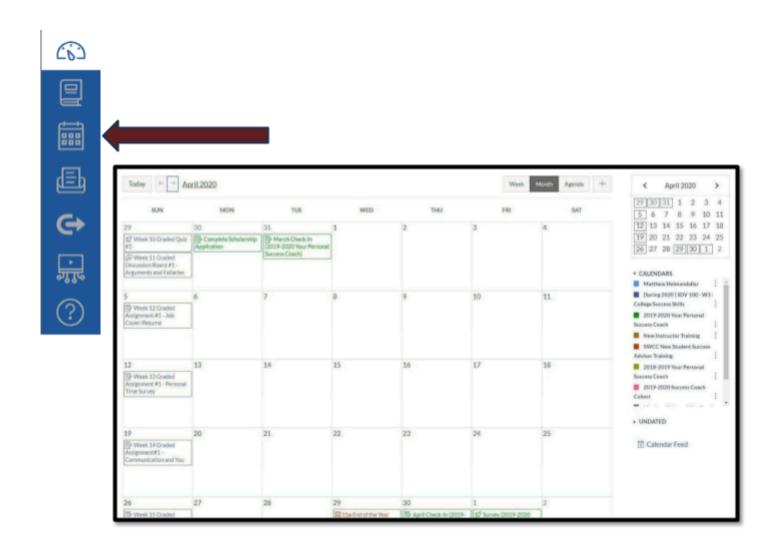
SINGLE CLICK BACK TO DASHBOARD OF COURSES



EASY COURSE NAVIGATION: CLICK HERE TO NAVIGATE BETWEEN COURSES



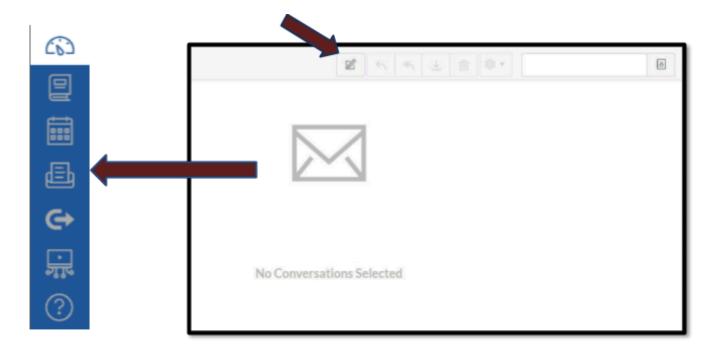
CALENDAR FEATURE: KEEP UP WITH YOUR DUE DATES FOR EACH COURSE IN ONE PLACE.



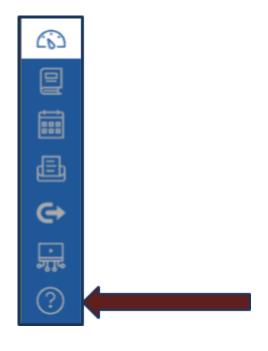
SEND MESSAGES TO YOUR INSTRUCTORS DIRECTLY FROM CANVAS.

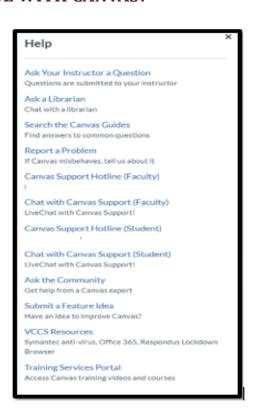
Messages are automatically sent to the instructor's email and Canvas inbox, and Responses are sent to your student email & Canvas inbox.

Click the "Compose" button, select your course and instructor, type & send the message



HELP ICON - EXPERIENCING AN ISSUE WITH CANVAS?





- Continues on next page -

FREE MICROSOFT OFFICE

Additional software and discounts provided.



Canvas: In Conclusion

This system allows for you, as the student, to access and complete course content. Most features are accessible 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, until the conclusion of the semester. For your convenience, course content can be accessed from a desktop, laptop, mobile phone, tablet, or other web device.

While this guide is designed to aid you in preparation for success in online education, Please DO NOT HESITATE to ask for help. We have many resources available, including free tutoring through Brainfuse and via Zoom in your MySouthwest account, and we encourage you not to wait until it becomes an issue to get the help you need.

Remember the following phrase: Be PROACTIVE, not REACTIVE!

Important Notes

- Students should familiarize themselves with each instructor's method of teaching. To avoid falling behind, make sure to utilize the student support services available to you at no cost as a student at Southwest Virginia Community College.
- Communication is key in online courses. If there is something you do not understand, or if you
 have a general concern, you should utilize the Canvas Inbox feature or your student email located
 in MySouthwest to contact your instructor. Because your identity cannot be confirmed on an
 outside email address, NO outside emails will be accepted or responded to.

Student Information System (SIS)

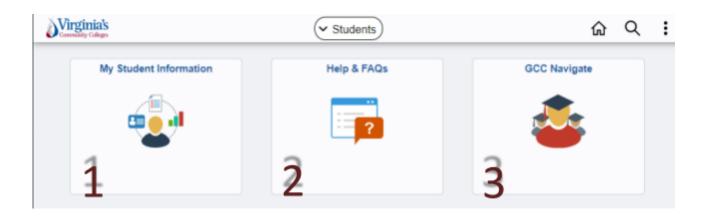
Step One:

Log in to your MySouthwest account.



Step Two:

Click "Launch" on the SIS (Student Information System) button on your dashboard as seen in the picture above.



