Dear Parents & Family Members—

A student’s success depends on many things. It depends on deep commitment and a clear sense of purpose, a desire to take responsibility and make good choices, an openness to learn from mistakes and embrace new challenges. In the most fundamental ways, a student’s success depends on the student. It comes from within.

But a student’s success also depends on the support and encouragement of others. It depends on University programs and services designed and implemented with student success in mind. It depends on the prodding and love of parents and family members. It depends on you and me and so many others, and it requires our collective willingness, in just the right moment, to simply let go.

We want every Penn State student to have the opportunity to succeed. We want them to learn, to grow, to find their life’s path and purpose, to take responsibility for themselves and others. And we want them to do so safely and securely; challenged by the experience, but nurtured through it, too.

We cannot achieve that ambition without your direct involvement and contribution. Please participate in as many Parents Program activities and opportunities as time allows. Let us know what we can do for you. Tell us about your experience at Penn State. Help us be the very best we can.

The past year has challenged the Penn State community in ways few could have imagined. But the noble purpose advanced by our great University and the resiliency of its students, faculty, and staff have sustained our remarkable success as a place of learning and discovery.

Together, Penn State will remain among the finest universities in the land. Together, our students—all of them—will have every good chance to succeed. They and we should expect nothing less.

Damon Sims
Vice President for Student Affairs
A MESSAGE FROM THE PARENTS PROGRAM

Welcome to the Penn State family!

We believe that student success is enhanced when parents and family members engage in an effective working partnership with our institution. With that in mind, the Parents Program strives to:

• Serve as a central resource for access to information and referrals,
• Enhance parent and family involvement opportunities throughout the University community,
• Provide information about the student experience at Penn State, and
• Communicate with parents and families through responses to phone and email inquiries, newsletters, and our website.

As a first step, we publish this Parents & Families Guide, which aims to familiarize parents and family members with numerous University resources that will assist you in guiding your student during their years at Penn State. Inside you will find helpful information about the college transition process, community standards and policies, degree requirements and academic services, opportunities and resources for student engagement beyond the classroom, and information about important student support services. We have also included a reminder checklist of priority items for students and families to complete prior to Arrival Day.

Should you have additional questions or you want to learn more about volunteer opportunities available for parents and family members, we encourage you to visit the Parents Program website (www.parents.psu.edu) or contact our office at 814-863-1313 or parents@psu.edu.

Again, welcome to Penn State. We look forward to partnering with you!

Jennifer Mallen
Director, Penn State Parents Program

Save the Date for
Parents & Families Weekend
September 28 – 30, 2012

Join us for a special weekend that includes a variety of campus wide programs and family friendly events. For more information, please visit www.parents.psu.edu or call 814-863-1313. A preliminary schedule of events will be available in mid-July.

The Penn State Principles

The Pennsylvania State University is a community dedicated to personal and academic excellence. The Penn State Principles were developed to embody the values that we hope our students, faculty, staff, administration, and alumni possess. At the same time, the University is strongly committed to freedom of expression. Consequently, these Principles do not constitute University policy and are not intended to interfere in any way with an individual's academic or personal freedoms. We hope, however, that individuals will voluntarily endorse these common principles, thereby contributing to the traditions and scholarly heritage left by those who preceded them, and will thus leave Penn State a better place for those who follow.

I will respect the dignity of all individuals within the Penn State community.

The University is committed to creating and maintaining an educational environment that respects the right of all individuals to participate fully in the community. Actions motivated by hate, prejudice, or intolerance violate this principle. I will not engage in any behaviors that compromise or demean the dignity of individuals or groups, including intimidation, stalking, harassment, discrimination, taunting, ridiculing, insulting, or acts of violence. I will demonstrate respect for others by striving to learn from different people, ideas, and opinions and by avoiding behaviors that inhibit the ability of other community members to feel safe or welcome as they pursue their academic goals.

I will practice academic integrity.

Academic integrity is a basic guiding principle for all academic activity at Penn State University, allowing the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest, and responsible manner. In accordance with the University Code of Conduct, I will practice integrity in regard to all academic assignments. I will not engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception because such acts of dishonesty violate the fundamental ethical principles of the University community and compromise the worth of work completed by others.

I will demonstrate social and personal responsibility.

The University is a community that promotes learning; any behaviors that are inconsistent with that goal are unacceptable. Irresponsible behaviors, including alcohol or drug abuse and the use of violence against people or property, undermine the educational climate by threatening the physical and mental health of members of the community. I will exercise personal responsibility for my actions and I will make sure that my actions do not interfere with the academic and social environment of the University. I will maintain a high standard of behavior by adhering to the Code of Conduct and respecting the rights of others.

I will be responsible for my own academic progress and agree to comply with all University policies.

The University allows students to identify and achieve their academic goals by providing the information needed to plan the chosen program of study and the necessary educational opportunities, but students assume final responsibility for course scheduling, program planning, and the successful completion of graduation requirements. I will be responsible for seeking the academic and career information needed to meet my educational goals by becoming knowledgeable about the relevant policies, procedures, and rules of the University and academic program, by consulting and meeting with my adviser, and by successfully completing all of the requirements for graduation.
Partnering with Parents

We recognize and appreciate the important role that you have played in the life of your student prior to arriving at Penn State. We want this role to continue by cultivating a partnership with you during your student’s college career.

As your student begins, you may be wondering what you can do to enhance their success, and you may be concerned about the transition ahead for both you and your student. This Guide begins to address your changing role as a support provider. It also helps you prepare to navigate your student’s new relationship with the University and provides helpful advice for family members of first-year college students.

We hope you will take this information to heart and partner with us while your student is at Penn State. We truly believe that well-informed parents and family members can help us connect students with the resources available to them and, in the end, help to ensure your student is successful.

The Role of the Student

At Penn State, we expect our students to become increasingly responsible for their own actions including their academic and social decisions, and we expect them to abide by community standards. We want students to explore the educational opportunities available to them, select a major in which they will succeed, and put forth their best efforts in the classroom at all times. We also want students to take advantage of the tremendous array of opportunities outside of class by choosing meaningful ways to become active citizens in the campus and broader community.

Penn State’s Role

Penn State aims to be the most student-centered research university in the country. To this end, faculty and administrators strive to support our students by providing them with the necessary resources to be successful both in and out of the classroom. The Parents Program takes an active role in meeting this goal through general outreach and communication to our parents and family members.

Supporting Your Student

Many incoming college students see their family members as trusted coaches and sources of support in life, which is not likely to change when they begin their Penn State careers. While your student is beginning a new chapter, we hope you will not underestimate the important role you will continue to play in their lives. Students need you to support their growth, development, and independence, and to be a stable force in their ever-changing world. The Parents Program is here to support you in your efforts to guide your student throughout their Penn State career. To start, we offer the following points of guidance:

Stay Connected

Support your student by staying connected via phone, e-mail, and even ‘snail mail’. Connect that your student will not respond to all of your contacts, but know that they appreciate hearing from you. Be sure to visit, but not too often. Parents & Families Weekend is an excellent way to reconnect with your student.

Check In

Give your student the opportunity to share feelings and ideas with you. Your student is experiencing new viewpoints and perspectives that may challenge prior belief systems. Allow them to explore ideas without being judgmental. Understand that changes in viewpoints, behavior, dress, eating and sleeping habits, and relationships with family members are all to be expected. However, if you suspect that some of these changes may be signs of bigger academic or social problems, trust your instincts. Your student may need you to refer them to the appropriate resources described in this Guide for help.

Be Knowledgeable about Campus Resources

Utilize this Parents & Families Guide and the Parents Program website (www.parents.psu.edu). These resources are designed specifically to provide helpful information about the University. Helping your student to navigate our large university by referring them to the appropriate resources is one of the best ways for you to coach your college student during this transition to adulthood. By acting as a referral source, you can demonstrate that you are interested in your student’s life at the University, and at the same time, empower your student to solve their own problems.

Continue to Have Difficult Conversations

While you will no longer have the same access to your student’s daily life, you still have influence on your student’s behavior. In college, your student will have to make their own decisions about what time to get up in the morning, when to study, when to exercise, which organizations to participate in, whether or not to eat healthy, whether or not to drink alcohol, and whether or not to engage in romantic relationships. Although you cannot force your student to behave as you would want them to, parents can share their values and beliefs on these topics. Create an atmosphere of open communication, and your student will not only appreciate that you respect them as an adult, but will be more likely to turn to you for guidance.

Do Not Tell Your Student “These Are the Best Years of Your Life”

The first year of college can be full of indecision, insecurities, disappointments, and, most of all, mistakes. It’s also full of discovery, inspiration, good times, and exciting people. It may take a while for your student to realize that their idealistic images of what college is all about may be wrong. The reality is that there are times in college when your student might be scared, confused, and overwhelmed, which is normal and to be expected. Parents can help by understanding the highs and lows of college life and by providing the support and encouragement to help their student understand this as well.

Expect Change

Your student will change, and so will you. College and the experiences associated with it can affect changes in social, vocational, and personal behavior and choices. It’s natural, inevitable, and it can be inspiring. It is also challenging. You can’t stop change; you may never understand it; but you can accept it, which is to you and your student’s advantage. Remember that your student will be basically the same person who you sent away to school.

Trust Your Student

College is a time for students to discover who they are. Finding oneself is a difficult enough process without feeling that the people whose opinions you respect most are second-guessing your own uncertainties. Trust your student and trust the job you have done in getting them to this point in life.


Penn State First-Year Learning Outcomes and Competencies

The First-Year Learning Outcomes and Competencies were developed to improve students’ success by increasing academic and social integration into the University. These outcomes and competencies are now being used as the basis for examining the first-year experience at Penn State.

In addition to achieving Penn State’s General Education Learning Outcomes (edge.psu.edu/gened.shtml), at the end of the first year of academic study, the student will:

• Understand and meet academic expectations; engage in active learning and use effective time management to balance academic work with extra-curricular activities.
• Learn about the value of higher education to both society and to individuals; appreciate the value of the general education curriculum and the worth of lifelong learning and scholarship.
• Be familiar with student services and academic resources on campus; actively use those resources and interact with staff.
• Engage with faculty in and outside of the classroom.
• Interact effectively with peers in social settings, and through educationally purposeful student activities.
• Refine short-term and long-term academic goals; learn about career management; establish more specific career goals.
• Achieve a higher competency in writing, note-taking, active reading, critical thinking and quantitative reasoning to be able to master college-level work.
• Expand knowledge of human diversity and cultural competence; effectively interact with others.
• Engage in activities leading to improved personal health and fitness; learn about making responsible decisions in a college environment.
• Be a positive and contributing member of the Penn State community; engage in community service activities; develop an understanding of sustainability and how to incorporate sustainable behaviors in daily activities.

Approved by: The Pennsylvania State University First Year Experience Committee, April 2005.

Parenting tips for parents of first-year college students.
The First College Year

Your student’s first year of college may be emotional for you and your student. Parents who understand the cycle and rhythm of the academic year can help their student negotiate critical transition points. The following are some of the typical opportunities and adjustment issues that may be part of your student’s first year experience.

The First Weeks – Navigating a New World

Students are experiencing college life for the first time. They are excited to explore both academic and co-curricular opportunities and are trying to make connections with other students, staff and faculty. Almost everything is a new experience. Students may be:

• Excited and apprehensive
• Exploring new freedoms
• Learning to manage new responsibilities
• Feeling homesick and lonely
• Trying to find their place socially
• Anxious about new academic challenges

Mid-Semester – Reality Check

Classes are in full swing. Early assignments and exams have been returned, and students may be surprised (either pleasantly or unpleasantly) by their grades. Students start to realize that friends from the first few weeks may or may not turn out to be lifelong soul mates. The roommate honeymoon ends. Students may be:

• Feeling more or less confident about their academic abilities and choices
• Making adjustments to their study habits and time management skills
• Asking themselves whether they fit in socially
• Seeking out additional opportunities to become involved on campus
• Dealing with consequences of poor decision making
• Meeting with their academic adviser to select courses for next semester
• Excited or apprehensive about heading home during break

End of First Semester – Information and Stress Overload

Students are sorting out how to approach their first final exam period as the first semester winds down. The realization that academic work in college is much harder than high school has set in for many. For those who have procrastinated or stumbled in the early months, the pressure is now a reality. Students who have joined various student organizations who have procrastinated or stumbled in the early months, the pressure may make it harder to return, while others experience challenges at home that make them excited about being back on campus. First semester grades and confidence in the friendships they established last term also influence their excitement or apprehension about the start of the new semester. During second semester students may be:

• Excited or apprehensive about heading home during break
• Feeling more or less confident about their academic abilities and choices
• Making adjustments to their study habits and time management skills
• Asking themselves whether they fit in socially
• Seeking out additional opportunities to become involved on campus
• Dealing with consequences of poor decision making
• Meeting with their academic adviser to select appropriate courses to meet their goals
• Exploring internship and employment opportunities for winter or summer break

Second Semester – A New Beginning

While a new semester is a fresh start it is heavily influenced by the experience students had their first semester and during break. Some students will enjoy being home and reconnecting with their families and friends, which may make it harder to return, while others experience challenges at home that make them excited about being back on campus.

First semester grades and confidence in the friendships they established last term also influence their excitement or apprehension about the start of the new semester. During second semester students may be:

• Feeling more or less confident about their academic abilities and choices
• Making adjustments to their study habits and time management skills
• Asking themselves whether they fit in socially
• Seeking out additional opportunities to become involved on campus
• Dealing with consequences of poor decision making
• Meeting with their academic adviser to select courses for their second year
• Contemplating their academic interests, strengths, and choice of major
• Meeting with their academic adviser to select appropriate courses to meet their goals
• Exploring internship and employment opportunities for winter or summer break


Tips for Student Success

Encourage your student to get involved!

Research indicates that students who are involved in out-of-class activities make friends more quickly and feel a greater sense of satisfaction with their college experience than those who do not. Engaging in co-curricular activities also presents students with opportunities to enhance their leadership skills, decision-making ability, time management skills, and ability to work in teams.

Coach your student to get to know at least one faculty or staff member.

