

a new chapter

How parents fit into their students' lives at college

Developing Trust & Respect Between You & Your Student

- Engage in open, honest dialogue rather than keeping secrets from one another.
- Agree to disagree at times rather than equating disagreements with defiance.
- Listen to one another without interruption—there's lots to learn from one another!
- Talk about how things will be when your student comes home and make it a two-way conversation rather than a mandate.
- Meet some of her campus friends, if at all possible, so you can better know who she's talking about.
- Don't always "check in" with your student—it's okay to go some time without being in constant communication and it allows your student to develop his own sense of self even more.
- Put money conversations out in the open so your student knows where things stand and what she has to do, and so she doesn't have to always wonder if the other shoe is going to drop.
- Treat your student like an adult, in conversations, in making decisions and more.
- Let your student know that he has your trust upfront and that you hope and expect he'll maintain it.