1. My Student Information

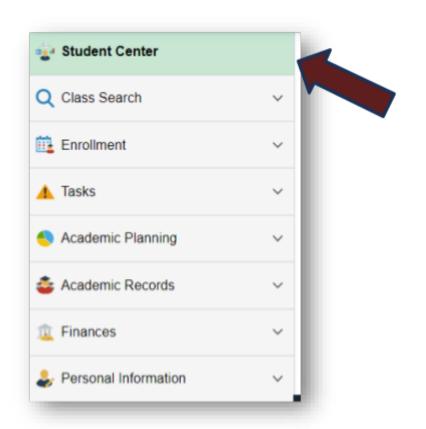
This tile takes you directly to your Student Center page in SIS. Here, you will find important details like your class schedule, enrollment dates, and Financial Aid information.

2. Help & FAQs

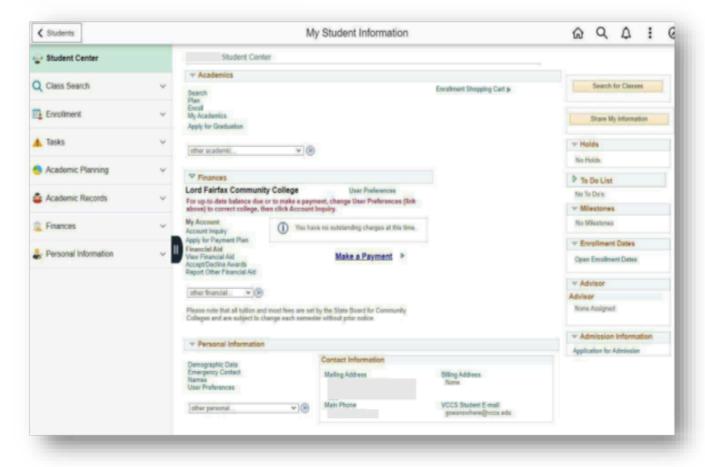
This tile is linked to the VCCS FLUID website which includes helpful tips, answers to frequently asked questions, and other information about the user interface.

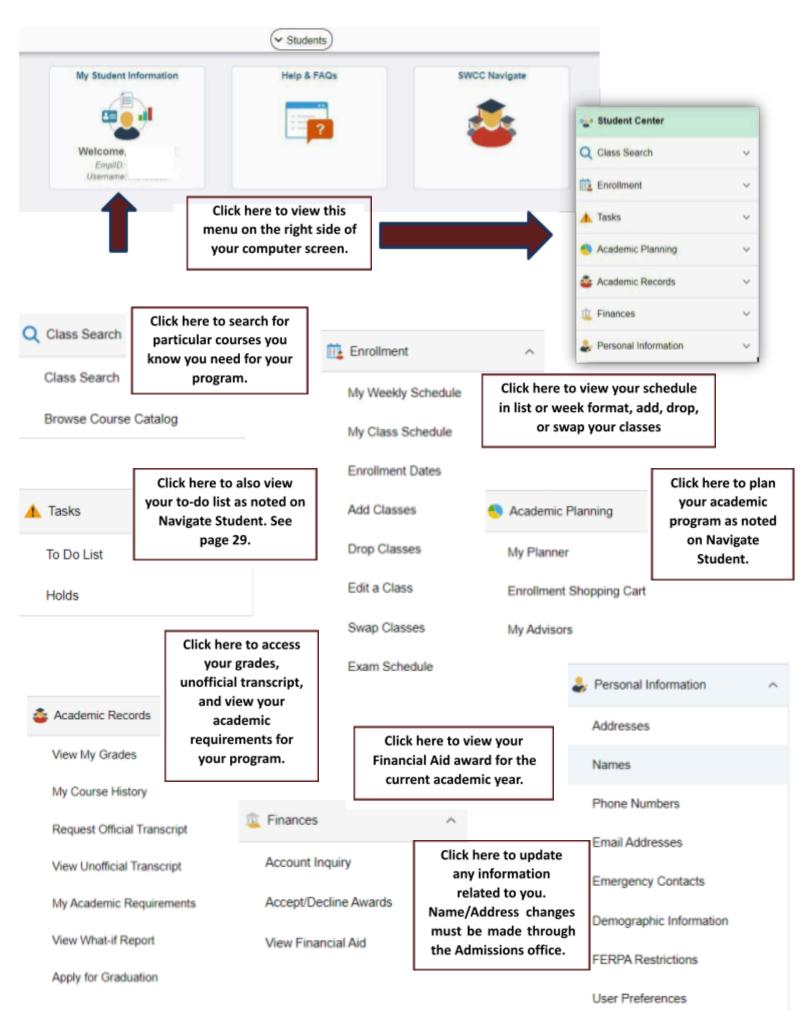
3. Navigate

This tile is linked directly to your college's Navigate system. Navigate provides planning, advising tools, and student support. More information on this tool can be found in this manual.



The **Student Center** page now includes a collection of links on the left-hand side of the page. This allows for quick access to common areas that are spread across the student information system.





Admissions

Academic Deadline Information

View this information by typing https://sw.edu/schedule into your browser.

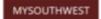
Academic deadlines include:

- The first day of early registration for an upcoming semester.
- The last day to register for an upcoming semester.
- The last day to withdraw with a tuition refund.
- The last day to withdraw without academic penalty.

....and more!

This information can also be found on the Southwest Virginia Community College homepage by clicking the menu button in the top right, and selecting "Academic Calendar" under the Academics menu.











