Achiever

People who are especially talented in the Achiever theme have a great deal of stamina and work hard. They take great satisfaction from being busy and productive.

I am (being) → a hard worker
I will (doing) → set the pace for production
I bring (contribution) → intensity and stamina of effort
I need (requirement) → freedom to work at my own pace
I love (value) → completing tasks
I hate (value) → a lack of diligence
Metaphor/Image → completing a race, getting to the finish line
Barrier Label → Work is more important than people

General Academic Life Tips

- Set at least one clearly defined and measurable goal for each of your courses at the beginning of the term. Document your progress toward every objective in an academic-achievement journal. To further track your academic progress, use the Academic Progress Audit System (APAS) to generate a progress report.
- Plan out your college career with the U of M’s Graduation Planner.
- Identify the most important fact, philosophy, concept, or law you learn in each class each week. Notice recurring patterns. Pinpoint discoveries.
- Set one or two “stretch” targets, such as earning a specific grade-point average, winning honors status, or being named to the dean’s list.
- Ask to review papers, projects, research studies, or tests of several students who consistently earn higher grades in a class than you do. Try to equal or surpass one or two things they do.
- Apply for the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) to challenge your research and creativity skills.
- Seek opportunities to apply several of the ideas and concepts you have learned. Address groups and conduct demonstrations so others can benefit from what you know.
- Ask each of your professors to clarify their expectations for your performance. Emphasize that you intend to exceed the minimum course requirements.

Career Development Tips

- As a talented achiever, you probably are attracted to goals. Take the time to establish clear and relevant objectives that will guide your intense efforts.
- Make a list of the steps to take in choosing a career, beginning with a visit your college’s Career Services office. The list – and being able to cross items off it as you follow through on them – will give you a sense of direction as well as a deep sense of accomplishment.
- Roles that challenge you and reward your hard work will allow your Achiever talents to flourish.
- Work environments that provide incentives for quality or productivity are likely to bring out your best efforts.
- Find a place where your productivity, stamina, intensity, and drive for completion will make you a valued team member.

Extracurricular Activities

- Join clubs that have members who share your strong work ethic through the U of M’s Student Unions & Activities webpage. You can also search keywords using the Engage Tool to find student groups, majors, etc. that are in your interest areas.
- Advance toward your academic and career goals by enrolling in rigorous classes, volunteering on campus through the Community Service-Learning Center, performing community service, working part time, and participating in intramural or extramural sports through RecSports.
- Elect to join organizations like MSA where your accomplishments will be recognized. Choose groups with goals that align with your own. Insist on establishing deadlines for reaching each objective.