Volunteer
Participating in charity work allows students to see the impact that their hard work has on their own community or the under-served communities near and far. Particularly for college students with limited work experience, volunteer work on a resume can help them stand out from the crowd. Volunteer work can also help build skills such as leadership, public speaking, and group work, which can be applied in the classroom as well as in the workforce.

Work
Finding a job after graduation is no walk in the park, so take any advantage you can find to gain work experience early on. Summer internships also offer a definite advantage when it comes to your career search after college. While finding summer employment can be tricky, it’s possible to find a beneficial summer job or summer internship that you’ll enjoy.

Vacation
For those who have worked so hard for so long, you need a real break, prepare yourself for a vacation! Or if you’re someone who likes to get the most out of travel, consider studying abroad as a way to continue your education, learn about an unfamiliar culture, and explore a new region. Check out CengageBrain’s blog post, “Planning to travel abroad? The strong dollar will get you far this summer” for tips.

Or if you’re staying close to home this summer, you should consider planning a “staycation” celebration with your friends who will also be staying in town. Plan a fun camping trip or a hiking adventure for very little cost.

Awesome ideas to celebrate with your college friends!

1. Hold a Legendary BBQ!
Hot dogs, hamburgers, briskets and brats…oh my! You can get outside (weather permitting of course), fire up the grill and gather around a few tables with friends. If possible, head out super-early and secure a spot in a park overlooking a fireworks display.

2. It’s Patriotic Movie Time!
If there’s going to be a television of some sort around, or in the background, whatever, make sure to have the best patriotic movies rocking. In fact, no one said you can’t just do a dorm movie day, or with someone special…like red white & blue popcorn.

3. Go Join the Nearest Parade
Most cities, even the small ones, hold parades for the 4th of July. If your college town doesn’t have one going on, well, then travel to somewhere that does. These places typically have all kinds of stuff going on; big gatherings, BBQs, fireworks displays, live music, etc.

4. Throw a Study Session
Oh lord. Yep, get your buddies together, drape yourselves in American flags and study (recite) patriotic writings like The Bill of Rights, The writings of Washington, Lincoln, Franklin, and Jefferson, The Declaration of Independence, The Gettysburg Address, “Ragged Old Flag” by Johnny Cash or Patrick Henry’s Give me Liberty or Give Me Death speech.

Celebrate the 4th with Friends

I was looking forward to summer vacation near the end of school

But now I’m bored out of my brain and am too lazy to get out and do anything exciting!

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