

10 WAYS TO SUPPORT MULTIRACIAL STUDENTS

The Multiracial Biracial Student Alliance

- 1** When designing surveys that require demographic data, allow respondents to “Check all that apply” and include a “bi/multiracial” or “mixed” option (or explain why you cannot).
- 2** Ensure that multiracial students feel that they have a space that they fit in on campus, whether that is a student organization or location.
- 3** When engaging in racial social justice work, make sure to include spaces for conversations about multiracial people.
- 4** Build your multicultural competence in the field of multiracial identity development. Understanding and embracing the complexities of how environments affect racial identity development for multiracial college students is key to identifying ways in which to support multiracial students at your institution.
- 5** Be mindful about language and your own biases. It is common to use monoracial language and/or even the term “students of color” when speaking about students who identify with one or more marginalized and/or underrepresented racial identities.
- 6** It’s all about relationships! Bottom line, work to build relationships with students across multiple social identities that can foster a supportive environment where students see you as an advocate around a plethora of matters.
- 7** Understand that multiracial students can racially identify in different ways based on their experiences and situations. It is important that we do not make assumptions based on how a student looks or put them in positions where they may feel obligated to represent a specific racial identity.
- 8** Explore your own background as well as resources, writing, scholarship dealing with multiracial experiences, histories of people of color and issues of social, economic and racial justice.
- 9** Advocate for Multiracial students in your higher education institution and educational policies. Give them a voice!
- 10** Stay connected to national mixed race/multiracial resources like MRN!



EXPLORATION
THROUGH
SOLIDARITY

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