

Gaylord College Graduate Buddies

Who: Gaylord College graduate students

What: A program to help build a mentorship between experienced Gaylord College graduate students and incoming graduate students

When: Regular meetings with the Gaylord College Graduate Buddies in and outside the Gaylord Hall. Get together on your own time to build friendship and encourage mentorship between new and returning graduate students.

Where: We gather at the Gaylord College or at any place of choice near campus.

Why: To help build strong relationships and mentorship among graduate students. The goal is to help students feel comfortable when transitioning into the Gaylord College graduate program. Some students may feel intimidated by the new program, university, city and country. By having a "designated friend" new students will feel more comfortable asking for help and will have a friend to help them navigate through their graduate experience.

How: At the beginning of each semester or year (whenever the student joins the Gaylord College Graduate Buddies program) both the experienced student and incoming student will attend about two social gatherings, meet others. An optional personal information sheet asks questions about students' personality, wants and needs. Based on the information, a program coordinator can match an experienced Gaylord graduate student with an incoming Gaylord College graduate student.

The Gaylord College Graduate Buddies program hosts events, social gatherings and invite guest speakers. Newly matched students can attend events together. Then, the matches are expected to meet outside of Gaylord College on their own time.

The program is designed to help incoming students feel a sense of community and to gain a mentor and friend within the Gaylord College graduate program.