











Participate in course discussions, even when you don't feel like it	somewhat certain	52%
Ask for help when you struggle with assignments	very certain	72%
Finish something you have started when you encounter challenges	very certain	67%
Stay positive, even when you do poorly on a test or assignment	very certain	53%

Respondents were also positive about how difficult they might find common university challenges, reporting that social challenges were not at all difficult, and academic challenges ranged from a little difficult to somewhat difficult. Many respondents indicate that paying colleges expenses would be very difficult.

MSU experience	Level of difficulty	Percentage of respondents
Learning course material	somewhat difficult	48%
Writing papers	somewhat difficult	45%
Speaking in or in front of class	somewhat difficult	30%
Managing time	a little difficult	40%
Paying college expenses	very difficult	37%
Getting help with coursework	a little difficult	49%
Interacting with faculty	not at all difficult	42%
Making new friends	not at all difficult	53%
Living on campus with roommate	not at all difficult	56%
Getting involved in campus activities	not at all difficult	53%
Being away from home	not at all difficult	38%

Most incoming freshmen (81.3%) expect to graduate within 4 to 4.5 years. 96.8% expect to graduate in 5.5 years or fewer. However, the graduation rate according to the National Center for Educational Statistics' most recent available data is 59 (57 at public institutions) percent (cohort beginning college Fall 2006). The graduation rate itself is defined as the number of students who complete their degree within six years, not four.

Respondents predicted that most of their grades would be A's (44%) or B's (52%) in their first year at Murray State. Using the mean high school GPA as a benchmark (3.44) for unrealistic expectations in achieving mostly A's and B's, 19.1% of students who finished high school with a 3.0 expected to make mostly B's or higher at MSU.