Research indicates that students who interact with at least one faculty or staff member outside of class feel more comfortable in their new environment and more acclimated to college. Toward the middle of their first semester, ask your student how many staff and instructors he or she has visited during office hours.

Encourage your student to consider academic responsibilities to be a full-time job.

Developing sound time management and study skills are often challenging for new students. College course work tends to require students to engage in more self-directed study outside of the classroom and complete a higher volume of work. Research suggests that students who commit to a 30 to 40 hour academic week (hours in class + hours studying = 30–40 hours) tend to achieve more academic success then peers who do not put forth appropriate study time.

New Student Arrival Checklist

Stay Connected
- Create a new Friends of Penn State (FPS) Account (page 16)
- Discuss getting online access for Tuition Bills, Hope/Lifetime Tax Credit, academic verification, etc. with your student (page 16)
- Add parents@psu.edu to your address book to ensure that you receive communications from the Parents Program
- Complete the parent information form at parentinfo.psu.edu (need student’s ID number)
- Consider volunteering for the Parents Program www.pennstatenews.psu.edu/involve.shtml
- Sign up for PSUTXT for emergency information at live.psu.edu/psutxt
- If you are not yet receiving the Parents and Families Newswire, you can subscribe at www.newswires.psu.edu
- Subscribe to the Health Newswire at www.newsnotes.psu.edu

Healthcare (page 32)
- Students must submit their health history information and documentation of immunization online at studentaffairs.psu.edu/health/myUHS (students will receive a letter with instructions)
- All students who live on campus must submit their meningococcal (meningitis) vaccine certificate online at studentaffairs.psu.edu/health/myUHS
- Students should copy and pack insurance and prescription cards.
- Students without health insurance can purchase it through Penn State (page 33).
- Students should set security questions associated with their Penn State Access Account at www.work.psu.edu/password
- Review move-in procedures; print out parking information: www.welcome.psu.edu/welcomeweek/UP/maps-and-directions.cfm
- Students should register computers, laptops or netbooks (at least three days before arrival) at www.rex.com.psu.edu
- Students should set security questions associated with their Penn State Access Account at www.work.psu.edu/password
- Review move-in procedures; print out parking information: www.welcome.psu.edu/welcomeweek/UP/maps-and-directions.cfm
- Stay Connected Online
  Email: After your student obtains a Penn State Access Account, University offices or departments will communicate important information to the student’s Penn State e-mail address (i.e., @psu.edu). Students can check their Penn State e-mail account via WebMail (webmail.psu.edu).
- PSUTXT: Remind your student to sign up online for PSUTXT emergency information at live.psu.edu/psutxt
- Facebook: Become a Fan www.facebook.com/pennstate
- Twitter: Follow us @penn_state

Prepare for Move-In Day
- Students should view room assignments and roommate information (mid-June for summer session and late July for fall semester) at www.eliving.psu.edu
- Students should contact their new roommate to make introductions and discuss what to bring
- Read about what to pack at these University websites: www.welcome.psu.edu/welcomeweek/UP/What-to-Pack.cfm and at www.nht.psu.edu/housing/firstyear
- Students should map out the location of their classes at www.campusmaps.psu.edu
- Students should consider purchasing or renting textbooks (can be ordered online, bundled, and picked up) through the Penn State Bookstore at www.psu.bistore.com
- Students should register computers, laptops or netbooks (at least three days before arrival) at www.rex.com.psu.edu
- Students should set security questions associated with their Penn State Access Account at www.work.psu.edu/password
- Review move-in procedures; print out parking information: www.welcome.psu.edu/welcomeweek/UP/maps-and-directions.cfm
- General Topics for Discussion
- Encourage your student to participate in Welcome Week activities
- Discuss campus safety and decisions regarding alcohol use and policies (page 35-40)
- Review class schedule and discuss time management and study skills
- Learn more about student programs and services available to assist your student
- Provide reminder of life skills (including doing laundry, managing bank account, eating well)

Remind Your Student to Complete the Following Online Modules
- Penn State SAFE (Student Alcohol Feedback and Education) (page 37, edge.psu.edu/firstyear)
  • Family members can view a specialized version at edge.psu.edu/firstyear/parents.shtml
- Penn State AWARE (Sexual Assault Awareness Module) (page 37, edge.psu.edu/firstyear)
- Know the Code quiz: edge.psu.edu
- Cash Course cashcourse.org/psu

Pay Tuition Bill (page 16)
- Summer session II due dates vary based on date of course registration
- Fall semester due August 3, 2012
- Spring semester due November 30, 2012

Reserve Lodging for Parents and Families Weekend
- Parents Program Transportation and Lodging www.pennstatenews.psu.edu/transportation.shtml
- The Nittany Lion Inn and The Penn Stater www.pshs.psu.edu
- Visitor’s Bureau www.visitpennstate.org
- Add parents@psu.edu to your address book to ensure that you receive communications from the Parents Program
- Complete the parent information form at parentinfo.psu.edu (need student’s ID number)
- Consider volunteering for the Parents Program www.pennstatenews.psu.edu/involve.shtml
- Sign up for PSUTXT for emergency information at live.psu.edu/psutxt
- If you are not yet receiving the Parents and Families Newswire, you can subscribe at www.newswires.psu.edu
- Subscribe to the Health Newswire at www.newsnotes.psu.edu

New Student Arrival Days
- Fall Semester Tuition Bill Arrives (to student’s email account) August 3
- September 28-30 Parents & Families Weekend
- Spring Semester Tuition Bill Arrives (to student’s email account) Mid-November
- Residence Halls close at 10:00 a.m November 18
- Thanksgiving Holiday -- No Classes November 18-24
- Residence Halls reopen 3:00 p.m November 23
- Spring Tuition Due November 30
- Withdrawal -- Deadline December 14
- Classes End December 14
- Study Days December 15-16
- Final Exams December 17-21
- Residence Halls close at 4:00 p.m December 22

SPRING SEMESTER 2013
- New Student Arrival Day 1 (for new spring semester students) January 5
- Winter Welcome (for new spring semester students) January 5
- Residence Halls open at 8:00 a.m January 5
- Classes Begin January 7
- Drop Period 1 January 7-16
- Add Period 1 January 7-8:00 a.m. on January 17
- Martin Luther King Day -- No Classes January 21
- Residence Halls close at Noon March 2
- Spring Break -- No Classes March 3-9
- Residence Halls reopen at 10:00 a.m March 10
- Late Drop Ends April 5
- Withdrawal -- Deadline April 26
- Classes End April 26
- Study Days April 27-28
- Final Exams April 29-May 3
- Residence Halls close at 4:00 p.m May 5

Key Dates: 2012–2013 Academic Year

SUMMER SESSION II 2012
- New Student Arrival Day 1 June 24
- Summer Welcome (for new summer semester students) June 24-27
- Classes Begin June 27
- Drop Period 1 June 27 - July 2
- Add Period 1 June 27 - 8:00 a.m. on July 3
- Independence Day (observed) -- No Classes July 4
- Fall Semester Tuition Bill Arrives (to student’s email account) Mid-July
- Late Drop Ends 1 July 31
- Fall Semester Tuition Due August 3
- Withdrawal -- Deadline August 8
- Classes End August 8
- Study Day August 9
- Final Exams August 10
- Residence Halls close at 4:00 p.m August 11

FALL SEMESTER 2012
- Fall Semester Tuition Due August 3
- New Student Arrival Days 1 August 24-25
- Welcome Week August 25 - September 8
- Classes Begin August 27
- Drop Period 1 August 27-September 5
- Add Period 1 August 27-8:00 a.m. on September 6
- Labor Day -- No Classes September 3
- Parents & Families Weekend September 28-30
- Spring Semester Tuition Bill Arrives (to student’s email account) Mid-November
- Late Drop Ends 1 November 16
- Residence Halls close at 10:00 a.m November 18
- Thanksgiving Holiday -- No Classes November 18-24
- Residence Halls reopen 3:00 p.m November 23
- Spring Tuition Due November 30
- Withdrawal -- Deadline December 14
- Classes End December 14
- Study Days December 15-16
- Final Exams December 17-21
- Residence Halls close at 4:00 p.m December 22

SPRING SEMESTER 2013
- New Student Arrival Day 1 (for new spring semester students) January 5
- Winter Welcome (for new spring semester students) January 5
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- Spring Break -- No Classes March 3-9
- Residence Halls reopen at 10:00 a.m March 10
- Late Drop Ends April 5
- Withdrawal -- Deadline April 26
- Classes End April 26
- Study Days April 27-28
- Final Exams April 29-May 3
- Residence Halls close at 4:00 p.m May 5

1 New international students will arrive several days prior to this date.
2 These dates apply to full semester courses.
Academic Overview and Resources

The Penn State Degree

The Penn State undergraduate degree is designed to help students develop a breadth of skills as well as depth of knowledge in a content area. Breadth is structured around General Education, and depth is acquired through the major.

General Education Requirements

General Education represents the foundation of a Penn State education and is designed to help students develop a breadth of skills and knowledge. For additional information: www.bulletins.psu.edu/bulletins/bluebook/general_education.cfm

Major Requirements

Major requirements differ for each major and in each academic college. Generally, major requirements include prescribed courses (courses all students in the major take), additional courses (courses students choose from a limited list), and supporting courses (courses students choose with help from an academic advisor to fit individual interests and goals).

Other Requirements

Depending on the college and major, a degree program may also include world/language proficiency, internship experience, human diversity courses, and electives.

Declaring a Major

There are more than 260 majors offered at the University Park campus. Most students will declare a major in their second year.

Most majors at Penn State require a minimum cumulative grade-point average (GPA) of 2.00 and completion of at least 27.2 credits (third-semester standing) for entrance. Some majors have additional requirements for entrance, such as stronger academic records, completion of specific courses, or demonstration of special talent.

A few majors have more applicants than can be accommodated because of limitations of space, faculty, or other resources and are under administrative enrollment control. Students can apply for these majors only during their “pool” semester. Students admitted in summer or fall 2012 or spring 2013 are in the 2014 entrance-to-major pool and will declare administrative enrollment controlled majors during January–February 2014. The following majors are under administrative enrollment control for students in the spring 2014 entrance-to-major pool:

- Smeal College of Business:
  - Accounting
  - Finance
  - Management
  - Management Information Systems
  - Marketing
  - Risk Management
  - Supply Chain & Information Systems

- College of Communications:
  - Advertising/Public Relations

- College of Engineering:
  - Aerospace Engineering
  - Architectural Engineering
  - Bioengineering
  - Chemical Engineering
  - Civil Engineering
  - Industrial Engineering
  - Mechanical Engineering

To be guaranteed entrance to these majors, students must be enrolled in the college offering the major or in the Division of Undergraduate Studies, complete the required courses by the end of the pool semester, have the minimum CGPA required for the intended major in the semester preceding the pool semester, and confirm their choice of major during the pool window in spring 2014. Other requirements may apply. Students are strongly encouraged to work closely with an academic advisor and to review the specific entrance criteria for spring 2014 at dus.psu.edu/adminent.htm.

Academic Colleges

Penn State grants degrees in majors housed within academic colleges. University Park campus is home to twelve of Penn State’s academic colleges. Students should consider both the overall perspective of the academic college as well as the particular major when making decisions about academic direction. All first-year students are enrolled in an academic college or in the Division of Undergraduate Studies.

- College of Agricultural Sciences applies life sciences and business principles to managing the environment and its resources.
- College of Arts and Architecture refines students’ creative talents and commitment to performance, design, and the visual arts.
- College of Business studies business principles and practices in the global economy.
- College of Communications focuses on gathering, analyzing, and processing information for decision making in the business world.
- College of Engineering focuses on the application of mathematical and physical science principles to solving technical and societal problems.
- College of Health and Human Development seeks to improve human health and well-being through study of science, business, and social and psychological sciences.
- College of Information Sciences and Technology applies technology and teamwork principles to solving problems.
- College of Liberal Arts develops knowledge in the social sciences, humanities, and languages and builds critical thinking, complex reasoning, communication, and writing skills.
- College of Natural Resources
  - Forest Resources
  - Watershed Science
- College of Nursing develops professional and technical skills in health care.
- College of the Sciences
  - Chemistry
  - Geosciences
  - Physics
  - Mathematics
- Eberly College of Science develops knowledge in the mathematical, physical, and life sciences as well as skills in scientific research.

Division of Undergraduate Studies

The Division of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) enrolls and advises students who are exploring majors in multiple academic colleges. Students choosing from more than one possible major may start in the division and, after exploring and selecting a major/college and meeting eligibility requirements, move into an academic college within their first two years.

Academic Advising at Penn State

Penn State students receive academic advising from professional and/or faculty advisers. Students can find their assigned adviser’s contact information on eLion (see page 16).

Academic advising at Penn State is student-initiated. Students are encouraged to initiate contact with their assigned adviser at least once a semester and as often as needed to successfully plan and manage their goals. Students are encouraged to seek a partnership with their assigned adviser to help them be intentional about the educational opportunities available at Penn State.

Academic advisers are prepared to:

- Help students identify and achieve their academic goals,
- Promote intellectual discovery,
- Encourage students to take advantage of both in- and out-of-class educational opportunities, and
- Encourage students to become self-directed learners and decision makers.

For additional information: advising.psu.edu/advatpsu.htm.

KEY: Course Requirements

- Math 140*
- Math 110**
- Chem 110*
- World/Foreign Language†

- Majors that require Math 140 and Chem 110 have a strong focus on applying scientific principles using calculus and other scientific disciplines.
- Majors that require Math 110 focus on analytical problem solving, often in a business setting.
- Majors that require world/foreign language proficiency have either an intercultural focus or a liberal arts foundation indicative of breadth of knowledge.
Academic Integrity
It's the expectation of the University that students pursue their academics in an honest and ethical manner. Penn State takes violations of academic integrity very seriously. Please refer to page 24 for more information.

Contacting Instructors
Students are expected to contact instructors if they have questions or concerns about course content, policies, or academic performance. College instructors are available during their office hours or by appointment. Office hours are typically listed on the course syllabus (an outline of the course content, expectations, and grading basis). Faculty members should encourage students to contact instructors directly.

