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Before I had signed up for the ACA-122 course, my answer would have been very different on what makes a successful community college student. It would have been just someone that passes his or her classes. It didn't matter what grade, but as long as the credit was given for the course. In ACA, I learned that in community college there is more than just classes. There are six key attributes of successful college students. These include, self-awareness, self-motivation, emotional intelligence, interdependence, self-efficacy and accountability.

One has to be self-aware of what one wants. One must know his or her desire and motives to be a successful community college student. Being prepared and knowing what one wants can lead to being a successful student. Self-motivation is another attribute that makes a successful community college student. This is a tough one because there are days where they just don't go the way we want to. This is key when trying to push through and having the self-motivation to ignore and deflect negative mindsets or days to be motivated for any college work.

Another attribute that makes a successful community college student is emotional intelligence. It sort of ties with self-motivation since this is one of the keys to success in personal and professional aspects. One needs to be able to control the emotions throughout the whole semester. The next attribute is interdependence. As students we need to be able to interact with others, whether it is teachers, classmates or others. There will be group projects, there will be group assignments, and one has to be able to work with others in order to be successful.

The second-to-last attribute of a successful community college student is self-efficacy. This is important because if you don't believe in yourself, no one is going to do it for you. You need confidence to achieve your goals. Having enough confidence has no limits and you can achieve anything you set. Self-efficacy comes in and you can control your mind to think, feel or behave the way you want. The last attribute that makes a successful community college student is accountability. One has to be responsible for their actions. There might be days that you didn't finish something, forgot the deadline of an assignment or wrote the wrong date of when it was supposed to be due. One has to own up to the mistakes one makes and be able to move on. Be responsible and try to avoid anything that might have an affect on being accountable.

Those six attributes, self-awareness, self-motivation, emotional intelligence, interdependence, self-efficacy and accountability are what makes a successful community college student. Having these attributes, not only will help you be a successful person throughout your college and university, but later on in life as we get older. They are attributes one must have or work on throughout the early days of college to build and shape a great future ahead!