Things to Consider Before Starting School at McNally Smith

Prepare for the Transition to College Life


Explore Your Transportation Options

- **Public Transportation**: McNally Smith is located on or near bus/light rail lines operated by Metro Transit. To determine how to get somewhere 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 saintpaulparking.com 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 heavy-duty U shape 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 two major banking institutions are Wells Fargo and U.S. Bank.

**Health insurance**: It is highly recommended that students have health insurance. Students have a variety of options when it comes to maintaining health insurance while in college.
- **Stay on Your Parent’s Health Insurance**: 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.
- **Minnesota Care/MNsure Marketplace**: Visit: http://mn.gov/dhs for more information.
- **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:
- 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**: We highly recommend 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.
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

Come ready to get involved!
- McNally Smith’s student community is YOUR community. Find out which student organizations you’d like to get involved in, plan to create your own student organization, attend on-campus and off-campus events, bring ideas for cool events with you too!