ACADEMICS

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

ACADEMIC CATALOG & STUDENT HANDBOOK ACADEMIC DIVISIONS ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAMS OF STUDY

CONTINUING EDUCATION

EXAM SCHEDULE

FORMS

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL

GRADUATION

VIEW MORE

ADMISSIONS & AID

ADMISSIONS & RECORDS

ADVISORS

APPLY TO SOUTHWEST

CONSUMER INFORMATION BOOKSTORE

CONTINUING EDUCATION

FINANCIAL AID

FORMS

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

ORIENTATION

VIEW MORE

SERVICES & SUPPORT

ALERTS

REPORT AN INCIDENT

ADVISORS

CAMPUS POLICE

CAREER SERVICES

CASHIER'S OFFICE

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

(SINGLESTOP)

CONSUMER INFORMATION

DIRECTORY

VIEW MORE



PLEASE remember to check these dates regularly, as they are subject to change and new dates may be added or removed at any time during the semester.

Adding or Changing My Program of Study

Method One: Via Student Email

Step One:

Log in to MySouthwest and go to the student Gmail icon on the dashboard seen below:



Send an email to *admissons@sw.edu* with your name, student ID (EMPLID), and the desired program of study change in the email.

Method Two: Via the Program Change Request Form

This form allows you, the student, to change your program of study, add an additional program of study, or remove an additional program of study if it is no longer desired.

Pictured below, this form can be found at the following link: https://sw.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Web-SWCC-Program-Plan-Change.pdf

It can also be obtained in the SWCC Admissions Office located in Dellinger Hall.



Upon completion, please send to Admissions@sw.edu through your SWCC student email.

How to Reset your MySouthwest Password

Step One:

Click "Forgot Password" from your MySouthwest





You will be prompted to answer your security questions.

Step Two:

Enter your MYSouthwest username. If you do not know this information, please contact our Admissions office at 276-964-7238.

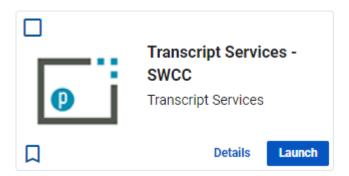
- You will then be directed to enter your new password.
- You will re-type your password to confirm the change.

If you do not have security questions set up, or if you still have trouble accessing your account, contact Admissions at 276-964-7238.

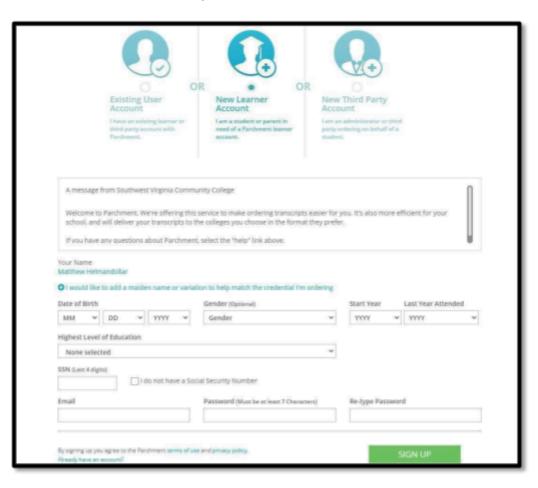
Obtaining my Official SWCC Transcripts

Order your transcript using the "Transcript Services – SWCC" icon on your MySouthwest. You will need to create an account and enter your information when attempting to obtain an official academic record.

Please note: There is a fee for using this service. <u>Transcripts are no longer processed through the Admissions Office</u>. You can still access a free unofficial copy of your transcripts using the Student Information System under "Academic Records."



Once you agree to the terms of service, you will be directed to enter your log-in credentials. If you are a new user, you will need to create an account.



How Do I Get My Books?

There are two methods you can use to obtain your books for your courses using your financial aid or other payment options through the SWCC Campus Bookstore.

Method One:

In-Store on main campus at Southwest Virginia Community College with a copy of your student schedule for the semester and your student ID (EMPLID) number.

Method Two:

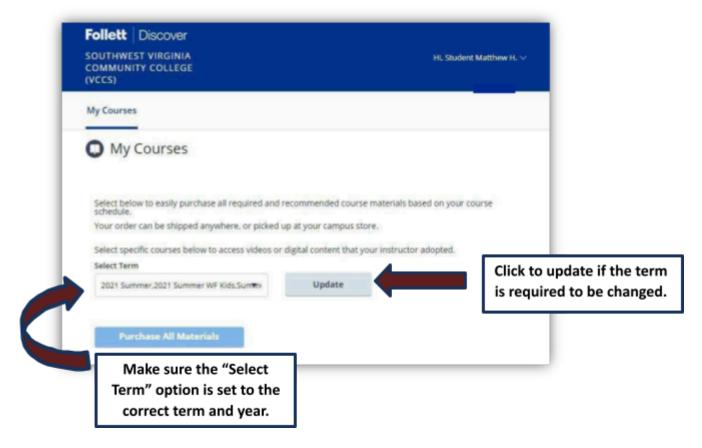
Online using the online campus bookstore icon on MySouthwest.

Step One:

Click the Follett Discover icon on MySouthwest after logging in to your account.



Step Two:





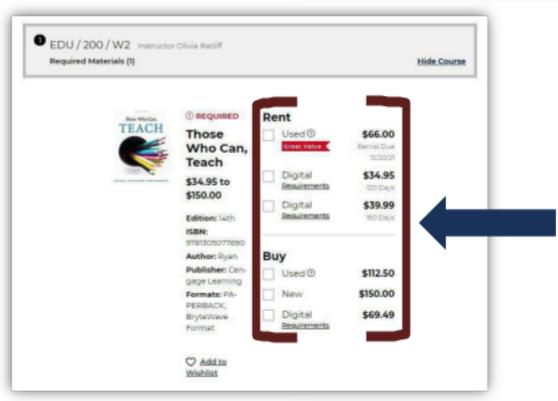
- Continues on next page -

Click individual books and materials to purchase individually.