Transferring Credit to Penn State
A student who does advanced work in a secondary school may earn credit through the Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) exams, which are based on college-level study, depending on the grade earned on the exam and the level of the exam taken. Penn State students may transfer credits to Penn State from courses taken at another institution in order to meet degree requirements. When awarded, all transfer credit is recorded on the student's transcript, but no grade is recorded, and the student's grade-point average is not affected. Students should discuss with the college advisor the applicability of transfer course credit toward their intended degree.

Academic Support Services
Multicultural Resource Center
220 Grange Building
814-865-1773
www.equity.psu.edu/MRC
The Multicultural Resource Center (MRC) provides individual counseling and educational services for undergraduate multicultural students at University Park. MRC counselors work with students on a variety of issues involving university policies and procedures, financial aid concerns, tutoring referrals, strategies for academic success, and assisting targets of bias motivated incidents so they might find quick resolution and attain their educational goals. MRC's staff is dedicated to helping students succeed and graduate from Penn State.

Office for Disability Services
116 Boucke Building
814-863-1807
www.equity.psu.edu/ods
The Office for Disability Services (ODS) is committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive campus community for all learners at Penn State. The specialized staff, in collaboration with the wider University community, facilitates equal access and equal opportunity for students with disabilities so they can fully participate in all University-sponsored programs, events, and activities. Common reasons for reasonable accommodations and services may include, but are not limited to extended time for tests, use of assistive or adaptive technology, sign language interpreting, Computer Aided Real-Time (CART) captioning, and accessible instructional materials.

Students requiring accommodations are encouraged to contact ODS as soon as possible. An intake appointment is necessary for all students to determine their individual needs. Determining reasonable accommodations is done on a case-by-case basis to address the individual needs of the student.

Office of Veterans Programs
325 Boucke Building
814-863-0465
www.equity.psu.edu/veterans
The Office of Veterans Programs at the University Park campus is organized as a comprehensive, direct service unit for veterans and Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) benefits recipients. The office is staffed by five full-time professionals and approximately 20 student veterans who work part-time under the provisions of DVA work/study. The staff and students provide services in three major areas: Outreach, Certification and General Counseling.

Penn State Bookstore
HUB-Robeson Center, lower level
814-863-0205
psu.bkstore.com
The Penn State Bookstore provides books and supplies for all courses on campus. In addition, there is an extensive academic and leisure book selection and Penn State clothing and school spirit needs. The Penn State Bookstore is conveniently located in the HUB-Robeson Center. See ad at the back of this guide on pages 44-46.

Penn State's Computer Store
1st Floor HUB (next to ID+)
814-865-2100 or 800-251-9281
www.computerstore.psu.edu
Penn State students have access to discounted hardware, software, and accessories through Penn State's Computer Store. Titles, such as Microsoft Office and Adobe Creative Suite, are available at prices lower than what is offered at retail outlets. Additionally, students can save money on desktop and laptop computers, printers, hard drives, and m3 players. Penn State's Computer Store has a team of non-commissioned sales consultants who are available to discuss technology needs. Please see ad on page 43.

Penn State Learning
220 Boucke Building
7 Sparks Building
102 Wagner Building
814-865-1841
www.pennstatelearning.psu.edu
Learning is sustained when students accept responsibility for themselves and for their role as active partners in communities of excellence. Penn State Learning encourages active learning and scholarly applications in and out of the classroom. Penn State Learning offers convenient hours in several learning labs across campus, as well as late-night writing tutors in West Pattee.

At Penn State Learning you can:
• Drop in to see a math, writing, or foreign language tutor
• Join an existing study group or create one of your own
• Make an appointment to get feedback on the draft of a paper
• Interact with an online tutor in World Campus math, statistics, economics and writing courses
• Reserve a study space for six with a large-screen PC and whiteboard
• Apply to tutor subjects in which you excel

Technology Services
814-863-1035 or 814-863-2494
www.its.psu.edu/students
click.it.psu.edu
Information Technology Services (ITS) ensures that students have the technology tools necessary to help them make the most of their academic careers. A wide variety of information technology services such as WebMail, ITS Help Desks, access to audio/video production facilities through our Media Commons group, educational discounts at Penn State’s Computer Store, as well as information concerning access accounts, staying safe on-line, web publishing, software downloads, and more, are available through the ITS student website. To learn more about student responsibilities, please visit the parent page on the Rescom website at www.rescom.psu.edu or visit www.its.psu.edu/be-safe.

In addition to providing students with technology services and resources to enrich their educational experience, ITS is working to:
• Help improve the way education is delivered by creating opportunities to engage faculty to further their use of technology for teaching and learning
• Create and sustain an environment that enables leading-edge research
• Help improve productivity through information technology, and
• Establish the information technology infrastructure necessary to maintain Penn State's prominence in integrating high-quality programs in teaching, learning research, and outreach.
University Libraries: Pattee Library and Paterno Library

plus additional locations at University Park (5) and statewide (22)

814-865-6368
www.libraries.psu.edu

The University Libraries offer students a base for a wide-array of intellectual, social, and cultural endeavors through collections and services that help them navigate the world of information and assist them in their chosen fields. Librarians and staff offer superior expertise and provide help with instructional programs, online courses, research assistance, and more. Students have access to more than 5.8 million books, 102,000 serials, 579 databases, 203,000 e-books, and more. A new Knowledge Commons in Pattee Library offers multimedia production space, presentation practice rooms, high-tech classrooms and group study rooms. A fall open house in September offers students a fun and festive way to learn about collections and services. (see www.libraries.psu.edu/openhouse)

University Office of Global Programs

410 Boucke Building
814-865-7681
www.global.psu.edu

The University Office of Global Programs (UOGP) provides oversight for all of Penn State’s international engagements and supports U.S. and international students’ transformation to becoming global citizens. UOGP offers:

- Over 180 quality education abroad programs where students take classes that meet major, minor, and general education requirements.
- UOGP has distributed over $300,000 in scholarship funds in recent years.
- Offering study abroad opportunities for more than 5,000 international students on campus, including a comprehensive new international student orientation and a variety of programs providing a welcoming environment at Penn State.
- Development and maintenance of partnerships and engagement with institutions of higher education around the world, to include Global Engagement Networks that foster intra-institutional collaboration in particular regions or focusing on issues critical to international understanding and global sustainability.
- Support for faculty fostering international components in coursework and intercultural and global opportunities integrating U.S. and international experiences.
- Support for faculty fostering international components in coursework.
- Engagement Networks that foster intra-institutional collaboration.
- Development and maintenance of partnerships and engagement with students on campus, including a comprehensive new international student orientation and a variety of programs providing a welcoming environment at Penn State.

Access to Student Information

Office of the University Registrar

112 Shields Building
814-865-6357
www.registrar.psu.edu
registrar@psu.edu

The Office of the University Registrar has University-wide responsibility for student academic records and related processes, including registration, academic transcripts, confidentiality of student records, grade reporting, graduation and diplomas, enrollment verification, scheduling of classrooms and final exams, and degree audits. It's likely that your student, at some point in his or her Penn State experience, will have contact with this office. Our goal is to provide students with accurate and complete information in a quick and efficient manner.

eLion Information

At the First-Year Testing, Counseling and Advising Program (FTCAP), students will receive their ID+ card and computer access. FTCAP will also introduce students to eLion (elion.psu.edu). Penn State’s web-based interactive system. The eLion system provides current students access to the information and services needed to initiate and complete academic programs, review financial aid awards, view transactions on their student account, and view/pay their tuition bills each semester. Students also schedule courses for the upcoming semester on eLion.

Student Educational Records

The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974—FERPA (also known as the Buckley Amendment)—is the federal law that protects the privacy of student education records and identifies the rights of students and their families with respect to student education records kept by institutions. University offices use education records to facilitate the development of students. Faculty and staff members may also keep informal records relating to their functional responsibilities connected with individual students. As part of the requirements of FERPA, the University has a Policy on Confidentiality of Student Records, policy AD-11. gurus.psu.edu/policies/AD11.html

In addition, Penn State is committed to maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of the student’s Social Security Number. The Social Security number is requested at the time of application to the University, but is used in a very limited and controlled manner. The primary student identification number used to conduct University business is the Penn State ID number (known as PSU ID), which is assigned at the time of first affiliation with Penn State. Penn State’s policy governing the use of Social Security number and PSU ID is outlined in policy AD-19. gurus.psu.edu/policies/AD19.html

Formal student disciplinary records are centrally maintained in the Office of Student Conduct at the University Park campus. A student disciplinary record may be shared with faculty and administrative staff of the student’s college, and other authorized employees of the University who have a legitimate educational interest as defined by the University. Accessibility to student disciplinary records follows the University Policy on Confidentiality of Student Records.

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The University may also exercise its right to share a student’s disciplinary record with others outside the University in special circumstances or as it deems advisable or appropriate, such as in accordance with the University Parental Notification Policy. studentaffairs.psu.edu/academic/policies/parents.shtml

Student Rights Under FERPA

Under FERPA, institutions must not release education records—except under certain circumstances—without written consent from the student. This regulation does not apply to information that the University has identified as directory information (e.g., name, address, phone number, major) unless the student has blocked disclosure of such information (see “How Does a Student Request that Directory Information be Withheld?” below).

The primary rights of students under FERPA are:

• The right to have some information over the disclosure of information from their education records.
• The right to inspect and review their education records, and
• The right to request the amendment of inaccurate or otherwise inappropriate education records.

Parent Rights Under FERPA

When the student reaches the age of 18 or begins attending a postsecondary institution, regardless of age, FERPA rights transfer from the parent to the student. This means that you may not obtain your student’s education records (including grades) without the written consent of your student.

However, parents may, with the student’s permission, access their student’s grades and other portions of their student’s education record on-line through eLion. See “On-line Access for Parents/Others” in the Money Matters section for instructions on establishing parent access to eLion (see page 16).

How does a student request that directory information be withheld?

Under FERPA, institutions must not release directory information (e.g., name, address, phone number, major) without written consent from the student. However, a student has the right to prevent this release. The student must complete and sign the Request to Withhold Directory Information form (found on the Registrar’s website www.registrar.psu.edu under “Student Forms”) to keep directory information confidential. The signed form must be taken in person or mailed along with a copy of photo identification, to any campus Registrar’s office. If an e-mail address is provided, notification will be sent to the student when the directory hold is in effect. It is important to note that withholding directory information has the following consequences:

• Student name/address is excluded from the Penn State online directory and printed telephone directory;
• Student name will not appear in the commencement program;
• Verification of enrollment, graduation, or degrees awarded will not be provided to third parties, including potential employers;
• and
• No information about the student will be released to any person (including the student) on the telephone or via email.

How does a student remove a request to withhold directory information?

If a student later wishes to remove the directory hold, the student must complete and sign the Request to Release Directory Information form found on the Registrar’s web site www.registrar.psu.edu under “Student Forms”. The signed form may be taken in person or mailed along with a copy of photo identification, to any campus Registrar’s office. If an e-mail address is provided, notification will be sent to the student when the directory hold is removed.

Academic Verification

Insurance companies, financial lenders or employers may require proof that a student was or is currently enrolled at Penn State. An academic verification provides proof of enrollment, graduation, student status, and other related information.

Currently enrolled students may use the “Academic Verification” application in eLion (elion.psu.edu) to request an academic verification certificate, which will be sent to the specified address via first-class U.S. mail the next business day.

This same function is also available to parents through the eLion Parent/Other menu. However, parents must first be granted access by their student (see “On-line Access for Parents/Others” in the Money Matters section on page 16).

Because of the volume of requests received, the Office of the University Registrar is unable to complete agency-supplied verification forms. Rather, the office will send an academic verification statement can be attached to the original agency-supplied form.
Money Matters
Office of the Bursar
103 Shields Building
814-865-6528
www.bursar.psu.edu

The Office of the Bursar is responsible for the maintenance of student accounts pertaining to acceptance fees, tuition billing, charges, payments, financial aid disbursements, and refunds of excess funds, when available.

Deposit Information
Your student’s first contact with the Office of the Bursar is when he or she accepts an offer to attend Penn State. In addition to the $100 enrollment fee, all degree-seeking students must have a $100 general deposit on their account. If your student will be residing in University housing, there will also be a $100 housing deposit. The two deposits are similar to security deposits and do not offset student account balances or tuition charges. The housing deposit is transferred to your student’s account when he or she leaves University housing, and the general deposit is transferred to your student’s account when he or she graduates or leaves Penn State. These deposits will be used to cover any last-minute charges, and the unused balance will be returned to your student.

Access for Parents/Others to Financial Information
Students have the option to grant their parent/other access to specific student information through eLion (elion.psu.edu). Granting access will allow the Office of the Bursar to discuss financial information with those authorized individuals.

Step 1 - Parent/other obtains a Penn State User ID through a “Friends of Penn State” account if they do not have a current Penn State Access Account. Go to elion and select “Parent/Other.” Click on “Create an Account” and follow the instructions to obtain your Penn State User ID.

Step 2 - Parent/other must provide their student with the Penn State User ID that was created in Step 1.

Step 3 - Student grants his or her parent/other access to specific student information such as Bursar Tuition Bills and the Hope/Lifetime Tax Credit (see elion for complete list).

When will my student receive a tuition bill?
Approximately six weeks prior to the start of Classes, bills will be prepared for students who have a class schedule and an active Penn State Access Account (see aietitsu.psu.edu/accounts/signations.html). Students will receive notification via their Penn State email account when their tuition bill is available to view/pay or to confirm registration on elion. Paper bills are not mailed.

The Office of the Bursar, as well as other Penn State departments, will communicate important information to students through their Penn State email account. Students will need to check their Penn State email account on a regular basis.

Bills are prepared in mid-July for fall semester, mid-November for spring semester, and mid-April for summer sessions. Residence hall charges are included on the bill, if applicable. Bills are prepared on a weekly basis through the first ten days of the semester for students scheduling later. More billing information is available at www.bursar.psu.edu/paybill.cfm.

