

Hello [Student's Name],

Welcome to the Spring 2024 semester. If you're new to the college or we haven't met, I'm Dr. Bambara, your college president. [Here's even a quick message from me.](#)

It's time for all of us to embrace the fresh start of a new semester.

This semester be sure to:

1. **Focus on your learning.** Challenge yourself to find new ways to grow as a student. Ask questions, accept feedback, and stay on top of your assignments.
2. **Knock down your academic hurdles.** Use [Learning Commons](#) services like Study Labs, online or in-person tutoring, the Reading and Writing Center/RAWC, and more.
3. **Access free services that improve your journey.** Connect with [The Pantry](#) (for food, personal, and school supplies), try on-site [counseling](#), or access our [holistic mental health network](#).

Keep your money for college on track. If you receive financial aid, verify that you're in "accepted" status for financial aid awards in [Self-Service](#) to prevent delays. (Federal aid is paid after February 5 this semester.)

Let us welcome you IRL.

Stop by a Welcome Table this Tuesday or Wednesday for freebies and information. You'll find tables in College Center, the Tech Building, the Humanities Building, and the Bedford County Campus Student Services Office.

Value the *We Above Me*.

Join us for a [MLK Day of Service](#) on Wednesday in partnership with NAACP Branch 7007.

- **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice training sessions**, 9:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. in the Thomas Welcome Center. [Register](#).
- **NAACP local and statewide initiatives presentation**, 12 p.m. in the Zimmer Theatre. [Register](#).
- **Volunteer activity to help everyone access community resources**, All-day, Haines Student Lounge in College Center.
- **Music and refreshments**, Haines Student Lounge.

Ask questions.

Please reach out to one of your instructors or a staff member. You can also stop by the Thomas Welcome Center, email info@allegany.edu or call 301-784-5005. Their hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Wishing you all the best,

Dr. Cynthia Bambara
President of Allegany College of Maryland