Please make sure you are purchasing <u>ALL</u> materials for your courses.





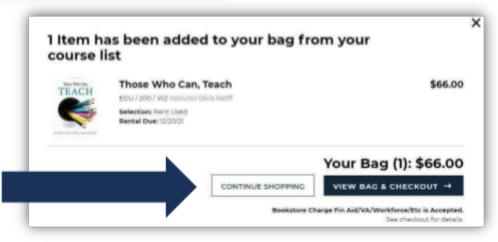


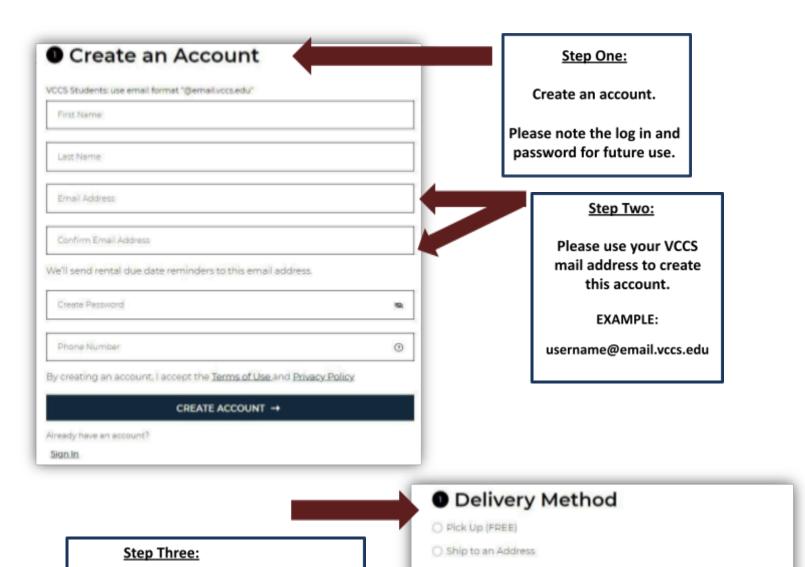
Choose the option that you feel is best suited for your needs. Many textbooks offer virtual and physical textbook options as well.

Please make sure when purchasing your books that you select the option that is best for you and that you make note of whether or not you are buying the textbook or renting it for the term.

CONTINUE SHOPPING if you wish to add another individual textbook or course materials.

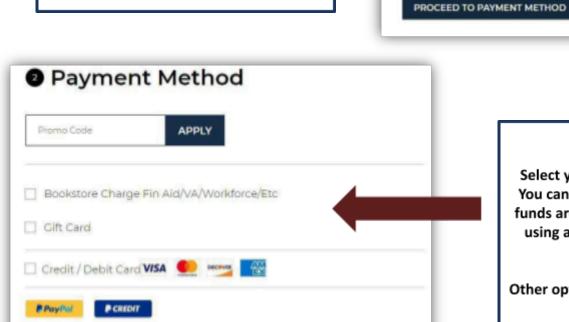
Select VIEW BAG & CHECKOUT when ready to make your purchase.





Is this a gift?

Any special instructions?



PayPal Credit: No Interest if paid in full in 6 months on purchases of \$99*. Subject to credit approval.

See Terms.

Select your delivery method. You can

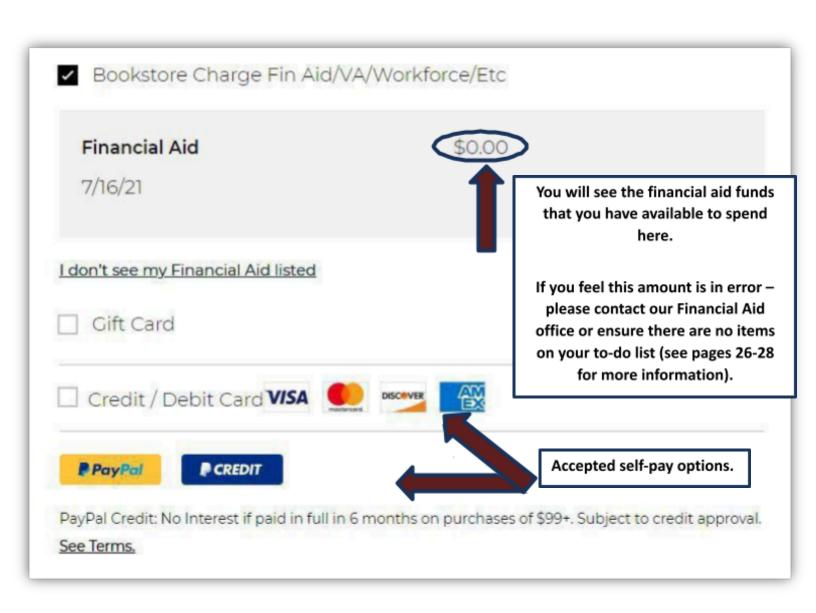
select in-store pickup or you can select the option to have it shipped to the

address of your choosing.

Step Four:

Select your method of payment.
You can pay using Financial Aid if
funds are available or you can pay
using a gift card or credit/debit
card.

Other options include PayPal and PayPal Credit.