STUDENT Checklist
☐ Obtain PSU ID card and full elion access
☐ Sign up for Rapid Refund
☐ Sign up for electronic delivery of Form 1098-T
☐ Grant online access for Parents/other individuals (optional)

PARENT/OTHER Checklist
☐ Create a Friends of Penn State (FPS) Account
☐ Provide your student with Penn State User ID
☐ Have your student grant you access to information such as Bursar Tuition Bills and the Hope/Lifetime Tax Credit (see elion for list)

Completing Registration
The Penn State registration process consists of two steps. First, your student registers for specific courses. Second, your student completes his or her registration upon payment of tuition and fees or confirmation of registration electronically (when all charges will be covered by financial aid). In all cases, action is required to complete registration.

How can students pay the tuition bill?
The eCheck option is a fast and convenient method to pay the tuition bill directly from a personal checking account drawn from a U.S. bank. There is no charge to pay by eCheck. Credit card payments (MasterCard, Discover, or American Express) are accepted via elion. A 2.5% Convenience Fee will be charged for credit card payments. Credit card payments cannot be accepted via mail, phone, or in person.

If students want to mail a check, a payment stub may be printed from elion and mailed with the payment to Penn State. The payment must be postmarked by the due date on the student’s bill to avoid a $50 late fee. Please allow five to seven business days for processing after the payment is received.

Are payment plans available?
Penn State offers a deferred payment plan, which allows students to pay over a period of the remainder of the billing cycle. Fall semester payment due dates are in August, October, and November. Spring semester due dates are in December, February, and March. A $45 non-refundable fee covers all administrative costs.

Enrolling in the deferred payment plan is easy. When your student views the tuition bill, he or she will be given the option to complete registration using the deferment plan. The tuition bill will list billable costs (tuition, fees, room and meals, if applicable) and the most current known available financial aid. The first one-third of billable costs is payable by the due date of the tuition bill. The payment may be made through elion by eCheck or credit card (MasterCard, Discover, or American Express) or by mailing a check with the payment stub to the Bursar’s Office. The $45 deferred payment fee must be included each semester with the initial payment, as well as payment for any unpaid prior balance. For more information, please go to www.bursar.psu.edu/payplans.cfm.

Tuition Management Systems, a national payment plan provider, also administers an interest-free plan for Penn State. This is a ten-month, pre-payment plan that runs from April through January. Fall semester payments are due April through August; spring semester payments are due September through January. For more information or to enroll, visit www.afford.com/PSU or call toll-free 1 888 722 4867. The annual plan covers both fall and spring semesters.

What if a student has additional student aid?
The Estimated Financial Aid section on a student’s tuition bill reflects the most current known available financial aid. Students with additional scholarships, grants, or loans that are not reflected on the bill should refer to the “Contact Us” section on the Bursar’s Web site (www.bursar.psu.edu/question.cfm) to notify us about additional aid not showing on the bill. This would include notifying our office of payment from a College Savings Plan.

Outside Scholarship Information
Many students will receive scholarships from various organizations, agencies and foundations as they graduate from high school. In order for your student’s tuition bill to reflect these outside awards, it is important to send any award letters and/or scholarship checks as early as possible to:

The Pennsylvania State University
Outside Scholarships
109 Shields Building
University Park, PA 16802

For additional information, please visit www.studentloans.psu.edu/schol.cfm.

Tuition Due Dates
Please Note: Bills will be prepared for students who have a class schedule and have an active Penn State Access Account.

Summer 2012:
Bill due dates will vary

Fall 2012:
August 3, 2012

Spring 2013:
November 30, 2012

Rapid Refund
For the quickest delivery of a refund, students should sign up for RAPID REFUND by using elion. Go to elion.psu.edu and select “Students” then enter the UserID and Access Account password. Next, from the left-hand menu select “Refund Information.” Student refunds can be electronically deposited into a bank account by clicking on the “Sign up for Rapid Refund” button and entering your bank account information. Students can also choose to have their refund mailed to a permanent or local address. Refunds that are delivered via mail will be delayed. For those students who do not indicate a refund preference, refunds will be mailed to the permanent address at a later date. For additional information, please visit www.bursar.psu.edu/refund.cfm.

Electronic 1098-Ts
Based on recent federal tax legislation, some families may be eligible for tax credit for tuition and related expenses paid for college. More information about this tax credit can be found at www.bursar.psu.edu/taxcredit.cfm. You have an option to receive an official electronic Form 1098-T via elion rather than wait for a paper copy to be mailed. This online delivery will provide access to the form up to 2 weeks earlier. You are encouraged to sign-up for this online delivery. Log into elion and select “Hope/Lifetime Tax Credit” and click “Sign-Up for Electronic Form 1098-T.”
Student Financial Aid

Office of Student Aid
314 Shields Building
814-865-6301
studentaid.psu.edu

The Office of Student Aid at University Park administers all major types of federal, state, and University student financial aid at Penn State and coordinates multiple funding sources on behalf of sponsoring agencies. The primary sources of student aid funding at Penn State come from federal and state programs.

Applying for Aid

If you and your student have not yet completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on the Web, do so as soon as possible so your student can be considered for financial aid, including grants, scholarships, loans, and work study. The FAFSA is the only application required to apply for financial aid at Penn State. If you have not yet completed it or need to submit corrections, you can do so online at www.fafsa.gov.

Students need to complete the 2012-13 FAFSA in order to be considered for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on the Web, do so as soon as possible so your student can be considered for financial aid, including grants, scholarships, loans, and work study. The FAFSA is the only application required to apply for financial aid at Penn State. If you have not yet completed it or need to submit corrections, you can do so online at www.fafsa.gov.

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Student Aid Notification

Students who complete the FAFSA will receive an email notification from our office with information about the types of aid they are eligible to receive. To learn more about this process, please visit: studentaid.psu.edu/resources/tutorials/how-to-get-financial-aid-notification.

Federal Direct Stafford Loan

To receive the Federal Direct Stafford Loan, your student must take the following steps:

• Complete the FAFSA at: www.fafsa.gov
• Sign a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) at: www.Studentloans.gov
• Complete Entrance Counseling at: www.Studentloans.gov
• If your student is eligible for the Federal Direct Stafford Loan, it will appear on both the "Student Aid Summary" and as a credit on the tuition bill on eion.

Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan

The financial aid listed on the "Student Aid Summary" may not cover all educational costs. As a parent, you may apply for a Federal Direct Parent PLUS loan. This is a federal loan available only to parents of dependent undergraduate students. For specific information about this loan, please visit: studentaid.psu.edu/types-of-aid/loans/about-parent-plus.

The PLUS Loan will appear as a credit on the tuition bill after you have completed the following steps:

• Create a Friends of Penn State (FPS) account;
• Sign the PLUS Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) online at: www.Studentloans.gov
• If your student is eligible for the Federal Direct Stafford Loan, it will appear on both the "Student Aid Summary" and as a credit on the tuition bill on eion.

Private Alternative Loans

If the PLUS Loan is not an option for you, your student can seek additional funding from private alternative loans. You can find more information about this type of loan at: studentaid.psu.edu/types-of-aid/loans/private-alternative

Scholarships

All students who are offered admission and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to Penn State are considered for scholarships awarded by the Office of Student Aid. If your student was awarded a scholarship from the Office of Student Aid, it will be listed on the "Student Aid Summary" on eion.

Student Aid Notification

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Employment

All students who submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to Penn State are considered for work-study. If your student was awarded work-study, it will be listed on the "Student Aid Summary" on eion.

If your student did not receive a work-study award, there are many employment opportunities other than work-study, you can learn more at: studentaid.psu.edu/types-of-aid/work-study-and-employment/other-opportunities

Know the Rights and Responsibilities of a Financial Aid Recipient

As a financial aid recipient, it is crucial that your student is well informed about his or her rights and responsibilities. Be sure your student carefully reviews this important information on our website and understands Penn State's Satisfactory Academic Progress standards and what is required of students to remain eligible for student aid: studentaid.psu.edu/eligibility/federal-student-aid-satisfactory-academic-progress-standard

Verification

The Office of Student Aid is required by the federal government to confirm the accuracy of the information submitted on the FAFSA—a process known as verification. If students are selected for verification by Penn State, they will be notified by the Office of Student Aid requesting the specific information needed and the due date. Please respond promptly to any requests from the Office of Student Aid for verification documents to avoid a delay in the processing of student aid. Please do not submit any documents unless you or your student receives a request.

Confirm Student Registration on the Tuition Bill

After students schedule their classes for the fall semester, they receive a tuition bill email notification from the Office of the Bursar in mid-July. At Penn State, students must confirm registration every semester. When the bill is covered in full by financial aid, registration must be confirmed in order for the students to be enrolled officially at the University. An incomplete registration may result in a loss of student aid.

Check Penn State Email Frequently

The Office of Student Aid communicates with students through their Penn State email accounts, which they can access via WebMail (webmail.psu.edu). They will also be able to access their student aid information on eion. Be sure to ask your student to share any pertinent student aid information with you or grant you access to his or her Student Aid Summary on eion.

Some academic colleges, campuses, and administrative units require separate applications. To learn more about scholarship opportunities, please visit: studentaid.psu.edu/types-of-aid/scholarships

Because We Care about Students, We Take Their Pulse!

Several times a semester, the Student Affairs Research and Assessment office contacts random students by phone and email to ask them to participate in Penn State Pulse Surveys. The information collected is used to improve University student services.

How do students participate?

• By checking their Penn State email accounts for survey invitations from Pulse
• By keeping a current local phone number on file with the University for Pulse calls
• By taking a few minutes to answer questions about their Penn State experience
Counseling and Psychological Services
501 Student Health Center
814-863-2057
studentaffairs.psu.edu/counseling

The Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) provides initial consultations, short-term individual counseling, group therapy, crisis intervention, psychiatric evaluations (related to medication), and referrals for private therapy for students as well as prevention and consultation services for the University community. CAPS strives to help students resolve personal issues that may interfere with their academic progress, social development, and satisfaction at Penn State. Common concerns for college students include homesickness, depression and anxiety, addiction, lack of motivation, relationship problems, eating disorders, sexual assault, and uncertainties about personal values and beliefs.

CAPS professional staff includes psychologists, psychiatric providers, clinical social workers, trauma survivor and addictions counselors, and graduate-level trainees. Services are confidential and basic counseling services are free for full-time students. For emergencies after hours and weekend crisis situations, mental health professionals are available by calling the twenty-four-hour emergency Centre County CAN HELP line at 1-800-843-5432.

LGBTQ+ Student Resource Center
101 Boucke Building
814-863-1248
studentaffairs.psu.edu/lgbtq+

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Ally (LGBTA) Student Resource Center provides education, information, and advocacy services to create and maintain an open, safe, and inclusive environment for students, faculty, and staff who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. The LGBTQ+ Student Resource Center offers several resources, including safe space, an LGBTQ Mentorship Program, extensive library, LGBTQ+ lecture series, leadership development activities, information for parents of LGBTQ+ students, and much more.

Residence Life
201 Johnston Commons
814-863-1710
studentaffairs.psu.edu/reslife

Residence Life is committed to providing a safe, comfortable, and secure living-learning environment that is conducive to students’ academic pursuits and personal growth while fostering a sense of community, civic responsibility, and appreciation of diversity. The first-year residence requirement was established because research indicates that first-year students benefit from living in an environment designed with their needs in mind. Students are encouraged to get to know their Resident Assistant, a student leader specially trained to help with questions and help build a sense of community among residents. In addition, full-time live-in professionals, Residence Life Coordinators, are available 24/7 to provide support and respond to crisis situations.

Student and Family Services
120 Boucke Building
Main Office Line: 814-863-4926
Student and Family Crisis Line: 814-863-2020
studentaffairs.psu.edu/familyservices

The Office of Student and Family Services leads response efforts related to campus, student, and family emergencies including coordinating support efforts to students who may need personal and academic accommodations due to unforeseen personal or family crisis and/or tragedy. Staff also provides on-going, personal contact with students, family members, and friends in an effort to provide information and assistance with administrative processes and support services at the University.

Paul Robeson Cultural Center
21E HUB-Robeson Center
814-863-1779
studentaffairs.psu.edu/cultural

The Paul Robeson Cultural Center (PRCC) at The Pennsylvania State University is a unit within Student Affairs that seeks to make the mission of the institution to foster diversity, multiculturalism, social justice and inclusion through our facilities, services, programs and advocacy on behalf of student’s needs and interests.

Paul Robeson Cultural Center 21E HUB-Robeson Center 814-863-1779 studentaffairs.psu.edu/cultural

Residence Life 201 Johnston Commons 814-863-1710 studentaffairs.psu.edu/reslife

Student and Family Services 120 Boucke Building Main Office Line: 814-863-4926 Student and Family Crisis Line: 814-863-2020 studentaffairs.psu.edu/familyservices

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Student Conduct 120 Boucke Building 814-863-0342 studentaffairs.psu.edu/conduct

The Office of Student Conduct is dedicated to supporting students by maintaining a system that is just, equitable, effective, and expeditious; a system that promotes student growth through individual responsibility in which the success of its educational endeavors is characterized by increased civility. Student Conduct encourages the expression of diverse views and opinions,
validates healthy life choices, and supports the concept of community respect. Programs and services help students become responsible and contributing citizens within Penn State and the local communities. Incoming students should visit our website and click on the “know the code” icon to learn more about what is expected of them as members of the Penn State Community. Student Conduct also provides a number of workshops during the course of the year on a variety of topics, including the Code of Conduct, decision making, and academic integrity. See page 24 for more information about the Office of Student Conduct.

Student Legal Services
120 Boucke Building
814-863-4388
studentaffairs.psu.edu/legalservices

The Office of Student Legal Services provides legal advice, counsel, representation, and referral services to University Park students. The basic services of the office are free; though students are assessed standard fees for filing court documents or other, personal legal expenses. The office provides students with programs about legal issues and online resources with information about legal rights and obligations. The office advises students about a range of legal concerns, including landlord-tenant disputes, consumer problems, return of deposits, alcohol offenses, traffic violations, unemployment claims, small claims actions, name changes, collections, contract actions, and power of attorney. The office also assists students with lease analysis, sublease drafting, eviction defense, resolving bad checks, driver’s license suspension, insurance claims, and property damage. Students will generally not be represented at legal proceedings which take place outside of the Centre County region. The office also does not provide legal representation to students in conflict with the University or involving another student. Students must visit the website and fill out an Intake Form to request services.

