

Ways for Students to Get Help When They Get Behind in Class

Students get behind in their classwork for a variety of reasons. It can feel overwhelming & stressful to have significant make-up work and know that your grade is lower than you want it to be. Some students have difficulty understanding particular concepts, and they don't ask for help as they should. Irregardless of the reason that a student has incomplete assignments and is having a hard time catching-up, **try one of these strategies to work hard and smart ... and lower the stress & raise the grade!**

1. **Family & friends.** Parents can be a good tutor if they know the subject and if student/parent have the patience to make it work. If not :), consider another family member or friend of the family.
2. **Teachers.** Teachers have a lot on their plate, but make sure you communicate to a teacher about questions/concerns you have. Many teachers will stay after school to give students additional help with assignments. If this doesn't work, ask the teacher if they know of an older or advanced student who might be able to help.
3. **Classmates.** Your fellow classmates are required to understand and complete the assignments that you are. Ask a student in your class if they are willing to assist you with a particular concept or assignment. I'm not suggesting you ask to copy an assignment or have someone else do the assignment for you ... that is considered cheating and you do not want the consequences that accompany cheating!! I mean get some 'tutoring help' from a classmate.
4. **Churches, community and volunteer centers.** Many of these organizations have programs to serve students. All are there to help.
5. **College students.** Students that are attending college locally, may be willing to tutor a high school student for a small amount of money. Maybe you have a neighbor you can ask. Or, try contacting the student admissions office of a local college. Often times, they too, have bulletin boards with 'tutor' postings on them.
6. **Tutoring centers.** Tutoring centers (ie. Sylvan) specialize in a systematic approach to bring students up to speed academically. Styles and quality vary, as do costs.
7. **Private tutors.** The Personnel Office, at Niles Community Schools Administration Building, has a list of individuals that tutor during the summer. Contact them to see if individuals have tutoring services during the school year also.
8. **Time management.** Utilize your time wisely. Niles High School provides

opportunities to get extra help, for example, during seminar class time each week. Get a seminar pass from a teacher before seminar Friday. Bring make-up work to seminar.

Good luck – don't get discouraged, never give up!!