Why is **Early Alert** important for students?

Early Alert is a strategy for handling challenges as soon as possible to increase academic success. Early Alert steps include: 1. **RECOGNIZING** challenges immediately when they occur, 2. **SEEKING SOLUTIONS** to the challenges, and 3. **IMPLEMENTING CHANGE** to overcome the challenges.

Early Alert is very important because **GPA matters** and student success depends on effectively overcoming challenges each semester. If not handled correctly, challenges easily lead to **falling behind in classes**, **feeling overwhelmed**, **lower performance**, and eventually **failure**.

Examples of **Early Alert** in action ...**What action must you take?**

**1. Recognizing challenges:** **Spotting the red flags**
- Failing to do BPR (Bullet Point Reading)
- Coming to class without learning supplies, i.e. textbook, notebook, calculator, etc.
- Poorly organized class materials, i.e. BPR, lecture notes, quizzes, handouts, etc.
- Arriving late or missing class
- Failing to review lecture notes immediately after class

**2. Seeking solutions to challenges:** **Self-Advocacy**
- Speak with **Corner Man**, a.k.a. MESA Director
- Review the MESA Foundation for Learning, including Learning Styles
- Get re-trained on the **MESA Story for Learning**, including BPR, CSI:BPR, and **Big Picture Approach to Problem Solving**
- Use a **SmartPen** to record lectures
- Take advantage of MESA resources
- See tutors in MESA, Tutorial, Math or English Centers

**3. Implementing change to overcome challenges:** **Master the approach to the learning**
- Establish a sense of urgency: **No urgency, no change!**
- Set short-term goals for improvement
- **Implement solutions from Step 2**
- Trouble seeing the Big Picture (Concept, S.A.M. & Variation)
- Difficulty with or NOT completing homework
- Low performance on quizzes or exams
- Failure to complete Progress Reports
- Not balancing academics, work and home
- Breaking the MESA Laws: write, simple, smarter
- **Victim behavior: Self sabotage!**

- Visit professors during office hours
- Form study groups or attend AEWs (review **Common Classes list** in MESA Center)
- View online lecture videos
- Get help from other MESA brothers and sisters
- Get training on Test Taking Strategies and Time Management Strategies
- Speak with a Counselor
- Visit Mental Health Counseling, DSPS, etc.

**Always remember**, **MESA Creators accept responsibility, take action & seek solutions!**