**Academic Support Services**

**Learning Enhancement**

The CAS maintains a dual-service orientation to advance learning strategies for academically gifted students and to enhance learning strategies for students who need to strengthen academic performance. Learning Services are provided to help students:

- succeed in University of Alabama courses
- improve study techniques
- improve reading efficiencies
- prepare for professional school and graduate school entrance examinations

**Independent Study Lab**

In the Independent Study Lab (124 Osband Hall), students can use computer programs, videotapes, multimedia programs and other self-paced learning materials. The lab has resources for students who want to improve study skills or performance in language, math, biology, chemistry, physics, statistics or engineering. Videotaped lectures from many math, chemistry, engineering and statistics courses are available in the lab. The lab also provides resources for entrance exam preparation.

**Tutorial Assistance Program**

The Tutorial Assistance Program provides individualized help with specific classes. There is no charge for this service, and appointments may be made by coming to Osband Hall, calling the center at (205) 348-5175 or visiting cas.ua.edu on the web.

**Study Skills Courses**

The CAS offers two Study Skills Courses. In NEW 222 Academic Potential, students learn efficient ways to pursue academic activities. BEP 110 Introduction to Learning Strategies and Skills is a 3-hour course designed to improve learning skills and strategies. In addition, non-credit Study Skills Workshops are offered frequently, covering topics like time management, speed reading, reading comprehension, vocabulary enhancement, note taking, memory methods, test preparation, test taking and motivation.

CAS also offers BCE 101 Freshman Compass Course. This course focuses on student success by helping first-year students:

- acquire an orientation to the functions and resources of the University
- adjust to the University environment
- establish relationships through interaction with faculty, advisers and other students
- develop essential academic skills

Students who plan to take entrance examinations for graduate or professional school can review relevant materials in the Independent Study Lab. Additionally, through the Kaplan on Campus Program, UA students can enroll in Kaplan review courses at a reduced cost.

**Student Support Services**

Student Support Services (SSS) is a comprehensive, federally funded TRIO program that offers academic assistance to qualified undergraduate students at The University of Alabama.

The goal of SSS is to increase retention and graduation rates of eligible students through academic assistance, counseling, advising and other forms of individualized support services. SSS participants are helped in determining their specific strengths and weaknesses so that the program can offer the most appropriate assistance for each student.

**Key Program Components**

Student Support Services participants will:

- receive individualized support services, including academic, career, financial and personal counseling and advising
- receive tutoring in requested subjects when available
- have the option of participating (as a protege or mentor) in a Student Support Services Peer Mentoring Program

- prepare for successful entry into the job market with career planning
- receive a Kaplan Graduate School Entrance Exam Review at no charge
- receive guidance in developing effective graduate school admissions plans
- attend seminars in a variety of areas to strengthen personal, professional and academic competencies
- participate in selected cultural events
- receive tuition waiver on college credit courses offered through SSS, including the following:
  - College Success (GS 111 Academic Skills)
  - College Writing (GS 111 Academic Skills)
  - Professional Development Seminar (GS 111 Academic Skills)
  - MATH 100 Intermediate Algebra (section 099 only)

**Criteria for Eligibility**

Any undergraduate student who is a citizen or permanent resident of the United States, has been accepted for enrollment at The University of Alabama, has a program-approved academic need for assistance, and meets one or more of the following U.S. Department of Education criteria:

- is a first-generation college student (if you lived with both parents, both parents/guardians did not graduate from a four-year college or university; if you lived with only one parent, that parent did not graduate from a four-year college or university)
- is eligible for financial aid at a level established by the U.S. Department of Education
- is a student with a documented disability (physical or learning)
- * Academic need, as defined for purposes of Student Support Services, includes any one or more of the following:
  - high school GPA of 2.50 or below
  - ACT score of 20 or below (composite score or any one subtest)
  - SAT verbal score of 460 or below (total score)
  - SAT math subscore of 460 or below
  - placement in MATH 005 Introductory Algebra, MATH 100 Intermediate Algebra or EN 099 Basic Writing
  - college cumulative GPA of 2.0 to 2.25
  - semester GPA of 2.0 or below
  - failing grades in one or more courses
  - returning adult student (five or more years since last attended school)
  - in danger of losing scholarship award
  - enrollment in highly demanding and stressful courses of study, including engineering, nursing, math-based business and pre-med

**Becoming a Participant**

A student may apply to become a participant in the SSS program at any point in his or her undergraduate career (freshman to senior) and at any point in the semester. Applications will be reviewed at the beginning of each semester. If a student is deemed eligible to receive services and space is available in the program, he or she will be admitted. For an application or for more information, contact The University of Alabama, Student Support Services, 225 Osband Hall, Box 870304, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0304; (205) 348-7087; fax (205) 348-5585; cas.ua.edu/sss.