University Health Services
Student Health Center
814-865-6556
studentaffairs.psu.edu/health

University Health Services (UHS) specializes in outpatient student health at Penn State’s University Park campus. Services include evaluation and treatment of medically urgent problems, ongoing health concerns, and preventive health care. Experienced and caring professionals provide health education and outreach activities. On-site support services make UHS a one-stop health care facility for most student health needs. Please refer to the UHS section of this publication on pages 32-34 for more detailed information regarding services and important information for parents of new students.

Union and Student Activities
HUB-Robeson Center
814-863-8755
studentaffairs.psu.edu/hub

Union and Student Activities is committed to providing all students with opportunities to become engaged in high-quality co-curricular experiences. Through various centers, boards, committees, student organizations, student employment and staff, Union and Student Activities provides a variety of cultural, educational, social, and recreational programs for all Penn State students. Most notably, Union and Student Activities offers a wide array of programs and services, such as recognizing and registering more than 900 student organizations offering experiences designed to help students develop their leadership potential, student employment opportunities, and planning programs that engage students in community service activities. Students are encouraged to participate in organizations within Student Activities. Other involvement opportunities include touring one of the art galleries, visiting the Penn State Bookstore, dining in one of the HUB Dining eateries, or just sitting in a comfortable chair to study or relax. Union and Student Activities strives to provide an environment that fosters respect, values all individuals, appreciates diversity, and celebrates the contributions of all its members.

The following three offices, Fraternity and Sorority Life, New Student Programs, and Student Activities, are units within Union and Student Activities.

Fraternity and Sorority Life
215 HUB-Robeson Center
814-863-8065
studentaffairs.psu.edu/hub/greeks

With more than 85 Greek-letter organizations at Penn State, membership in a social or service fraternity or sorority offers the opportunity for students to develop leadership skills, serve the University and broader community, and build lifelong friendships.

Goals of Fraternity and Sorority Life include: strengthening the scholarship of members, promoting brotherhood and sisterhood, developing leaders, working with the residents of State College through community service, supporting philanthropic efforts, building character and integrity, affirming personal and organizational responsibility, and supporting the mission and goals of the University. The University’s Policies on Alcohol and Anti-Hazing express expectations for behavior concerning issues that have been problematic for some fraternity and sorority chapters, both nationally and at Penn State. Students may join fraternities and sororities during the fall semester of the student’s first year. The new member education process for chapters under the Panhellenic Council and the Interfraternity Council varies from six to twelve weeks. Chapters under the Multicultural Greek Council and the National Pan-Hellenic Council conduct recruitment or intake through interest meetings that occur on a rolling basis. Parents should visit the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life website to review the Parent’s Guide to Fraternity and Sorority Life manual.

New Student Programs
125 HUB-Robeson Center
814-865-4178
studentaffairs.psu.edu/newstudents

New Student Programs coordinates programs and services for students enrolling at University Park for the first time with a goal of easing students’ transitions to the University. This includes first-year students, transfer students, and change-of-campus students. New Student Programs coordinates Welcome Week, New Student Convocation, Summer Welcome, and Winter Welcome.

Student Activities
209 HUB-Robeson Center
814-863-4624
studentaffairs.psu.edu/hub/studentactivities

Student Activities is committed to the co-curricular learning, development, and engagement of students by providing involvement opportunities and resources, advising individual students and student organizations, promoting active and responsible citizenship, and developing collaborative community partnerships. Students can enhance their leadership skills; participate in a service program; attend a Student Programming Association (SPA) concert, lecture, LateNight, or other event; take a class through the Center for Arts & Crafts; join a student organization by attending the Involvement Fairs or go to www.ubs.psu.edu; or participate in one of the several student organizations advised by the office such as Homecoming, Students Engaging Students, SPA, Fresh START, the Martin Luther King Commemoration Committee, and others.

Student Recreation
www.athletics.psu.edu/rec/

Recreational Sports provides Penn State students opportunities to participate in their favorite recreation activities while promoting healthy lifestyles and supporting student leadership opportunities. Student recreation is an important out-of-classroom experience which enables students to remain active, to pursue learning a new activity, playing on a team, winning a championship, having a job and enjoying campus life.

On campus there are three recreation buildings, two swimming pools, two golf courses, tennis courts, an indoor and an outdoor pool. On-campus and off-campus activities, are available. Visit our website for information about these facilities.

There are four fitness areas on campus located in the IM Building, Rec Hall, McCoy Natatorium and White Building. To access these areas, a student must purchase a Fitness Pass at www.fitnessmembership.psu.edu. Passes may be purchased by the semester or for the academic year. Facility operating hours can be accessed by contacting 814-865-3448.

Students work opportunities exist within the recreation programs. Work-study positions and wage payroll positions are available. Questions can be directed to the various buildings below, or on our websites.

Intramural Sports
Room 2, IM Building
814-865-5401
www.athletics.psu.edu/recsports

Intramural Sports offers students twenty-five activities to participate in as an individual or as a member of a sports, dual-sports and individual sports. The cost is minimal and play occurs in Residence Hall, Fraternity, Housing’s, On and Off-Divisions. Winners are awarded a Champion T-shirt and a “Woodie” block.

Club Sports
143 White Building
814-867-2087
www.athletics.psu.edu/recreation

Club Sports provides students opportunities to continue to follow their passion of playing their favorite sport. Currently there are 78 clubs and student membership involves dues, sometimes “trying” but providing your own equipment.

AdventuRe Recreation
140 White Building
814-863-2895
adventurerec@athletics.psu.edu

AdventuRe is an outdoor recreation program which promotes activities in the out of doors. Trips, workshops, mapping material and equipment are some of the things available in this program.

Intercollegiate Athletics
www.gopsusports.com

Penn State University is a member of the Big Ten Conference. Twenty-nine varsity sports are offered in both men’s and women’s sports. The sports programs are governed by the NCAA. The teams are highly competitive both within the Big Ten and on the national level. Competition is both home and away and our sport venues are some of the best fields and arenas in the country. Numerous National Championships have been won by the Nittany Lions and students can count on seeing fast, exciting, quality games and the majority of games are free to students who show their valid PSU ID card. Encourage your students to become Nittany Lions today!
Housing, Food Services and Residence Life

Housing, Food Services, and Residence Life (www.hfs.psu.edu) are excited to have your student join our on-campus community!

University Park has 52 residence halls, 5 common buildings, and 359 apartments on campus. Close to 14,000 undergraduates and more than 300 graduate students reside on campus. University housing provides residential facilities that offer convenience, high value, security, and a wide scope of programs and services designed to help students succeed.

Residence Life is committed to providing a safe and comfortable living-learning environment which fosters academic, social, cultural, and personal growth. Our initiatives and services are infused with values of respect and responsibility for self, others, and the Penn State Community.

The first-year residency requirement was established because research indicates that first-year students benefit from living in an environment designed with their needs in mind. Students are encouraged to go to know their Residence Assistant, a student leader specially trained to help with questions and build a sense of community among residents. Each residence hall has staff and professional hall staff members who live in the community and are available 24/7 to provide information and resources, offer help and support, plan social and educational activities, and address residents’ concerns.

Food Services – one of the largest in the country, purchases over $30 million in goods each year. Campus dining commons serve 1.4 million meals each semester. Currently, Penn State serves all on-campus residents and 14,000 LionCash members. Penn State serves students, faculty, and staff populations through five on-campus dining commons, multiple retail operations, professional catering, and coffee carts.

Can students make a roommate or room assignment change after arriving?

In most cases, a student assigned to a regular double room may exchange room assignments with another student in a regular double room. To request a Direct Room Exchange, login to www.eLiving.psu.edu and click “Room Switch eBoard” under the “My Assignments” section.

What does the Pennsylvania meningococcal law mean to my student?

By law, all students who live on campus in Pennsylvania must comply with the College and University Student Vaccination Act. The law requires that students acknowledge the Meningococcal Vaccination Certification requirement. To comply with this law, the student must submit his/her acknowledgement of this requirement online through University Health Services at www.studentfairsts.psu.edu/health/entrancerequirements after attending the First-Year Testing, Counseling and Advising Program (FTCAP) and activating the student’s Penn State Access Account. If your student does not complete the on-line acknowledgement prior to arrival, the student will need to complete an acknowledgement form upon check-in. The acknowledgement only needs to be submitted once.

What is available in student rooms?

Each student will have a twin size bed, desk with bulletin board and chair, closet, bookshelf, chest of drawers, and a mirror. Most beds are extra-long (80” x 36”). There are a few rooms with smaller beds. Please purchase extra-long sheets, in case your student moves to a different room. All rooms have a trash can, microwave/freezer/refrigerator unit, drapery, an overhead light, and a smoke detector. Television cable and Ethernet connections are offered in all rooms.

What items should students bring or not bring?

Students should bring sheets (extra-long twin), pillows, towels, blanket or bedspread, computer, alarm clock, desk lamp, and other items that will help them feel at home. Students should check with their roommate before arrival to decide who brings which items, such as a TV, stereo, and carpet. Do not bring pets or small appliances. Please refer to www.welcomeweek.psu.edu.

What do residence areas provide?

Each residence area features a dining commons, bike storage, laundry facilities, mail delivery service at the commons desk, computer labs, meeting rooms, lounge areas with TVs, and Blue (campus) Loop bus stops. Some areas also have snack bars, convenience stores, ATM machines, and Penn State Bookstores.

Fall 2012 Welcome Week

Visit www.welcomeweek.psu.edu to learn more about how to prepare for fall arrival, such as items to bring, parking information, orientation sessions, etc. The site is designed to help you make the most of this hectic but exciting time!

Arrival Days

Centre County and out-of-state students and their roommates: Friday August 24, 2012: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Remaining-in-state students:

Saturday August 25, 2012: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

First-Steps: Arrival and Move-in

Is lodging available during Welcome Week for families?

Due to the large number of students moving in during Welcome Week, lodging will be extremely limited in the State College area. Make hotel or motel reservations early to secure a room. For lodging information, visit the Parents Program website at www.parents.psu.edu and click on transportation and lodging.

When will students find out where and with whom they will be living next year?

Room assignment information, including room number and roommate name and home phone number will be posted on pixing (www.eLiving.psu.edu) in late summer. A Welcome Week guide is mailed to all residential first-year students with information about Welcome Week and the date that room assignments will be posted.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Student Conduct

120 Boucke Building
814-863-0342
studentaffairs.psu.edu/conduct

The Office of Student Conduct is responsible for interpreting, enforcing and promoting the Code of Conduct. Student Conduct is dedicated to supporting students through a disciplinary process that is educational, equitable, expeditious, and just. Student Conduct not only meets with students accused of violating the Code of Conduct, but also works with victims to help them hold students accountable for their conduct. Recognizing the need to be proactive in educating students, it is recommended that incoming students visit our website and click on the “know the code” icon to learn more about what is expected of them as members of the Penn State Community. The Office of Student Conduct also provides a number of workshops during the course of the year on a variety of topics, including the Code of Conduct, decision-making, and academic integrity.

Penn State, as an institution of learning and a community with a special purpose, accepts its obligation to provide an environment that protects and promotes its educational mission and guarantees its orderly and effective operation for your student.

Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct outlines sixteen behaviors that students need to avoid as they are inconsistent with the essential values of Penn State. The Office of Student Conduct is responsible for interpreting and enforcing the Student Code of Conduct, ultimately determining whether or not a student has violated that code.

Academic Integrity

One of the essential values at Penn State is Academic Integrity. Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest, and responsible manner. Academic integrity is the basic guiding principle for all academic activity at Penn State, and all members of the University community are expected to act in accordance with this principle. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication of information or citations, facilitation of acts of academic dishonesty by others, unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, and tampering with the academic work of other students.

The University takes violations of Academic Integrity seriously. When an act of academic dishonesty is believed to have occurred, the process begins with a conversation between the faculty member and the accused student and follows the procedures outlined by the Faculty Senate.
Can students receive packages and special deliveries?

Your student can receive and pick up packages at the commons desk in their Housing area by showing their Penn State ID+ Card. Special deliveries, such as flowers, will be processed the same way through the commons desk. Pizza deliveries and coffee runs can be made to the front door of your student's residence hall. Direct deliveries to rooms and inside halls are prohibited. Packages should not be shipped more than two weeks prior to the beginning of the semester. All packages and deliveries should be addressed to the student's official name using this campus address:

Student’s Full Name
Room and Hall
University Park, PA 16802

Residence Hall Storage
Can students stay in their room between semesters and during breaks?

Traditionally, on-campus housing is not available during the Thanksgiving break, semester break, or spring break. For students who are unable to go home, housing is available between classes and during breaks, a Break Access Housing Contract that covers all three breaks is available for a non-refundable additional charge per semester, rates available online at www.hfs.psu.edu/breaks. Students with a Break Access contract will be assigned to specific buildings that have been designated for Break housing and are appropriately staffed. Limited food options are available during break periods.

In the event that a student without a Break Access contract needs to stay during a break, Housing will offer on a first-come, first-served basis a limited number of spaces in a supplemental housing lounge where students can stay for an additional fee. The student may be temporarily relocated to a dormitory in order to consolidate students staying during a break. For additional information about Break Housing or to request a Break Access Housing Contract, please contact the Assignment Office at 814-865-7101.

Can students leave their belongings in their room between semesters and during breaks?

Students may leave their belongings in the room during Thanksgiving break, semester break, and spring break, if they will be returning to the same room after the break. Students are encouraged to take home their valuables during those breaks. During the break between spring semester and summer session, and the break between summer session and fall semester, belongings may not be left in student rooms because, in most cases, students will not be returning to the same room. Students may contact the Housing area of their next semester’s assignment to see if the new room is available to store any non-valuable items. There is no storage available during summer session.

Safety and Security in the Residence Halls
Is there security in the residence halls?

Each residence hall on campus is equipped with an electronic, computerized card-access system that utilizes your student’s ID+ card. Only residents of the building can gain access by swiping their cards through the card reader on each building. The system is operational twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Guests of residents may enter only by accompanying the hosting resident or by using phones located outside each residence hall to call the host resident, who will escort the guest to his or her room. Only the host resident or a staff member may open the entrance door for the guest and must escort the guest throughout the hall at all times.