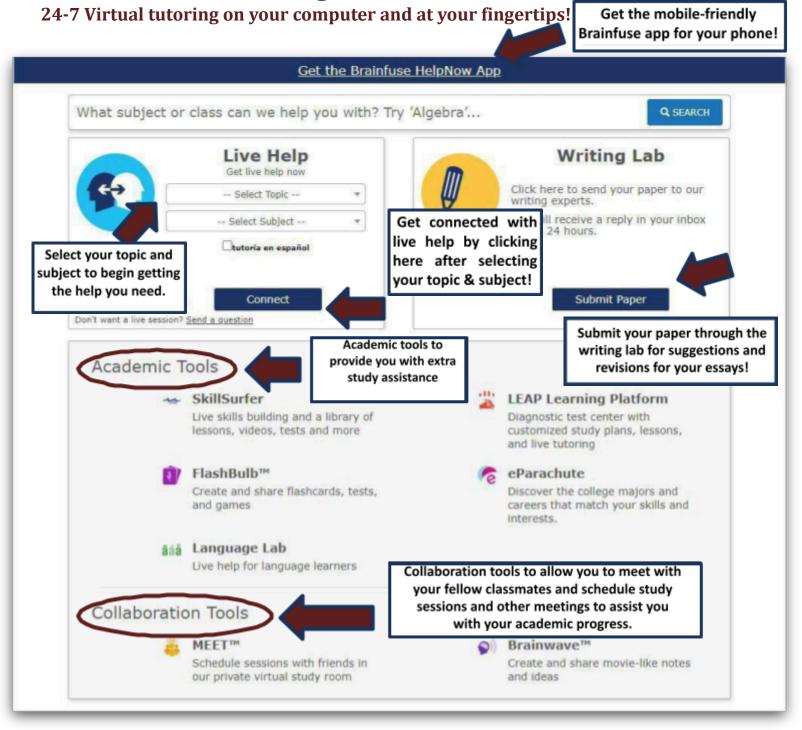


Step Five (if applicable)

If you selected "RENT" as your purchase option, please read and review the rental agreement carefully.

If you are unsure about information contained within the agreement, please contact our campus bookstore for more information. Please note that rental books are due back by a specified date. It is advised to mark this date on a calendar.

Brainfuse Online Tutoring



Free tutoring is also available provided by your SWCC peers through the Student Support Services office.

Beth Gianato - Tutorial Coordinator

276-964-7624

Beth.Gianato@sw.edu

Financial Aid Verification & Information

Students applying for federal student aid are required to complete the FAFSA at www.studentaid.gov each year. You will need the prior year's taxes (Ex: a student completing the 2022-2023 FAFSA will need to have their 2020-2021 tax information).

Have you been flagged for "verification" by the office of Financial Aid?

You may have some questions like:

WHAT IS VERIFICATION?

Verification is a process in which information on a student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is reviewed by a school for accuracy and completeness. Each year, the Federal Department of Education selects certain applicants for verification. The verification process requires the Financial Aid Office to confirm the data supplied by the student and/or parent(s). Although the College cannot determine who will be selected for verification each year, students should anticipate selection. If your FAFSA is selected for verification, immediately submit all requested documentation to our office for review. Failure to provide required documentation by stated deadlines may negatively impact or delay your financial aid award package.

HOW WILL I KNOW IF I AM SELECTED FOR VERIFICATION?

Your Student Aid Report (SAR) will indicate whether or not your file has been selected for verification. If you are selected for verification, there will be an asterisk* next to your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) figure on your SAR. You will also receive notification via the Message Center from the Financial Aid Office alerting you to check your 'To Do List' of our Student Information System to determine what documentation you will be required to submit before your financial aid application is fully processed.

SHOULD I SEND DOCUMENTATION EVEN IF MY APPLICATION HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED FOR VERIFICATION?

Students should not send any financial documentation unless requested to do so. SWCC only verifies the FAFSA information of selected students or in special cases when inconsistent information is found.

However, the Financial Aid Office must review all information in its possession, even for students not selected for verification. Sending in information that is not required could result in unnecessary delays in the disbursement of your financial aid. If you need to make corrections to your FAFSA, you may do so by logging into your application online.

WHY WAS I SELECTED FOR VERIFICATION?

Many students selected for verification are chosen randomly. However, you are more likely to be selected for verification if the data you provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) was inconsistent, if the FAFSA you submitted was incomplete, or if your FAFSA contained estimated information.

IF I WAS SELECTED FOR VERIFICATION, WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

Provide the requested documentation through your Student Information System (SIS) and click the "Student Center" located in the top left corner. Under the "To-Do" list on the side of the screen and click the link to each required document(s).

Step One:

Log in to your MySouthwest account and click "Launch" on the SIS (Student Information System) icon pictured below:





This is *mandatory* and *must occur* before financial aid can be awarded and/or disbursed.

Most of the verification forms are fillable online and can be submitted to the financial aid office by completing them through the link on your Student Information System (SIS).

Tax and income data can be obtained by updating your FAFSA at www.studentaid.gov and using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool. You can also provide an official IRS Tax Return Transcript by online request at www.irs.gov and selecting "Get Your Tax Record", by calling 1-800-908-9946, or by mailing the form 4506-T "Request for Transcript of Tax Return" and selecting the option "Return Transcript".

Documents can be uploaded from your phone or computer if necessary.

All information requested will need to be submitted as soon as possible. Financial aid awards are considered "tentative" until the required evaluation related to the verification process is completed.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING VERIFICATION AND OTHER FINANCIAL AID POLICIES:

Visit the SWCC Financial Aid Policies & Procedures Manual

https://sw.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Financial-Aid-Policy-Procedure-Manual.pdf

How Do I Access Student Advisement?

