

College has been rough for me. I remember back in highschool, I had a horrible GPA, somewhere around the mid-2s. When I learned that our school had a CLC Counselor to help students enroll for college, I took the chance, knowing transfer universities would only look at my current college GPA and grades. It would be a fresh start for me. Unfortunately, that hasn't been the truth so far. Due to things I couldn't control, along with poor planning, this semester has been one of the worst for me. I'm planning on retaking at least one class, hopefully not more. I haven't met my definition of success for college, at least here, which was to raise my GPA enough to make it to the college I want to transfer to, UIUC. Of course, there are other factors for getting into college, but the definition I set for myself was not met, at least not yet.

Though, there was *one* definition for Success I met while in college. I got a job! My last "real" job was at a McDonalds where I live, but I had to quit in Junior year due to the stress of school. I went my entire Senior year without a job, making do due to the fact I was still being supported by my dad and older sister. Nowadays, money is a lot tighter and I needed to find a way to support my family. I needed to get a job. It's hard to get a job when you don't have a car, and that was the problem I was experiencing. Getting a job at the college I go to not only saved me time, but money I didn't yet have. Thanks to meeting this definition of success, I was able to finally get my own car, opening an endless amount of opportunities for me.

Outside of college and work... I'm not sure if I've set a definition of success for myself. Of course I want to do menial things that everyone wants to do, like lose weight or have more friends, but I've been so focused on school and work that not much else matters to me, even if I'm struggling to focus in school. I guess, for a personal definition, I'd want to work on myself. I'm bad at concentrating and I have horrible motivation. My life is currently not the best in quite a few ways, and I have the control to fix that, but not the will. I think this is going to be the hardest definition to meet by far. Though, unlike both college and my career, I have my entire life to work on myself. There was one "recommended" question I was thinking about quite a lot while writing this reflection, and it asked what the "biggest change" I would need to make would be. I think that change would be to not be afraid of pain, emotional or physical. The fear I have of failure is holding me back, along with the anxiety of not keeping up with my responsibilities. I need to learn to just *do*.