In addition, students hired as Auxiliary Officers are on duty from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday and from 2:30 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. They check for propped doors, monitor activities in the commons building, and assist students who have questions or difficulties with the card access system.

Can students lock their room doors?

All residence hall rooms, including supplemental rooms, have a locking door. Students should keep their room door locked at all times, even when making a short trip to the restroom. If a student misplaces their key, a replacement key may be obtained at the area commons desk. The replacement key may be used for two hours. If a key is lost, the student will be charged to have the lock changed and have a new key issued.

Can personal items be locked within the room?

Each student room desk has a locker that can be locked. Students will need to supply their own padlock.

Does the University Insure student personal belongings?

The University does not carry insurance on student personal property. Before coming to campus, check to see if your family’s homeowner’s insurance policy covers students in residence halls. If your student is not covered, please consider purchasing renter’s insurance.

Are students able to smoke or use a candle in their room?

Students are prohibited from smoking anywhere inside the residence hall areas, including outside their rooms. Candles and incense are also prohibited in the residence halls.

Residence Hall Staff and Community Life
Do staff members live in the residence halls?

Residence Life Coordinator lives on-site within the residence hall community. RA’s in undergraduate students who have been carefully selected and specially trained to help your student transition to both the residence hall and the Penn State community. RA’s have responsibility for a “house,” which means one or two residence hall floors. The RA lives on the floor and is readily accessible to residents. During evening hours, students may also contact the RA on a situation arises and their RA is not available.

One Residence Life Coordinator is assigned to each residence hall. The coordinators are full-time professional staff members trained in student development, safety and security, student conduct, and emergency response. As the supervisors of the RAs, coordinators are responsible for helping to create a positive community within the residence hall. A coordinator is available to assist students at any time of the day or night.

How will students get to know each other on the floor?

The first opportunity to meet floormates will be at the house meeting the RA will host on arrival day. RA’s will also sponsor a series of programs and activities throughout the semester that will give students a chance to get to know other individuals on their floor.

How do students find out what activities are scheduled for the coming weekend?

Residence Life produces a weekly newsletter called “Staff Stories” that is placed in floor restrooms and provides information about upcoming activities. RAs communicate regularly with students via email. Also, students should check out bulletin boards on their floors and in the building lobbies.

What if my student has a roommate problem?

The first person students should talk with is their roommate, who may not even realize that there is a concern. If that approach is uncomfortable or awkward, students should go direct to their RA for assistance in identifying the best approach. The RA can also be helpful in facilitating a discussion between roommates.

Can students have guests in their room?

Students are permitted to have guests in their room only if there is no objection from their roommate. At the beginning of the semester, the roommates should discuss how they each feel about having guests in the room. If there are any concerns about having guests of the opposite gender or overnight guests, it’s important to share those preferences with their roommate. It’s also a good idea to come to an agreement on times when guests will or will not be allowed in the room. Overnight guests can stay for a maximum of three consecutive nights. Guests must be escorted at all times. Residents are not permitted to have overnight guests in the room prior to the first day of classes.

Campus Meal Plan and Food Service
Where can students eat on campus?

Students may choose to eat in any of the five dining commons on campus or take advantage of the diverse dining options in their Housing area. The all-you-care-to-eat dining commons offers students the best value, as special prices have been created to provide the maximum value through the Campus Meal Plan. However, students may opt to use their Campus Meal Plan at other operations on campus, including the dining commons’ snack bars in the residential units. Purchasers at these operations receive a 65% discount off the cash price for prepared food and beverage purchases. Other options include retail locations, such as the HUB Dining eateries, Otto’s Café, Blue Chip Bistro, Café Laura, Java Express, and several other locations across campus where a 10% discount off of prepared food items is offered (including national brands, such as Burger King or Panda Express). Non-prepared items, such as pre-packaged snack items and bottled beverages, do not receive a discount at any location on campus.

Can students take food out of the dining commons?

When choosing to eat in the dining commons, carryout food from the all-you-care-to-eat dining commons is limited to one ice cream cone and one piece of fresh fruit. However, students have the option of purchasing individual items. Students who select the carry-out option will receive special containers. Many of the dining commons have separate areas that feature à la carte items that are ideal for carry-out. The removal of other food, beverages, dinnerware, or other dining commons property is strictly prohibited.
Can the dining commons provide food for special diets or for students with food allergies? The dining commons feature a variety of menu options and will try to accommodate reasonable requests, but it is not possible to provide for all special diets. Menu cards that include some allergy information are displayed with most food items to assist students in making diet-appropriate choices. Icons indicate if items contain milk or milk products, wheat or wheat products, fish or shellfish products, nuts or nut products, and eggs or egg products. When in doubt, students are advised to ask a manager if an item contains a particular ingredient.

Are Kosher choices available? During Passover, several Kosher items and a Kosher buffet are available; however, Penn State does not operate a Kosher kitchen. A variety of kosher foods are offered at The Mix in Pollack Dining Commons. Students living on campus can keep a kosher microwave in their on-campus rooms. More information regarding kosher options at Penn State can be found at www.foodservices.psu.edu/special-diets.

Is there a way for parent and family members to order treats and have them delivered to students? Parents and family members can take advantage of our “Gifts from Home” program. Choose from several different options, all freshly prepared by the Penn State Bakery, at www.bakery.psu.edu. Orders will be delivered to your student’s area commons desk.

How can students keep track of Campus Meal Plan dining dollars they have left in their meal account? It is important for students to keep track of their meal plan spending. The remaining balance of dining dollars is displayed at the cash register after each transaction, and is also available at www.idonlinewebsite.psu.edu.

What if a student runs out of meal plan dining dollars before the semester ends? If a student is running low on dining dollars, it is recommended that funds be added to the LionCash+ account. Cash registers at on-campus dining facilities will automatically check a student’s Campus Meal Plan account for funds. If there are not enough funds available, the system will then deduct from the LionCash+ account at the same optimal meal plan pricing. Adding funds to LionCash+ instead of the Campus Meal Plan eliminates the possibility of forfeiting any remaining dining dollars at the end of spring semester. Funds may be added to LionCash+ or Campus Meal plan online at www.idonlinewebsite.psu.edu with a MasterCard or Visa branded debit or credit card, or at the id+ Office, Assignment Office, or any commons desk with cash, check, or MasterCard or Visa.

What if students have extra leftover campus meal plan dining dollars at the end of the semester? Any remaining dining dollars left at the end of fall semester are automatically carried over to the spring semester plan. However, any remaining dining dollars at the end of spring are forfeited. A different meal plan level may be selected for spring semester if there is a high balance, and levels can be adjusted up until 7 days before the last day of final exams. Although the Campus Meal Plan has separate contracts for fall and spring, all students living in the residence halls are required to purchase the Campus Meal Plan for both semesters.

When do students select a meal plan level for spring semester? Near the end of fall semester, students will have the opportunity to adjust their Campus Meal Plan level for spring semester. The Meal Plan level will default to the same level as fall semester unless the student changes the level. Although a student can adjust their Campus Meal Plan level at any time once the announcement is made, the change must be made prior to 7 days before the end of fall semester in order for the change to be reflected on their spring semester bill. Any changes to the meal plan level after that time will then be applied directly to the student account.

Are vegetarian or vegan choices available? Yes, items are served at every meal in every dining commons. Items are indicated on menu information cards posted by food. Students are invited to participate on the Vegetarian Advisory Board (VAB) to have an opportunity to select items from the menu and create a nutritional analysis.

How will students know what is on the dining commons menu? Menus are posted at the entrance to each dining commons and are also available at www.hfs.psu.edu/foodpro.

Do the dining commons offer healthy choices? Healthy food and beverage choices are offered in every dining commons at every meal. Nutritional information on menu items is available online at www.hfs.psu.edu/foodpro. When viewing the menu selections for the day, you can select items from the menu and create a nutritional analysis.

(id+ Card) The id+ Office issues University ID cards to students, faculty, staff, and affiliates, and is the central office responsible for the support of all ID card related services for all Penn State campuses.

Do students have to get an id+ card? Yes – students are required by University policy to obtain and carry the id+ card at all times. The id+ card is transferable from campus to campus. The id+ card is a vital part of life at Penn State, providing easy access to University resources and services, such as library resources and access to the residence halls, athletic events, and testing centers. The id+ card is also the mechanism used for accessing the Campus Meal Plan, LionCash+, and PNC Bank (optional) accounts.

I’ve already read about the Campus Meal Plan, but what is LionCash+? LionCash+ is Penn State’s prepaid spending account. It is the safe and easy way for students to make purchases on campus and around town. LionCash+ provides special discounts offered exclusively to LionCash+ users and is accepted at over 200 participating locations, including on-campus printing, vending, laundry, and copier machines. LionCash+ is the only accepted payment method for on-campus laundry facilities. To activate a LionCash+ account, simply make an initial deposit - there are no fees to use the account and balances carry over from semester to semester and from year to year. Upon graduation or withdrawal, students may request a refund for the balance remaining in their account.

How is the id+ card associated with my student’s PNC Bank account? Through an exclusive banking partnership with PNC Bank, students may link their PNC checking account to the id+ card so that it can be used to get cash at any ATM. With 12 ATMs and a Customer Service Center on campus, PNC makes banking easy for Penn State students. Plus, PNC’s Virtual Wallet® student account makes it easy for students to manage their money. They will have free access to their account at more than 6,600 PNC Bank ATMs, online and text message banking, and account alerts that help them keep track of their checking balance. For more information, visit the Customer Service Center inside the id+ Office, 103 HUB-Robeson, call 814-231-1615, or visit www.pnc.com/psu.

Are the Campus Meal Plan, LionCash+, and PNC Bank accounts linked together? No. Although all three accounts may be accessed using the id+ card, they are separate accounts. Technology allows us to eliminate the need for students to carry multiple cards on campus by using one card to access multiple accounts. Here are examples to help clarify the difference between accounts:

- If your student uses the id+ card to purchase a snack, beverage, or meal at an on-campus dining facility or eatery, the funds will be deducted from the Campus Meal Plan account.
- If your student uses the id+ card to make a purchase at an off-campus business, at an on-campus location that is not a Food Service operation such as the Penn State Computer Store, or in an on-campus printer, copier, laundry or vending machine, the funds will be deducted from the LionCash+ account.
- If your student uses the id+ card in an ATM machine to withdraw or deposit money, the transaction will affect the student’s PNC account.

The Penn State Student Newspaper Readership Program provides access to the Daily Collegian, the Centre Daily Times, USA TODAY, and the New York Times at no additional charge with a student id+ card. With over 50 newspaper vending machines on campus, students can pick up the paper every weekday, anywhere. Of course, students who read newspapers know more about community, national, and world events. But recent research also shows gains in critical thinking ability, volunteerism and civic engagement.

Read the paper. Add value to your education. Know your world.
Students also have the ability to manage their LionCash+ and Campus Meal Plan on this site. On a secure server, students can check their account balances, review and email their transaction history, deactivate a lost or stolen id+ card, and change their Campus Meal Plan level. Students also have the ability to manage their LionCash+ and Campus Meal Plan account access, and fitness membership access.

Do students need a computer? 

It is recommended that you check with your student’s academic college for computer recommendations or specifications. Any computer with a built-in wired Ethernet networking connection will work in the residence halls. Wireless is not available in the student’s room at University Park campus but is available elsewhere around campus.

Where can students find wireless access areas?

Several buildings on campus, all housing commons buildings, and Special Living Option floors in residence halls offer wireless Internet connectivity. Wireless coverage is intended to cover most of the common spaces, but does not include student rooms. For more information on how to connect to the ITS-provided wireless networks and a map of all their locations, visit www.wireless.psu.edu.

Do students need a computer?

Although Penn State does not require your student to have a computer, it is highly recommended that your student brings one to campus. The University provides computer labs with workstations using all three major operating systems, as well as many expensive and necessary programs students need access to while achieving their degree from the University. It is recommended that you check with your student’s academic college for computer recommendations or specifications.

Where does ResCom help students?

ResCom operates help desks conveniently located in the commons areas. Help desks are open during evenings during the week and afternoons on the weekends. Students can also make an appointment for in-room, one-on-one service as needed. Technicians are available to assist your student with technical issues they may encounter using their computer or internet connection, including virus and spyware removal, software installation, and hardware issues. ResCom acts as the liaison between students and other departments to explain and resolve issues they may encounter from those departments.

Do students need a computer? If so, what kind should they bring?

Although Penn State does not require your student to have a computer, it is highly recommended that your student brings one to campus. The University provides computer labs with workstations using all three major operating systems, as well as many expensive and necessary programs students need access to while achieving their degree from the University. It is recommended that you check with your student’s academic college for computer recommendations or specifications.

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How do students get their computer connected to the Internet in their residence hall room?

Visit the ResCom website for detailed step-by-step instructions on how to connect to the residence hall network. Follow the link related to new or returning students under the “internet connection setup” page. To avoid delays in connecting, your student must register their computer’s “wired only” Ethernet adapter address at least one business day before arrival on campus. An active Penn State Access Account User ID and password will be required to register (you will know your Access Account is active once you can login to the Web Access screen on the ResCom website.)

What does a student need to know about the network connection in their room?

The connection in the residence hall rooms is provided for academic use, and for some recreational use. In order to ensure the internet is available for everyone, a cap on the amount of Internet only data transferred to and from your student’s computer has been installed. A weekly limit of 10 gigabytes of uploaded or downloaded data per week that includes, but is not limited to, downloading music and/or video files, watching streaming videos, video chatting, peer-to-peer file sharing, and listening to internet music. Specific information on these limits and consequences for exceeding them is published on ResCom’s website.

To obtain a network connection in your student’s room, your student must have read and agreed to the terms outlined in the University Computer and Network Security policy (guru.psu.edu/policies/AO20.html) and the Housing Connection Agreement (www.rescom.psu.edu/pages/connectagreement.html). Under the terms of the connection agreement, your student is responsible for keeping their computer virus free, secure from compromise and configured properly so they do not go over the bandwidth limits (www.rescom.psu.edu/pages/bandwidthfaq.html).

