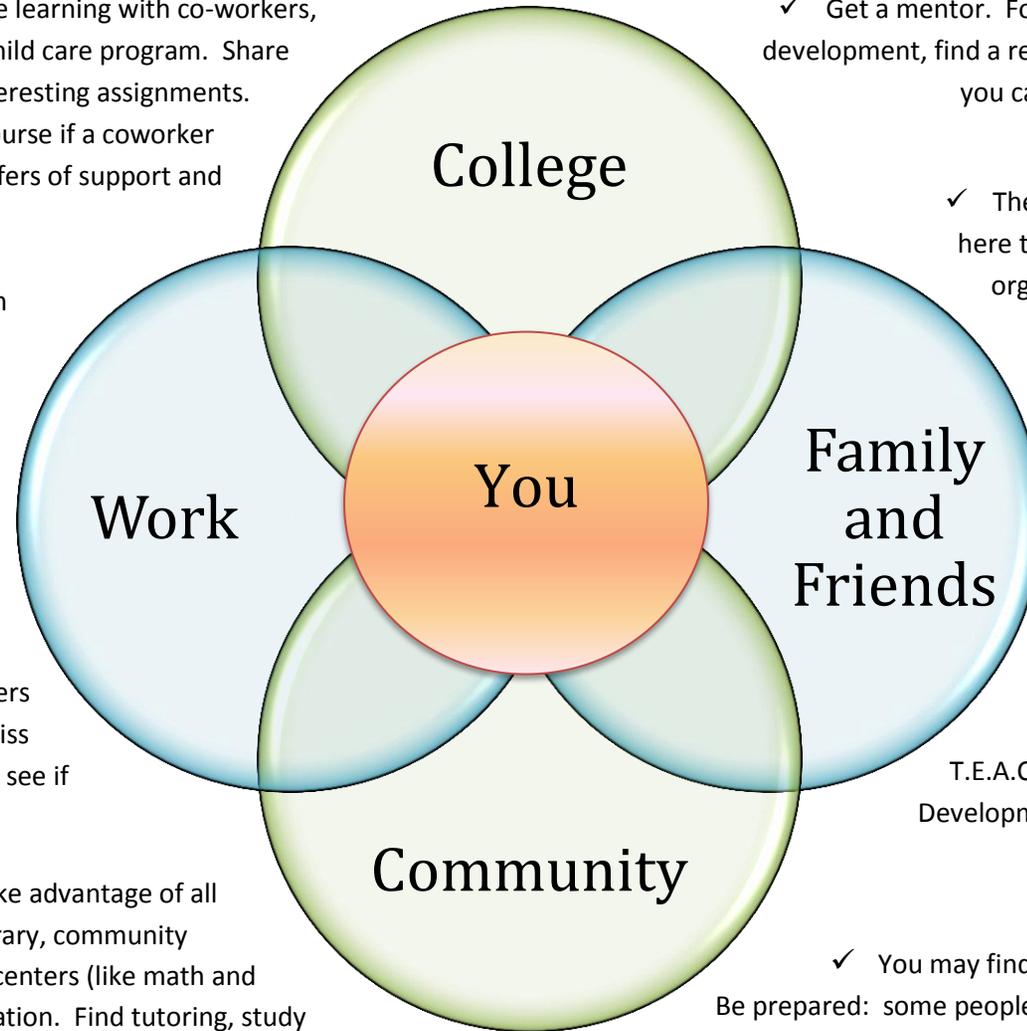


Support Systems for College Success



- ✓ Talk about it! Share what you are learning with co-workers, employers and families in your child care program. Share your progress, new ideas and interesting assignments. You're more likely to stick to a course if a coworker knows you're doing it. Accept offers of support and encouragement!
- ✓ Share the events of your day with family and friends so they can understand what you are going through and provide support during tough times of the semester.
- ✓ Meet at least two people in each of your classes who are willing to exchange phone numbers and be a contact for when you miss class, need information or just to see if they want to study together.
- ✓ Discover available resources! Take advantage of all that is offered in your college library, community libraries and academic resource centers (like math and writing). Attend a college orientation. Find tutoring, study groups, career counseling, academic advising, and ask for support from college instructors and administrators. Join student organizations. Outside resources can save you time, energy and help you solve problems.

- ✓ Get a mentor. For example: if you're taking a class in child development, find a related teacher or graduate student. Ask if you can take them out to coffee once a month.
- ✓ The early childhood education community is here to support you. Reach out to professional organizations like Wisconsin Early Childhood Association and its affiliates, Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Association and Wisconsin Family Child Care Association. These organizations and others like them are rich with resources and supports!
 - ✓ Contact the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association's educational and professional support programs—the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship program and Professional Development counseling. Ask them what they can do for you.
- ✓ You may find supportive people in unexpected places. Be prepared: some people may not share your enthusiasm for your new endeavor. Strengthen support systems wherever you find them!