There are a variety of different ways in which you can receive student support from a student success advisor or from the Student Support Services Department.

REACHING YOUR STUDENT SUCCESS ADVISOR BY ZOOM, EMAIL, OR PHONE

You may arrange a ZOOM meeting*, phone call, or email appointment using the NavigateStudent option of your MySouthwest account, or contacting them at the number or email listed below:

NOTE YOU MAY BE PROMPTED TO DOWNLOAD "ZOOM" PRIOR TO USING THIS SERVICE.

SWCC Student Success Advisors

Name	Title	Phone	Email
Leslie Brooks	Advisor, Student Success	276-964-7534	leslie.brooks@sw.edu
Leah Call	Advisor, Student Success	276-964-7627	leah.call@sw.edu
Beth Gianato	Tutorial Coordinator	276-964-7624	beth.gianato@sw.edu
Emily Goodman	Advisor, Student Success	276-964-7712	emily.goodman@sw.edu
Lisa Haywood	Coordinator of Advising	276-964-7220	lisa.haywood@sw.edu
Mike Henry	Director of Student Support Services	276-964-7233	mike.henry@sw.edu
Runie Mensche	Advisor, Student Success	276-964-7676	runie.mensche@sw.edu
Denise Miller	Great Expectations Advisor	276-964-7653	denise.miller@sw.edu
Susie Mullins	Transfer Advisor	276-964-7231	susie.mullins@sw.edu
Kendra Mutter	Advisor, Student Success	276-964-7711	kendra.mutter@sw.edu
Marsha Sparks	Advisor, Student Success	276-964-7219	marsha.sparks@sw.edu
Valerie Stanton	Retention Specialist	276-964-7763	valerie.stanton@sw.edu

INTERIM DIRECTOR of ADVISING

Leslie Brooks - 276-964-7534 - leslie.brooks@sw.edu

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

Adrianna Culbertson - 276-964-7262 - adrianna.culbertson@sw.edu

TUTORING

Beth Gianato - 276-964-7624 - beth.gianato@sw.edu

TRANSFER ASSISTANCE

Dr. Susie Mullins - 276-964-7231 - susie.mullins@sw.edu

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Dr. Mike Henry - 276-964-7233 - mike.henry@sw.edu

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

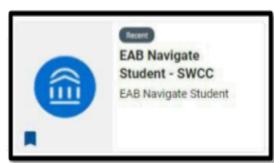
Denise Miller - 276-964-7653 - denise.miller@sw.edu