If a student doesn’t want to use their room connection, what are their alternatives for using the Internet?

Your student can take advantage of unlimited bandwidth in computer labs and wireless access areas located around campus. Using the Internet outside of their room connection will not count against their bandwidth limits.

Do students need an antivirus program on their computer?

University policy A0-20 states that students are responsible for their computers and the activities that occur on their computers. Additionally, they are responsible to maintain their computer by keeping it patched, updated, and protected from viruses. Penn State provides Symanetc Endpoint Protection, free of charge, for all students. This free antivirus software is available through Penn State’s Information Technology Services at downloads.itps.psu.edu. Since most antivirus software that comes with new computers is a limited trial version, it is recommended students install the Penn State provided Symantec Corporate Antivirus to protect their computer. DO NOT install more than one anti-virus program on a computer at the same time. Uninstall an old version first then install the new program.

Do students need to bring the CDs that came with their computer to school?

If your student’s computer gets compromised or infected with certain viruses, they may be required to have their computer reformatted before it will be allowed back on the network. Your student should bring any restoration and/or program CDs/DVDs that came with their computer. Original only discs will be accepted for commercial programs that ResCom will install. Your student is responsible for all data backup of personal files. Please help your student work out a backup method before arriving on campus. Students commonly use external hard drives or DVD burners to back up data they do not want to lose.

What are students’ computer responsibilities?

Students are ultimately responsible for ensuring the security of the computer they use. To learn more about student responsibilities please visit the parent’s page on the ResCom website.

What should students know about downloading music, movies, and software from the Internet?

It’s important to remember that it is illegal to copy or transfer copyrighted material—and that any user who does so may face University or legal sanctions.
University Health Services

Student Health Center
Bigler Road
studentaffairs.psu.edu/health

The staff of University Health Services (UHS) wants to help every student make the most of the Penn State experience. Staying healthy is an important part of a successful college education. UHS is here to provide resources and education that can help. If your students get sick or they have a pre-existing condition, our experienced and caring professionals provide a wide range of high-quality health services.

Good health will enhance their quality of life and academic success. College students face many societal and peer pressures. Choices surrounding some of those pressures have long-term consequences for their health. Alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, stress, and eating disorders are just a few of the topics addressed through programs at University Health Services.

Please encourage your student to give UHS a call when they are sick or need health advice. University Health Services is a very valuable resource. A series of videos on the UHS welcome page (studentaffairs.psu.edu/health/welcome) provide an overview of services.

Access to Services
Students can access services—including appointment scheduling, billing and secure messaging with clinicians—through myUHS (studentaffairs.psu.edu/health/myUHS). Appointments can also be made by calling (814) 863-0774.

Accreditation
University Health Services is accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. (AAAHC). Please visit the AAAHC website at www.AAAHC.org for additional information on the accreditation process.

Advice Nurse
Students can speak with an experienced telephone advice nurse twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Students should call UHS during regular office hours for routine or minor health concerns; after-hours calls should be reserved for urgent medical problems. The advice nurse will help the student determine whether emergency care is needed.

Allergy Clinic
Allergy injections are available by appointment for students who have been seen by a UHS clinician. Students who receive injections at UHS store allergy medication on-site.

Appointments
Students can schedule appointments online through myUHS (studentaffairs.psu.edu/health/myUHS) or call during regular business hours. Same-day appointments are available for acute medical problems. Appointments for routine health concerns are generally available within a few days.

Billing and Fees
Penn State does not charge a semester health care fee to students. Only students who receive UHS services have to pay fees. Students must arrange for payment of all UHS bills at the time of service. They may either pay by check, cash, debit card, Visa/MasterCard/Discover or have the charge billed to their Penn State student account. They can then submit a copy of the bill for these services to their insurance company for possible reimbursement (which depends on their coverage). Students carrying the Penn State Student Insurance Plan will receive reimbursement through the Bursar’s Office. Students can access their bills online through myUHS. The UHS discounted rate is relatively low compared to private medical services. The basic clinic visit fees for the 2012-13 academic year are: $25-50 on weekdays and $30-50 on Saturdays (fall/spring). This fee covers clinician services and many supplies and procedures performed and is based on complexity of the service provided. There are additional charges for some procedures and all lab visits, such as lab tests, X-rays, physical therapy treatment, pharmacy, and ambulance service. A complete fee schedule is available on the UHS website.

Clinicians
The UHS clinical staff includes physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. All UHS physicians are board-eligible or board-certified in a primary care specialty. Staff photographs and information are available online.

Confidentiality
UHS complies with HIPAA (The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996). All medical records at UHS are strictly confidential. Information about students’ care will be released only with their written permission. Upon receipt of a student’s permission to disclose his or her medical records, UHS will be happy to discuss a student’s medical record with parents. A life-threatening situation where students are so ill they are unable to give their consent is the only exception.

Education
By learning more about their own health, students can make better health care and lifestyle choices. The professional health promotion staff and student volunteers sponsor workshops and health events, assist individual students, provide educational materials, publicize important health issues, lead classroom discussions, and promote good health. Topics include alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, sexual health, HIV testing and counseling, multicultural health issues, nutrition and fitness, and stress management. Resources for improving your nutrition, physical activity, sleep and stress are available through the UHS website by selecting “Healthy Penn State” (healthypennstate.psu.edu).

Excuses (Illness Verification)
Missing a class due to routine or less serious illnesses, such as sore throats, colds and similar health problems, does not qualify students for a formal ‘Verifying of Illness.’ In those cases, students should either e-mail or call the faculty member as soon as possible. If students experience a significant illness or injury that has resulted in academic problems, University Health Services will provide verification of care received at UHS to the faculty. However, the student must have a documented serious, prolonged Illness or injury (studentaffairs.psu.edu/health/welcome/illnessverificaiton).

Emergency Services
The University Ambulance Service (UAS) provides emergency care on campus twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, except during the winter break. UAS is licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and is staffed by a well-trained and experienced emergency staff. If students are on campus and experience a serious or life-threatening medical emergency, they should dial 911. The closest medical center is Mount Nittany Medical Center, a 200-bed acute care facility with 250 physicians in 42 specialties, located two miles from campus on Park Avenue. Please note: All ambulance, hospital emergency room and inpatient fees are the patient’s responsibility.

Family Health Line
UHS offers an electronic newsletter, the Family Health Line, to help parents and families stay informed. Subscribe online at studentaffairs.psu.edu/health/contact/healthline. Students, parents and families can also stay up-to-date with Facebook (Penn State University) and Twitter (Healthy Penn State).

Hours
The UHS clinic is open: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. During full and spring semesters, UHS is open most Saturdays 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The telephone advice line is available 24/7 at (814) 863-4463; ambulance service is available by dialing 911.

Immunizations/Health History Records
New students will receive an email near the start of their first semester with instructions on accessing a secure website. In addition to recording mandatory immunization and health history information, UHS also recommends that students receive two doses of the varicella (chicken pox) vaccine and a Tdap booster prior to arrival at Penn State. A flu shot is recommended for students and UHS holds vaccination clinics for students prior to the flu season each fall. Clinic dates are announced through the Family Health Line, the UHS website, Facebook and Twitter as they are scheduled.

Insurance
Some colleges have contracts with private health insurance companies; however, UHS contracts only with the Penn State Student Health Insurance policies and some prescription plans. You should find out right away if your insurance company will reimburse you for your student’s care at UHS. If care at UHS is not covered, it is strongly recommended that you purchase student health insurance through Penn State. The Penn State Student Health Plan pays for most services at UHS. Check the UHS website for more information and enrollment deadlines (studentaffairs.psu.edu/health/services/insurance).

UHS regrets any inconvenience these policies may cause parents and students. However, because UHS treats students from all over the United States and the world, UHS would need to have contracts with hundreds of insurance companies. The cost of dealing with so many insurance providers and processing thousands of claims every year would drive up the current discounted rate for all our services.

Laboratory
UHS can do the CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments) approved and COKA (Commission on Office Laboratory Accreditation) accredited high complexity laboratory that is available to all registered students. Commonly ordered tests, such as complete blood work and urinalysis, are performed in the UHS lab. An outside lab is used for less commonly ordered tests.

Image: Photo: Greg Grimsen

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Preventive Health

Students are encouraged to reduce the risk of serious illness by making healthy lifestyle choices and getting recommended immunizations. Students can make preventive health appointments at UHS for allergy injections, cancer screening, counseling, immunizations, men’s health issues, nutrition counseling, travel vaccinations, and women’s health issues, among others.

Psychological Services

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is also housed in the Student Health Center. UHS and CAPS collaborate and cross-refer as appropriate for patients. For more information on CAPS see page 21.

Travel Clinic

The UHS Travel Clinic provides information, immunizations, and consultation to international travelers. The Travel Clinic is open to Penn State students, faculty, staff, and spouses.

Volunteer Opportunities

If a Penn State student is interested in health care and helping others, UHS offers many opportunities to become involved. Volunteer opportunities are available in emergency medical services, clinical services, health promotion and education, and physical therapy.

X-Ray

University Health Services offers convenient digital X-ray services. Patients must have an order from either a UHS health care provider or an outside health care provider.

Don’t forget to pack:

Medical Insurance Card

Even though UHS does not have contracts with outside insurance companies, students should still pack a copy of their health insurance card. Your student should also know how to submit copies of their UHS bill to their insurance provider.

Physical Therapy

Full physical therapy services are available by appointment. Direct access (self-referral) is available to patients who meet the criteria. Check with your insurance provider to confirm direct access allowance.

Medical Records

Students should pack a copy of their immunization history including vaccines received and dates. If a student is on prescription medication and will need UHS to write prescriptions for them, UHS must receive copies of relevant medical records and diagnostic tests. Students should bring a copy of their medical records to the UHS Medical Records department.

Prescription Card

If your insurance provider offers one of the prescription cards, UHS accepts, your student should be sure to pack a copy of the prescription plan card.

First Aid Kit

Accidents happen. A first aid kit is a handy accessory to pack. Possible items to include: a thermometer, antibacterial ointment, adhesive bandages, gauze, and over-the-counter drugs for headaches and stomach and intestinal discomfort. These items are also available in the UHS Pharmacy.

Student Wellness:

What Every Parent Needs to Know about High-Risk Drinking* Among College Students

As you are aware, college is a time for career exploration, academic challenge, and personal growth. Like many incoming first-year students, this may be the first time a student has lived away from home, and the first time he or she will be expected to make independent choices on a daily basis. Unfortunately, recent headlines highlight the dangerous nature of some of these decisions, specifically regarding alcohol and substance abuse. Alcohol abuse can lead to academic, social, and health-related problems.

Parents Can Make a Difference

Penn State invests considerable energy and resources in our efforts to better understand, treat, and diminish the negative impact that dangerous drinking can have on students and on their potential for success. As part of our efforts to address dangerous drinking, Penn State requires all incoming students to complete an alcohol education program prior to their arrival on campus. The program, Penn State SAFE, is an online, interactive, online program that provides information about alcohol, the alcohol laws in Pennsylvania, and Penn State’s alcohol and other drug policy.

While resources within Centre County and at Penn State are substantial, the impact a parent can have on their student is much more significant. Therefore, a parent’s role in helping a college student to make wise choices regarding drinking can have an important influence on a student’s well-being and on the health and well-being of our entire campus community. Research has shown that first-year students whose parents talked with them frankly about the dangers of high-risk drinking* exhibit significantly more responsible drinking behaviors than other first-year students.

Before talking with your student, familiarize yourself with how alcohol affects the body and brain of young people. Take some time to evaluate your own attitudes, values, and beliefs about alcohol and drinking. Establish open communication to make it easy for your student to talk honestly about drinking, even though UHS does not have contracts with insurance providers to address dangerous drinking.

The SOBERING FACTS (national)

• 31% of college students meet the criteria for a diagnosis of alcohol abuse.
• 6% meet the criteria for a diagnosis of alcohol dependence.
• 1,825 college students between the age of 18 and 24 die annually from alcohol-related injuries.
• 6% meet the criteria for a diagnosis of alcohol dependence.
• 599,000 experience a non-fatal, unintentional injury death annually from alcohol-related injuries.

Stay Connected After Your Student Leaves For College

• Stay involved with your student’s life at Penn State
• Call your student frequently during the first six weeks of college
• Learn about your student’s roommates and their new friends
• Encourage your student to get involved in activities and organizations on campus

CONVERSATION STARTERS

• How will you handle it if you are asked to “babysit” someone who is very drunk?

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• How violations of the Code of Conduct and the law can affect one’s future?

Understand Penn State’s parental notification policy

• Make sure your student completes Penn State SAFE, the online alcohol program (see page 37 for details).

Encourage conversations by asking your student nonjudgmental and open-ended questions. This allows your student the opportunity to express how he or she thinks and feels about college pressures, being away from home, and facing new situations. Here are some conversation starters for discussing issues your student may face when he or she arrives on campus.

*High-risk drinking is defined as having four or more drinks in two hours for women and five or more in two hours for men at least once over a two-week period.

Alcohol Laws in Pennsylvania

This is a general summary of several alcohol laws in Pennsylvania. For more details about each law and for information about additional alcohol laws, visit www.ld.state.pa.us.

Underage Drinking

Underage drinking is illegal. It is also illegal for anyone under 21 years of age to attempt to purchase, consume, possess, or knowingly and intentionally transport any liquor, malt or brewed beverage. Penalties may include:

- Fine: $500 - $1,000
- License Suspension: 90 days

Carrying False I.D.

It is illegal to use the identification card of another or by using an identifying that person by name, age, date of birth, or photograph as required to notify parents or guardians of all underage drinking violations.

Penalty

- Fine: $500 - $1,000
- License Suspension: 1 year

Driving Under the Influence (DUI)

It is illegal for anyone under 21 to drive a vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .02 or higher, and it is illegal for those 21 and older to drive with a blood alcohol content of .08 or higher. A first-time offense individual, under certain circumstances, may qualify for an Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Penalty</th>
<th>1st Offense</th>
<th>2nd Offense</th>
<th>Subsequent Offense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fine</td>
<td>$500-$5,000</td>
<td>$750-$5,000</td>
<td>$1,500-$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jail</td>
<td>48 hours - 6 months</td>
<td>30 days - 1 year</td>
<td>90 days - 5 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other:

- Court Reporting:
  - Network File
- Alcohol Highway Safety School
- Court Reporting:
  - Network File
- Court Reporting:
  - Network File

Penalty* Depending on your blood Alcohol level you may be charged under additional subsections of the DUI statute.

