



- First, really think about your decision. Take a day, a week, a month and think about what will truly make you happy. Take away all the social norms and ask yourself, “will this decision make me happy and help me become my best self?” Second, is to not care about anybody’s views on your decision. You aren’t taking this big step out of high school for anybody except yourself, and that’s something you need to constantly remember.
- You need to realize that you don’t really know what your college experience is going to be like. Just because you choose a school that seemed like the best fit to you, doesn’t mean that it has to work out perfectly. Committing to a college is a huge risk because no one can truly know what they want and where would be a good fit for them. You need to accept and be open to the idea that your school isn’t perfect for them and there might be a better option out there.
- You might feel really uncomfortable about the situation, which is common but does not have to be the case. It’s totally normal. Try not to keep all of your feelings in and from your family and friends. It will feel much better if you can find someone to talk to about it whether it be a family member, friend from home or just someone who has been through the process before.
- If you can’t picture yourself graduating there, it’s time to make the move. I couldn’t picture myself taking graduation pictures in my cap and gown, all dressed up with the girls I was friends with. I couldn’t even picture the next year, let alone the next three. I knew it was the right thing for me to do.
- If you are thinking about transferring but having a hard time making the decision, I would tell them to just go for it and don’t doubt themselves. They clearly are having these thoughts for a reason and they shouldn’t just stick around to play it safe or because it’s too scary to take a risk.
- It’s okay to like your friends but still want to transfer. The people you surround yourself with at college play a big part in your satisfaction with the place, but they aren’t everything. You can always stay in touch and visit.
- If you are on an isolated campus, think about what it would be like to be in a city, and vice versa. Try and come up with 5 things that you couldn’t do at your current school but wanted to and see where else you can do them.

- It's important to find the school that fits you instead of riding it out. It's your education and your social life and it's totally valid to want to switch or try something new. These are some of a kid's first steps away from home and it's so normal to have to take some time and different tries to figure it out. Plus you never know what can come of change. Even though it can be scary at first, it could be for the best! If you take the leap :)
- My mindset is basically that my friends from ** will always be my best friends and I'll have them for life, but in the end the decision to transfer has to be one that is fully for yourself. I was not fulfilled or challenged where I was and that monotonous lifestyle wasn't working for me. Transferring will allow me to have a college experience that will make me individually the happiest. I'll miss the **** out of my friends though. Definitely will be the hardest aspect.
- Always go in with an open mind. I know a lot of people are starting school at a college they initially didn't want to go to. I totally get that. I've been there. However, if you are constantly looking for reasons to dislike your school, then you will end up disliking it more! The first semester of college is a huge transition period for everyone: almost no one knows what they are doing. If you reach out to people, join clubs you like and attempt to make the best of your situation, I can almost guarantee that it will work out - even if it doesn't happen instantaneously.