The *Eastern Bridge* program serves those incoming freshmen who are admitted to EKU under the Success First initiative. The program is designed to help students transition to college by providing them with research-based resources that have proven to help students be successful in college.

*Eastern Bridge* provides students in the program with the following services:

**Regular Contact with Success Coach:**
A Success Coach works with all *Eastern Bridge* students throughout their college journey at EKU.

**Regular Communication from Eastern Bridge Staff:**
The program coordinator sends news and important information to *Eastern Bridge* students at least weekly so that students have reminders about registration and financial aid deadlines as well as information about university events and activities, including academic workshops and social events.

**Academic Advisor:**
In addition to a Success Coach, *Eastern Bridge* students are assigned an Academic Advisor through the Office of University Advising to assist with registration and scheduling.

**GSD 101:**
All freshmen are required to take a Student Success Seminar course their first semester at EKU. *Eastern Bridge* students take GSD 101 which places them in a seminar course with instructors that are familiar with the resources of the program and communicate with their Success Coach.

**Careers and Majors Counseling:**
Students will receive assistance through their GSD 101 course, Success Coach, and academic advising to help them choose a major.

**Peer Tutoring:**
EKU Tutoring is a Level II certified program under the College Reading and Learning Association’s International Tutor Training Program. *Eastern Bridge* students will work weekly with certified tutors. The tutoring requirements have proven to be instrumental in student success.

**Opportunity to Attend Summer Bridge**
*Eastern Bridge* students will receive a special invitation to apply for the Summer Bridge program at EKU. This program helps students earn early college credit through summer courses as well as help them transition to college through participation in programming designed to prepare students for the fall semester and beyond.
Frequently Asked Questions

How much does Eastern Bridge cost?
The Eastern Bridge program is free to all students who are admitted under the Success First initiative. However, regular tuition, housing, textbooks, and meal costs apply.

I am not a Success First admit. Can I still participate in Eastern Bridge?
Yes! The Eastern Bridge program is open to all freshmen. Students do opt into the program because of the assistance they receive.

What is the Learning Agreement?
The Success First Learning Agreement lists research-based practices that students are expected to follow that will set them up for success. Through this agreement, students can develop good habits that will help them be successful throughout college.

When can I declare a major?
Students admitted under a Success First initiative like Eastern Bridge are placed in the Associate in General Studies (AGS) degree program. This will ensure that students can take a three credit-hour freshman orientation course that will help them focus on researching and choosing a major while being well-informed about the requirements of various majors and careers. Students may take prerequisite classes for their desired major during the program and declare a major after making satisfactory academic progress.

Why is tutoring a requirement?
Program research shows that Bridge students who attend tutoring for four or more hours a week have a much higher GPA than those who do not. For example, in 2013, students who logged in for the required time averaged a 3.34 GPA. Those who did not, averaged a 1.96.

Don’t just take our word for it!
Here are student testimonials taken from an anonymous freshman survey:

“I absolutely love the Bridge program. This helped me out tremendously with all my classes and with future classes at EKU.”

“Lara helped explain a lot of things I didn’t understand.”

“The Bridge program is an amazing program for freshmen students in preparing them for future classes.”

“The Eastern Bridge staff keeps me up-to-date and on track.”

“The Eastern Bridge staff helped me figure out all the things on campus.”

“The Bridge program informed me on how to stay tuned with EKU.”

GSD made it “easy to transition into college.”

“The staff provided me with important information.”

“Tutoring hours helped me to gain a study pattern.”

“Every time I went to tutoring, it helped me comprehend more.”