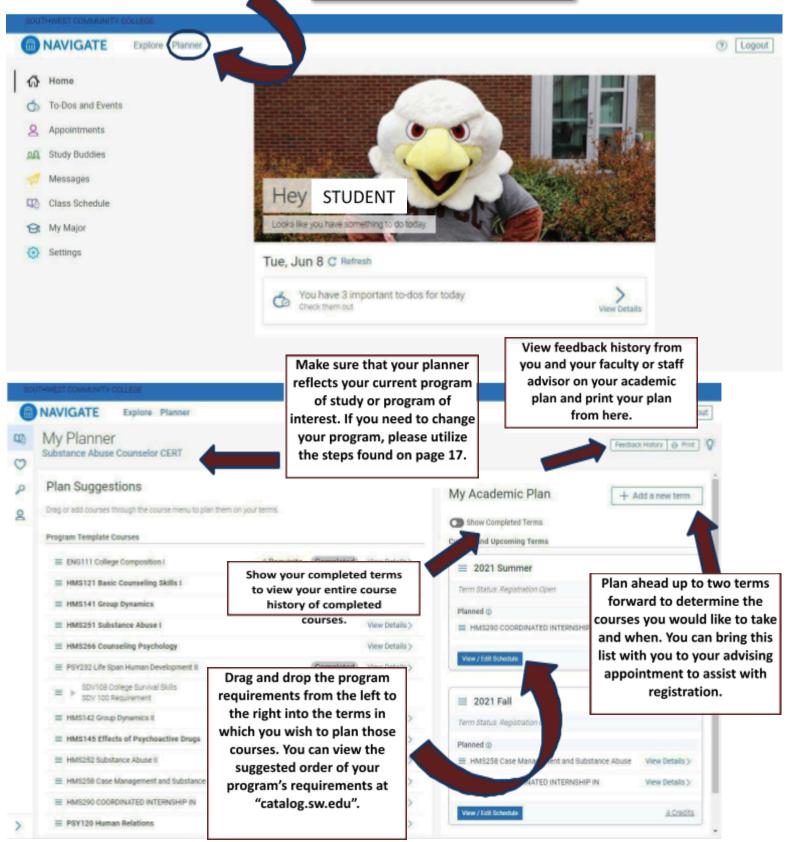
CAREER SERVICES

Chris Hess - 276-964-7262 - christopher.hess@sw.edu

Navigate Student

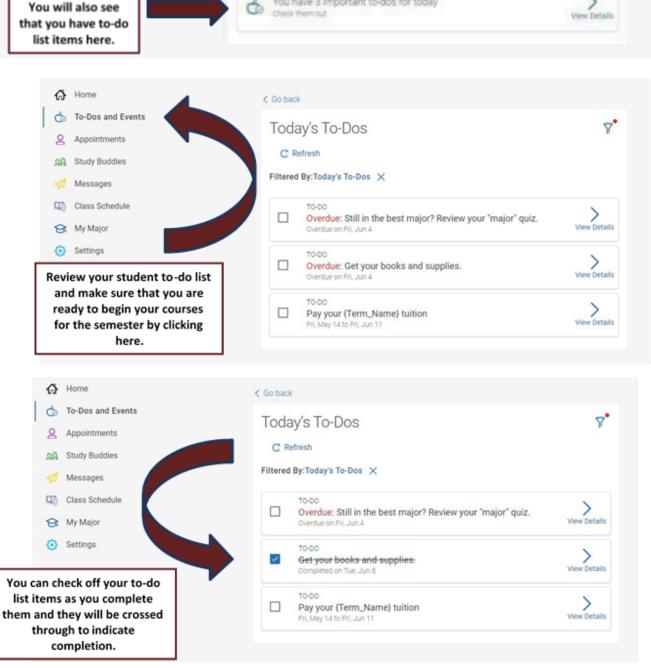
Academic Planning Tool



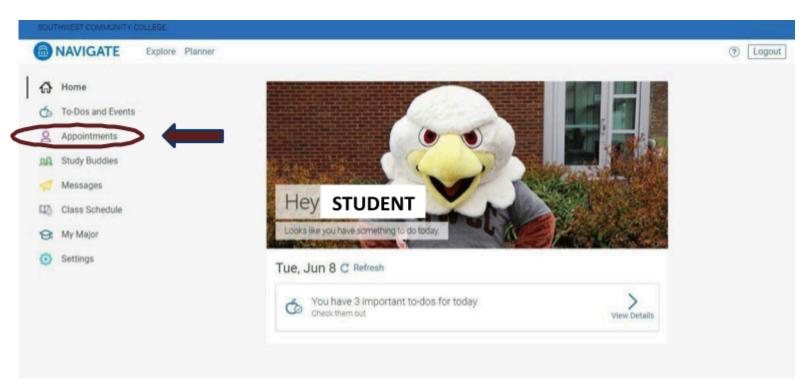


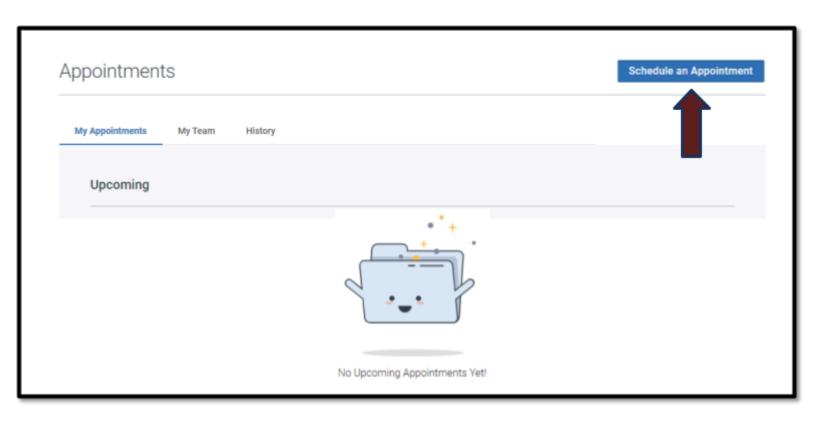
Student To-Do List

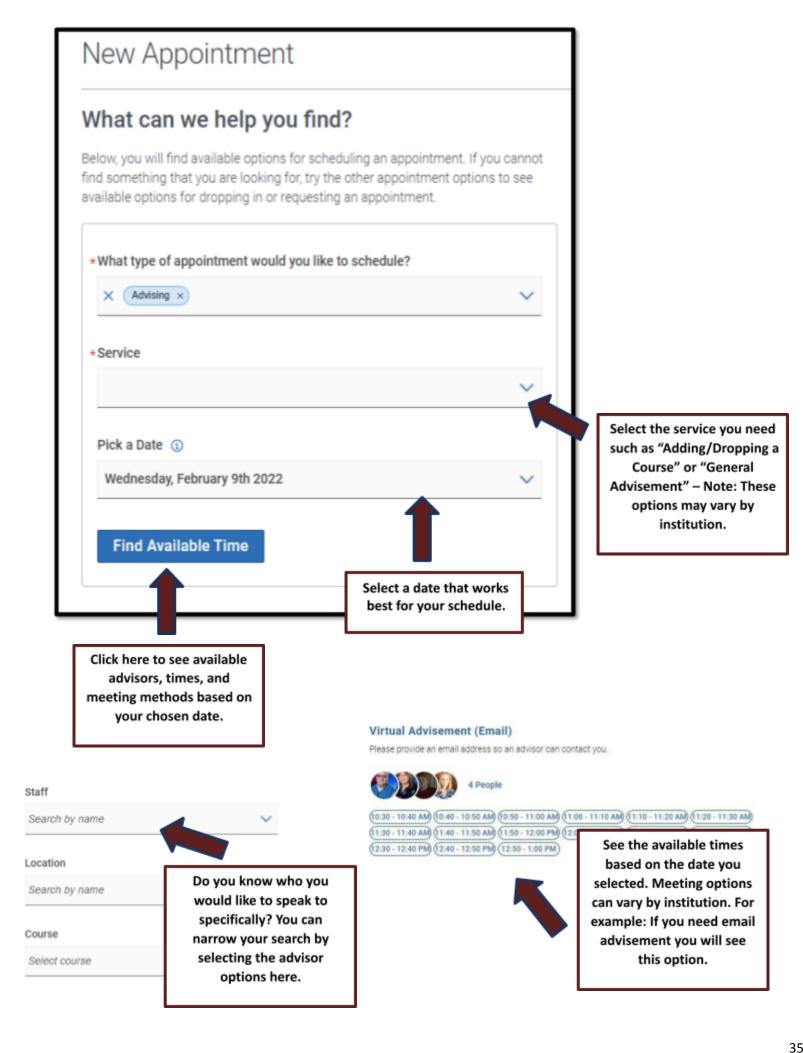




Scheduling an Appointment Using Navigate







SWCC Library

You can visit the SWCC Library, located in the Earl E. & Dorothy J. Dellinger Learning Resources Center, online at https://sw.edu/library.

