Prospective Student Visits to the Darden School: Process Improvement

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Advantages/Disadvantages of being a commuter at UAM

- Being a college freshman is exciting, yet stressful.
- As a student, you will make the decision whether you will live on campus or commute.
- Being a commuter has many advantages and some disadvantages.
- Ultimately, each student will decide what's right for their needs.
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Advantages according to Haley (continued):

- Being a commuter has its benefits. You have more freedom and can tailor your schedule to fit your needs.
- Commuting can be challenging, but also enriching. It allows you to experience different cultures and environments.
- You can also save money by not living on campus.
- Nonetheless, living on campus can provide a more cohesive experience, and you can easily access college resources.
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Advantages of being a commuter through UAM commuter Haley Wood's perspective:

- You don't have to purchase a meal plan.
- Study in the privacy of your own home.
- More personal space!
Advantages according to Haley (continued..)

- Being a commuter has improved her GPA because she has more time to study!
- She gets to park closer to her classes.
- NO* move-in, move-out time like you have to do if you live on campus during finals week.
- She believes that it's cheaper to commute than live on campus, so she saves money!
Disadvantages of being a commuter:

"Commuters are significantly less likely to take part in university-sponsored events" (Newbold, J.J., Mehta, S.S., & Forbus, P. 2011).

With that being said...

- Being a commuter may possibly affect your social life, since you may not be socializing with as many people that someone who lives on campus may be exposed to.

More disadvantages...

- Commuters may have a harder time motivating themselves.
- It may be harder to make it to class on time due to having to drive from off campus.
- GPA may be affected.
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Statistics say 80% of U.S. college students chose to be commuters. (National Center for Education Statistics, 2002)