License Suspension

- 1 year

Open Container Ordinance

It is illegal to have an open container of alcohol in any public parking lot or public parking garage, public street, public sidewalk, public alley, or public park in State College. Penalties may include a $50 fine plus court costs. Violations result in fines of $100 to $600 plus costs or 30 days in prison if fines and costs are not paid.

Public Drunkenness

It is illegal to appear in any public place manifestly under the influence of alcohol, to the degree that you may endanger yourself or other persons, or annoy others in your vicinity.

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<tr>
<th>Penalty</th>
<th>1st Offense</th>
<th>2nd Offense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fine</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jail</td>
<td>90-90 days</td>
<td>90-90 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Penn State’s Alcohol and Illegal Substances Policy in the Residence Halls

1. The possession or use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in all Penn State on-campus undergraduate residence hall buildings, including Nittany Apartments and Eastview Terrace.

2. It is a violation of state law and University policy for a student under 21 years of age to attempt to purchase, consume, possess, or transport alcoholic beverages. It is unlawful to sell, furnish, and give alcoholic beverages to or permit alcoholic beverages to be sold, furnished or given to any minor.

3. It is against residence hall policy for there to be any tailgating activities in the residential quad areas or residence hall parking lots where alcoholic beverages are being served on any football game/event weekend including all home football games, Football Eve, Fourth Fest, and the spring Blue and White Weekend. Students tailgating with alcoholic beverages in these defined areas will be confronted and will likely be charged with “open containers in an unauthorized area.”

4. Residents will be held responsible for activities that occur in their rooms, and will be referred to the Office of Residence Life, the Office of Student Conduct, and/or University Police if guests are violating the on-campus alcohol policies listed above.

5. Failure to comply with the direction of or to present identification to a University Official acting in the performance of their duties is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and will result in a referral to the Office of Residence Life or the Office of Student Conduct.

6. It is against the Student Code of Conduct to supply false information, such as name, age, etc. to University Officials who are acting in the performance of their duties.

Illegal Substances (Drugs)

1. It is a violation of state and university policy to illegally possess, use, distribute, manufacture, sell or be under the influence of other drugs. Students who violate this policy will be referred to the Office of Residence Life, the Office of Student Conduct, and/or University Police.

2. It is against residence hall policy for a student to be in a residential area (room, common area, common building, building entrance, or quad area immediately adjacent to the residence halls) and in the presence of an illegal substance. Students who are in the presence of an illegal substance in these areas will be referred to the Office of Residence Life, the Office of Student Conduct and/or University Police.

The complete residence hall policy about alcohol can be found at: www.lcb.state.pa.us

Penn State SAFE and Penn State AWARE are interactive, online programs incoming students are required to complete. Penn State SAFE provides information about alcohol, the alcohol laws in Pennsylvania, and Penn State’s alcohol and other drug policy. Penn State AWARE provides information about sexual assault, the sexual violence laws in Pennsylvania, and Penn State’s resources for victims of sexual violence.

Students should complete Part 1 of Penn State SAFE and all of Penn State AWARE by:

- June 27, 2012 (summer students)
- August 27, 2012 (fall students)
- January 7, 2013 (winter students)

Visit edge.psu.edu/firstyear for details.

*Note: If a student is from a state other than PA and the home state is part of the national compact on DUI enforcement (46 states are), the student must fulfill these penalties in PA and his/her license from the home state will be suspended, if applicable.

*Other:

- Court Reporting:
  - Network File
- Alcohol Highway Safety School
- Court Reporting:
  - Network File
- Court Reporting:
  - Network File

*Depending on your blood Alcohol level you may be charged under additional subsections of the DUI statute.
Penn State University Police and Public Safety

Law Enforcement on Campus
University Police staff members are responsible for the protection of students, faculty, staff and guests of The Pennsylvania State University. The staff is also charged with the protection of life, property and maintenance of order on the University Park campus as well as the enforcement of all Pennsylvania laws and University regulations.

University Police officers have full law enforcement authority and criminal investigative responsibility for the campus. University Police Officers are commissioned under the Administrative Code of 1929 and the Municipal Police Officers Education and Training law (Act 120 of 1974) and have the same authority as municipal police officers in the Commonwealth, being authorized to carry firearms and empowered to make arrests.

The department consists of 51 armed, sworn Police Service Officers who may feel unsafe walking alone on campus at night. Mobile escorts may also be provided to augment the walking service, when appropriate. The Security Escort Service operates out of the Auxiliary Police, which is a uniformed student division within the University Police. Uniformed student employees who carry police radio, will walk Penn State students, employees, and visitors from one on-campus location to another, and to within reasonable walking distance off-campus. Escorts are available from dusk to dawn 365 days a year. Mobile Escorts will be sent at the discretion of the Security Escort Dispatcher and are free of charge. Reasons for sending a mobile escort may include, but are not limited to, location of the caller and the distance to the destination, availability of walkers, and weather conditions. Mobile escorts are generally limited to a one-mile radius of campus central.

PSUTXT
PSUTXT is an emergency notification text messaging service that allows Penn State to send messages to your cell phone in the event of a campus emergency, such as weather-related school closings, delays, and other news alerts. Your subscription is free for this service, but your phone plan may charge for receiving text messages. To register, go to live.psu.edu/packet and follow the instructions on the bottom of the page under the PSUTXT Messaging Alerts headline. To verify that you have subscribed, you will receive a text message at the cell phone number you provided. Then, follow the instructions you receive in order to validate your subscription. You can also subscribe to receive these messages via e-mail using the same website referenced above.

Emergency Planning and Procedures
The University has developed plans to address emergencies that could impact operations. These include plans for power outages, inclement weather, acts of terrorism or aggression, and infectious diseases through coordination with local agencies and organizations. As an ongoing process, these plans are updated to address necessary provisions for students, faculty and staff.

Behavioral Threat Management
In order to extend our efforts on emergency preparedness and prevention, Penn State University has established a Behavioral Threat Management Team. The objective of the Behavioral Threat Management Team (BTMT) is to put in place a structured process for evaluating potentially threatening situations that occur at the University. The team is comprised of multidisciplinary members from around the University Community. If you would like further information about the BTMT please visit their website at BTMT.psu.edu.

Crime Statistics
Criminal statistics are reported to the Pennsylvania State Police for annual publication in Crime in Pennsylvania, the Uniform Crime Report of the Commonwealth. The statistics are also available in the U.S. Department of Justice Publication, Crime in the United States, which is available at all public libraries and most law enforcement agencies within the United States. Crime Statistics are also available by writing to the University Police, The Pennsylvania State University, 30 Eisenhower Parking Deck, University Park, PA 16802-2116 or can be accessed on the internet at www.police.psu.edu.

The following annual security report provides crime statistics for selected crimes that have been reported to local police agencies or to campus security authorities. The statistics reported here generally reflect the number of criminal incidents reported by the various authorities. The statistics reported for the subcategories on liquor laws, drug laws, and weapons offenses represent the number of people processed or referred to campus judicial authorities for the respective violations, not the number of offenses documented. The report complies with 28 U.S. Code Section 1092 (f).

Crime Statistics 2008-2010

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<td>Murder/Manslaughter</td>
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<td>Robbery</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Burglary</td>
<td>46</td>
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**HATE CRIMES**

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<tr>
<td>Alcohol</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug</td>
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**ARRESTS**

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<td>Liquor Law Violations</td>
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**REFERRALS**

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<tr>
<td>Liquor Law Violations</td>
<td>338</td>
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*Includes only those referrals issued by PSU Police for persons not arrested*
Campus Life

Crime Prevention Programs
In an effort to promote community awareness, it is the desire of University Police to establish a working relationship with the Penn State Community. This is accomplished through a variety of public education programs and services. To request a program, please contact the Crime Prevention and Community Education Office at 814-863-3464. Some of the programs and services that University Police offer are:

- **Acts of Intolerance Jeopardy Game:** This interactive Jeopardy game is a fun way to encourage students to participate in teams and learn about discrimination issues such as racism, sexism, ableism, and religious oppression.
- **Alcohol Awareness:** A presentation is given on the effects of alcohol and the laws and consequences. Fatal vision goggles are used as part of this presentation.
- **Bicycle Rodeos:** Bicycle officers provide information on bicycle rules and safety, as well as demonstrating various riding techniques.
- **Blurred Lines/DUI Awareness:** A presentation is given on Driving under the Influence (DUI), including laws, detection, arrest procedures, and prosecution. Participants are able to observe officers demonstrate actual field sobriety tests that are given to intoxicated motorists in the course of the officer’s duty.
- **Domestic Violence:** The program provides awareness and statistical information on the common challenges victims face with relationship/domestic violence.
- **Drug and Alcohol Jeopardy Game:** This interactive Jeopardy game is a fun way to encourage students to participate in teams and learn about drug and alcohol use.
- **Drug Awareness and Recognition:** The program focuses on the various narcotics that are used, their effects on persons and society, laws governing narcotics and various statistics in regards to usage and costs to society.
- **Five OUTs: Surviving an Active Shooter:** None of us want to be confronted by a person with a gun on campus, but campus shootings do happen. What would you do if you heard shots coming from outside of your classroom or worse yet, what if someone with a gun came into your classroom or office and began to fire? Would you know what to do? How to act? How to deal with your fears so you could save your own life and the lives of those around you? In an emergency situation, it is best to stay calm and be prepared. Participants who attend this program will know how to answer these questions or where to find the necessary resources.
- **Identity Theft:** Officers will present information and precautions to be taken to minimize the risk of becoming the victim of identity theft.
- **Office Interviews on Any Topic:** Office staff is available for interview by persons seeking information for speeches, papers, or news articles. Appointments are preferred.
- **Operation ID/Engraving:** University Police provide engraving tools and instruction to persons interested in marking and identifying valuable items.
- **Rape Aggression Defense (RAD):** RAD is a comprehensive self-defense system for women. The program includes awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance, as well as options available to women during a confrontation or attack.
- **Ride-A-Long:** Participants may ride or walk with an officer on routine patrol for up to a two-hour period to gain firsthand knowledge of police procedures and operations.
- **Self Awareness & Familiarization Exchange (SAFE):** University Police provide SAFE, a self-defense awareness and familiarization exchange for women. It is taught by certified SAFE instructors. It is not a physical defense program, but rather a method of distributing crime prevention information for individual study.
- **Sexual Assault Prevention:** Issues involving sexual assault and corresponding relevant statistics are presented.
- **Theft Prevention:** Officers will present information and precautions to be taken to minimize the risk of becoming the victim of theft.
- **Your Law Enforcement on Campus:** Officers are available to discuss police procedures and services available from the department.

Frequently Asked Questions

**Where are the offices of the University Police Department located?**
University Police is located in the Eisenhower Parking Deck.

**Should students call 911 or 3-1111 in an emergency?**
By calling 911 or 3-1111, students can summon police, fire and/or EMS assistance to the location.

**What if students have a question about safety on campus? Can they call anytime?**
University Police is open twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year. At all times, there is a supervisor on duty. University Police can be reached at 814-863-1111 (emergency) and 814-865-1864 (business).

**What resources are available through University Police for victims of crime?**
University Police has a Victim Resource Officer who specializes in assisting victims of crime with finding the programs and services that are available here at Penn State. Contact the Victim Resource Officer, Detective Stephanie Brooks at 814-863-1907.
Penn State is about to change your student’s life.
Help us to make it happen.

Support the Parents Fund at Penn State.

You’ll be able to hear the excitement in your son’s or daughter’s voice when they call home to tell you about the people they meet, the lessons they learn—not just in the classroom, but in activities and organizations that challenge them to take responsibility, to discover their passions, to become leaders.

You know that they’ll be earning more than a Penn State degree—they’ll be earning the pride and confidence that will help them to succeed long after they graduate.

You are about to share the experience of thousands of Penn State parents—and you can join with those parents in helping to create opportunities for all of our undergraduates.

With a gift to the Parents Fund, you can help Penn State’s Division of Student Affairs to forge new pathways for growth and engagement and build a safe and healthy community that allows every student to fulfill his or her potential. The Parents Fund is a chance to become the University’s partner in ensuring that, like your child, all Penn State students can thrive.

For more information or to give online, visit giveto.psu.edu/parentsfund.

As parents, we’re grateful for the opportunities that Penn State afforded our daughter in the classroom and beyond. We see our support as a way of giving an extra ‘thank-you’ to the University for those opportunities, and we hope that other parents will show their appreciation for the positive impact that Penn State has had on their children’s lives and their futures.

Jim and Mary Ellen Marpe’s daughter Samantha graduated from Penn State in 2006. They recently committed their support to create the Round Table Project, which brings together student leaders from across the University.

For the future
The Campaign for Penn State Students

Penn State

Student Affairs

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School Supplies

The Basics
- One Stop Shopping
  - Notebooks, pens
  - Pencils, highlighters
  - Calculators
  - Just a start of what you can find here.

Computer Supplies
- We carry...
  - Ink, printer paper
  - USB cables
  - Media storage
  - And other computer related items and accessories.

Art Supplies
- Art courses or special class projects
  - Poster & foam board
  - Paints, brushes
  - Drawing pads
  - And many other items to meet your needs.

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- Be Prepared
  - Class materials kits
  - Lab coats, gloves
  - Lab & engineering notebooks
  - And other specialty items for lab and engineering courses

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- Unique items in latest styles and colors.

Penn State Apparel
- Designed and Chosen by Students
- Official 2012 White-Out Tee

Spirit
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Penn State Apparel

Spirit

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# University Resources

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<td>Penn State Operator</td>
<td><a href="http://www.parents.psu.edu">www.parents.psu.edu</a></td>
<td>814-865-4700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parents Program</td>
<td>814-863-3313</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Information</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.libraries.psu.edu">www.libraries.psu.edu</a></td>
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<td>Academic Resources</td>
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