Are You Ready for the Widener Pride Experience?

The time has come to begin your college journey at Widener University! The Pride Experience, a diverse series of introductory programs—including the mandatory registration and orientation sessions—has been designed to guide you down a path toward collegiate success.

What will my room be like? What classes can I take? When can I move in? We are sure you have many questions like these and more about attending Widener. Through the Pride Experience programs—as well as this newsletter, a Pride Experience guidebook that you will receive at registration, and a second edition of the SCOOP newsletter later this summer—we address many of your questions, remind you of deadlines and key dates, and steer you in the direction of people who can help you resolve any issue. You also can find information about entering Widener at www.widener.edu/depositnextsteps.

What’s next are some of the most memorable and formative years of your life. We look forward to seeing you on campus soon!
The Pride Experience: Registration, Orientation, and Other Programs

The Pride Experience will prepare you for a successful college experience at Widener and introduce you to the tools needed to succeed academically and socially. We also will help you and your family identify resources available to guide you through this important transition period.

There are two required parts of the Pride Experience:

- **Pride Experience One: Registration.** During this required event, you will take placement exams so you can register for fall courses, meet new classmates, and learn more about campus life. Family members also get their own, separate orientation sessions that introduce services, support systems, and people who can help students succeed academically and socially. Dates for registration are **June 15–17** and **July 7–9**. All registration sessions begin at 8 a.m. If you haven’t registered yet, please visit [www.widener.edu/summerregistration](http://www.widener.edu/summerregistration).
- **Pride Experience Two: Orientation.** This is the second required segment of the program. Dates for orientation are **Wednesday, August 26, through Saturday, August 29**. Classes begin **Monday, August 31**. For more information, visit [www.widener.edu/orientation](http://www.widener.edu/orientation).

Optional pre-orientation programs include:

- **The 1821 Experience:** Students explore how multiculturalism adds to the Widener experience and gain connections to the campus, community, and each other.
- **Project Lead:** Students expand leadership development through assessments, teambuilding exercises, and the creation of a civic engagement project.

Post-orientation programs known as the Pride Experience Plus are:

- **The PRIDE Mentoring Program:** This program provides on-going support, mentoring, and guidance through individual and group workshops and personal development activities.
- **Freshman Seminar:** You may register for a one-credit freshman seminar course that covers a variety of topics related to becoming a successful student.
Welcome to Your New Home!

It is our pleasure to have you as a member of our residential community. Our residence halls are a vibrant and exciting part of campus life.

Studies show that students who live on campus benefit in the following ways: higher test scores and graduation rates; proximity to the library, Wellness Center, classrooms/labs, and dining hall; as well as creating friendships and memories that last a lifetime.

Our dynamic on-campus residence hall environment will expand this fall when the university will open a new 200-bed residence hall. The new residence hall will include food service on the first floor and classrooms for a living/learning community model.

Room Rates
Room rates start at $3,408 per semester ($6,816 per year) for a basic double room. The rates will vary depending on the residence hall where you are registered to live; see additional room rates online at www.widener.edu/BursarOffice.

Meal Plan Rates for 2015–16
All students living on campus are required to purchase a meal plan. Freshmen in residence halls must choose the platinum, gold, or silver dining plan. These plans have unlimited meals and include dining dollars. The platinum plan costs $3,138 per semester ($6,276 annually), the gold plan costs $3,078 per semester ($6,156 annually), and the silver plan costs $3,000 per semester ($6,000 annually). The plans are billed with your room charges. Dining Dollars that can be used in the various quick-service facilities on campus amount to $375 in the platinum plan, $300 in the gold plan, and $200 in the silver plan.

Commuter Services
Students may commute from home if they live with a parent or legal guardian and their home is within 25 miles of campus. If you meet these requirements and want to change your status to commuter, contact the Admissions Office at 610-499-4126, and then the Office of Residence Life at 610-499-4390.

If you received a financial aid offer as a residential hall student, you also need to contact Student Financial Services at 610-499-4161. Off-campus status is available to married students, military veterans with two years service, and students age 24 and older. Contact the Office of Residence Life for more information about off-campus status.

Disabilities Services
To request special accommodations due to a disability, please visit the website for the Office of Disabilities Services: www.widener.edu/disabilitiesserv. Please forward your request and supporting documentation to:

Widener University Disabilities Services
One University Place, Chester, PA 19013
610-499-1266 phone 1 610-499-1192 fax
disabilities@mail.widener.edu

Accommodation requests are reviewed once all documentation is received. Please note that all deposit and application deadlines for housing must be met. Late requests will be considered on a space available basis.

Enrollment Services Welcomes You
Enrollment Services is here to help you take care of the business of going to school—processing financial aid, paying your bill, registering for class, and getting a parking permit and your student ID card.

If you have any questions about any of these services, please call us at 610-499-4161, e-mail us at enrollmentservices@widener.edu, or stop by and visit us in Lipka Hall (near the university’s main entrance on 14th Street). Follow us on Twitter @lipkahall.

The Enrollment Services website at www.widener.edu/BursarOffice provides news and information on the services that we provide and has information for our Widener parents.

e-Billing Payment Due Dates for 2015–2016 Academic Year

Fall Semester 2015
e-Bill Due Date: August 13, 2015

Spring Semester 2016
e-Bill Due Date: January 19, 2016
Directions:

From Philadelphia:
Follow I-95 South to Exit 6 (Rts. 320 & 352). Turn right at the top of the ramp. Follow the curve to your first right, turn right onto Walnut Street. Travel one block to the stop sign and turn right onto 14th Street.

From Western & Northern Pennsylvania:
Follow the Pennsylvania Turnpike to Exit 333, I-476. Take I-476 South to I-95 South. Follow I-95 South to Exit 6 (Rts. 320 & 352). Turn right at the top of the ramp. Follow the curve to your first right, turn right onto Walnut Street. Travel one block to the stop sign and turn right onto 14th Street.

From New York, Northern New Jersey, and New England:
Take the New Jersey Turnpike South to Exit 2. Proceed on Route 322 West across the Commodore Barry Bridge. Coming off the bridge, follow signs for I-95 North and Philadelphia. Take I-95 North to Exit 6 (Routes 320 and 352). At first traffic light, turn left over bridge. Bear right at the fork on other side of bridge. Go to first traffic light and turn right onto 14th Street into the main entrance of the university.

From Delaware, Maryland & Washington, D.C.:
Take I-95 North to Exit 6 (Routes 320 and 352). At first traffic light, turn left over bridge. Bear right at the fork on other side of bridge. Go to first traffic light and turn right onto East 14th Street into the main entrance of the university.

From Harrisburg, PA:
Follow I-76 East (exiting the Pennsylvania Turnpike at Valley Forge) to Exit 331A (I-476 South). Follow I-476 South to I-95 South, Exit 6 (Rts. 320 & 352). Turn right at the top of the ramp. Follow the curve to your first right, turn right onto Walnut Street. Travel one block to the stop sign and turn right onto 14th Street.

From Southern New Jersey:
Take the Atlantic City Expressway to Rt. 42 North. Route 42 North becomes I-76 West. Follow I-76 West across the Walt Whitman Bridge into Pennsylvania. After the bridge, follow signs for I-95 South. Follow I-95 South to Exit 6 (Rts. 320 & 352). Turn right at the top of the ramp. Follow the curve to your first right, onto Walnut Street. Travel one block to the stop sign and turn right onto 14th Street.