LIBRARY HOME: Returns the student to the library's homepage.

PRIMO: Library catalog - search for books, audio, video, articles, etc. that may be located in our library or online.

Sign in to your MYSouthwest to reserve an eligible library item for pickup at a later time.

PERIODICALS: Search for scholarly and peer-reviewed journals, magazines, newspapers, and other print media for research or reference purposes.

ONLINE DATABASES INCLUDE:

ONLINE JOURNAL LOCATOR • CQ RESEARCHER • EBSCOhost RESEARCH DATABASES, ISSUES & CONTROVERSIES • OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS IN CONTEXT • ProQuest...and many MORE!

OVERDUE/RENEWAL: To avoid fines for overdue library materials, you can request renewal online with this feature to avoid overdue status on your borrowed materials such as books.

STUDENT ID: Get your student ID card made in our SWCC Library. It's printed immediately and you get some great discounts when showing it to local & online merchants in the area that are listed here:

*https://sw.edu/sqa/discount

You will need this ID to check out books in the library, sell books back to the SWCC Bookstore, and as ID for Distance Learning Testing services.

*Check the list frequently as new discounts are added or removed frequently

Library Hours of Operation

The Library is open Monday – Thursday from 7:45 am – 6 pm and Friday 7:45 am – 4:30 pm for current students, faculty and staff, and community patrons. Contact the Library Circulation Desk at 276-964-7265 for more information.

Please Note: Library hours and access to student resources, computers, and printers are subject to change at any time or for any reason. Changes will be posted on the sw.edu/library homepage.

Helpful Applications to Download on your Mobile Devices



Navigate Student
Schedule
Appointments
See To-Do Lists



Canvas Student Online Course Materials



Rapid
Identity
Verify Your
Identity for
MySouthwe
st Login



Brainfuse Live Online Tutoring



ZOOM Online Conferencing for Online Courses



Gmail
Receive student emails on
your mobile devices by
signing in to your
MySouthwest email.
student@email.vccs.edu

Please note: These apps may have a slightly different appearance based on device or operating system. Check with your institution prior to download if you are not certain which is correct.

Admissions						
Admission Application	Admissions Office	276-964-7238	admissions@sw.edu			
Graduation Application	Alta Lewis	276-964-7293	alta.lewis@sw.edu			
Password Reset	IT Help Desk	276-964-7767	josh.hess@sw.edu			
Program Change/Add	Angela Smith	276-964-7297	angela.smith@sw.edu			
Transcript Requests	Teresa Thompson	276-964-7299	teresa.thompson@sw.edu			
	Advise	ment				
Academic Advising	Advising Center	276-964-7300	onlineadvisor@sw.edu			
Career Services	Jessica Dotson	276-964-7262	christopher.hess@sw.edu			
Financial Aid and Books						
Bookstore	Follett	276-963-3627	1412628@follett.com			
Financial Aid	Office of	276-964-7724	financialaid@sw.edu			
	Financial Aid					
Scholarships	Erin Smith	276-964-7286	erin.smith@sw.edu			
New	Student Orientation	& Student Engage	ment			
Campus Tours &	Mandy Barrett	276-964-7705	mandy.barrett@sw.edu			
Orientation						
Campus Clubs	Antwan	276-964-7741	antwan.vanburen@sw.edu			
	VanBuren					
Library Services						
Library Circulation Desk	SWCC Library	276-964-7265	teresa.yearout@sw.edu			
	Student R	esources				
Canvas Assistance	Garrett Wright	276-964-7563	garrett.wright@sw.edu			
Accessibility Services	Dionne Cook	276-964-7301	dionne.cook@sw.edu			
Four County Transit	Transit Office	276-963-1486	fourcountytransit.org			
Project ACHIEVE	Dr. Susie Mullins	276-964-7231	susie.mullins@sw.edu			
Student Housing	Victor Scott	276-245-2779	victor.scott@sw.edu			
SWCC Email Assistance	Charles Musick	276-964-7647	charles.musick@sw.edu			
Distance Learning &	Melissa Stiltner	276-964-7706	melissa.stiltner@sw.edu			
Testing Services						
Transfer Assistance	Dr. Susie Mullins	276-964-7231	susie.mullins@sw.edu			

Tutoring Assistance	Beth Gianato	276-964-7624	beth.gianato@sw.edu				
	Campus Support and Safety						
Campus Police	Chief Millard	276-964-7603	millard.mcghee@sw.edu				
	McGhee						
SWCC Alerts	Jennifer Hale	276-964-7295	jennifer.hale@sw.edu				
Title IX Office	Dyan Lester	276-964-7677	dyan.lester@sw.edu				
Dean of Business, Engineering, and Industrial Technology							
Division Dean	James Dye	276-964-7278	james.dye@sw.edu				
Dean of Health Technologies							
Division Dean	Dr. Bethany Rose	276-964-7224	bethany.rose@sw.edu				
Dean of Humanities, Sciences, Mathematics, and Social							
Sciences							
Division Dean	Dr. Brian Wright	276-964-7207	brian.wright@sw.edu				
Dean of Student Success							
Division Dean	Dyan Lester	276-964-7677	dyan.lester@sw.edu				