

Things to Consider Before Starting School at McNally Smith

Prepare for the Transition to College Life

Thinking of Purchasing a Computer for School: Students can receive discounts through McNally Smith Apple Store. Visit: store.apple.com/us/edu/284337.

Explore Your Transportation Options

- **Public Transportation:** McNally Smith is located on or near bus lines operated by Metro Transit. To determine what bus to ride visit: www.metrotransit.org/tripplanner or call 612.373.3333.
Discounted bus passes are available for purchase in the Bookstore.
- **Car:** Parking in downtown St. Paul can be a challenge. Check with your housing to see if they offer parking. If you are planning to drive to McNally Smith visit www.smart-trip.org/parking for information on pricing of nearby parking ramps.
- **Bike:** McNally Smith has a number of bike racks located at the front of the main building. Students are required to register their bike at the front desk. It is highly recommended that students purchase a U shaped bike lock, as bike theft is common in urban areas.

Banking: Many students choose to continue banking in their hometown and rely on ATM machines and the Internet to manage their accounts. For students who prefer to set up accounts in St. Paul, the three major banking institutions are Wells Fargo, U.S. Bank, and TCF.

Health insurance: Student health insurance is not available through McNally Smith at this time. Students have a variety of options when it comes to maintaining health insurance while in college.

- **Staying on Your Parent's Health Insurance:** Many insurance companies allow adult children to stay on their parent's insurance while in college. Under the Affordable Care Act, employer-sponsored health plans or companies selling individual insurance policies must offer coverage to subscribers' children up to the age of 26.
- **Sentry's Student Security Plan:** This plan offers low-cost health coverage, flexible payment options, and a prescription drug discount card specifically for full and part-time college students. International students are also eligible. For more information visit: www.ejsmith.com/healthplans.asp
- **Minnesota Care:** MN Care is a subsidized health care program available to those who meet specific eligibility requirements, one of which includes living in Minnesota for at least 180 days. For more information visit: www.dhs.state.mn.us, click *Health Care*, then *Minnesota Health Care Programs*.
- **Springboard for the Arts:** Springboard for the Arts has some good health care information for under or uninsured artists. Visit: springboardforthearts.org/Services/Health.asp
- **Individual Health Insurance Plans:** A variety of companies offer individual health insurance plans. Just a few include: Blue Cross Blue Shield, Medica, and HealthPartners.

Think About Doctors and Clinics in the Twin Cities: Here are just a few clinics near McNally Smith:

- HealthEast Downtown St. Paul Clinic: www.healtheast.org/clinics/locations/downtown-st-paul.html
- HealthPartners St. Paul Clinic and Urgent Care: www.healthpartners.com/portal/230.html
- Allina Medical Clinic: www.allina.com
- Minute Clinics: www.minuteclinic.com

Renters Insurance: Look into getting renters insurance. Renters insurance protects your personal property from fire damage, theft, and vandalism while also providing liability protection for your visitors and guests. Note: This is insurance will also cover bike theft.

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Prepare for Academics at McNally Smith

Listen to a lot of music

- Go to shows
- At least once a week, listen to a new artist, genre, or style

Make music!

- Practice and perform as much as you can.
- Write songs
- Create new sounds

Think about social media as a professional tool

- Consider starting a blog, or
- Check out ways your favorite artists use social media in their careers

Get a head start on music theory and ear training

- Check out www.musictheory.net for some simple but effective interactive sessions on reading and listening. Work your way through the different levels.

Read for pleasure

- Fiction, non-fiction