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GET THE

SCOOP

ON WIDENER

Your Journey as a Widener Student Continues...

We can't wait to officially welcome you to Widener University — on campus and in person! The Pride Experience Orientation Program, a diverse series of introductory programs and activities, will introduce you to the tools needed to succeed — academically and socially. On the next few pages, a wealth of helpful information and key dates are provided to ensure your successful campus arrival.

Calendar Preview

Wednesday, August 18	New Student Move-In Day — starting at 9:00 a.m.
Friday, August 20	Academic Convocation and New Student Advising Day
Sunday, August 22	Welcome Back Bash at 3:00 p.m.; Check-In for Upperclassmen Students
Monday, August 23	First Day of Classes
Thursday, August 26	Student Involvement Fair at 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, August 31	Last Day to Drop or Add Classes
Monday, September 6	No Classes — Labor Day
Friday, October 15	Homecoming Weekend Begins — concludes October 16
Monday, October 25	No Classes — Fall Break — Classes will resume on October 27
Monday, November 1	Registration for Spring 2022 Classes Begins
Thursday, November 25	No Classes — Thanksgiving Holiday Break — classes resume on Nov. 29
Monday, December 6	Final Exams Begin — conclude on December 10

Please Note: Residence halls will remain open during our Fall, Thanksgiving, Winter, and Spring break periods. Students are required to register to remain on campus during certain break periods. Additional information will be released from the Office of Residence Life regarding this process.

Things You Need

It's a good idea to check with your roommate prior to move-in day to avoid duplicating certain items like a TV or microwave.

For Move-In Day

- Cold drinks
- Hand cart
- This newsletter
- Towel
- Sneakers and Comfortable Clothes

The Basics

- Alarm clock
- Blanket, quilt, or comforter (Twin XL)
- Cleaning products
- Desk lamp and light bulbs
- Desk supplies
- Clothes basket or bag, detergent
- Paper products
- Personal care products
- Pillows and linens for your bed (Twin XL)
- Plates, mugs, glasses, and utensils
- Power cords with a multi-plug power strip and an internal circuit breaker
- Surge protectors for electronic equipment
- Shower shoes
- Portable shower tote or caddy
- Soap and soap dish
- Towels and washcloths
- Computer or laptop

Nice to Have

- Fan
- Flashlight
- Games and sports equipment
- Iron and ironing board

Please note that when moving in, there are no elevators in the freshman residence halls.

The Pride Experience Orientation Program

The Pride Experience Orientation Program will prepare you for a successful college experience at Widener and introduce you to the tools needed to succeed academically and socially.

There are two required parts of the Pride Experience Orientation Program:

Pride Experience I: Summer Registration. Our Pride Experience I: Summer Registration Program was held on **June 15–17** and **June 22–24**. During this time, students were able to connect with their academic advisors to register for fall classes, meet upperclassmen student leaders, and begin preparation for the fall semester. If you still need to register for your fall classes, then please contact the Orientation Team via email at orientation@widener.edu.

Pride Experience II: Fall Orientation. Fall Orientation is our second required orientation program and is scheduled for Wednesday, August 18, through Friday, August 20. Campus Move-In Day for new undergraduate students will begin on Wednesday, August 18 at 9:00 a.m. **For additional information, including a tentative schedule, please visit widener.edu/new-students.**

Optional pre-orientation experiences include:

1821 LEADS Experience: The Center for Civic and Global Engagement (CCGE) and Multicultural Student Affairs (MSA) offices partner to provide a unique and immersive on campus pre-orientation program. This program will assist students as they transition to college life and provide activities that will advance a student's commitment to leadership, service and civic engagement. Students will be introduced to "We're All Widener", an expression that exemplifies the university's commitment to diversity, inclusion, equity, and respect for all members of the WU Pride community. This program is open to all new and transfer undergraduate students seeking to get an early start to their Widener experience! Commuter students are welcome and encouraged to participate. **The program is offered from Sunday, August 15 – Wednesday, August 18, 2021.** The program is limited to 40 students and will cost \$100 per student. To register, please visit widener.edu/new-students.

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

The PRIDE Mentoring Program: This program provides ongoing support, mentoring, and guidance through individual and group workshops and personal development activities. If you are interested in participating in this program, then please contact Kortne Smith, Program Coordinator, Multicultural Student Affairs via email at kasmith1@widener.edu.

Freshman Seminar: A one-credit freshman seminar course that covers a variety of topics related to becoming a successful student. If interested in this seminar, please contact your Academic Advisor.

Campus Arrival Instructions

As another reminder ... The New Student Orientation Program will begin on Wednesday, August 18, 2021 for all new undergraduate students and attendance is mandatory. The program will conclude on Friday, August 20, 2021.

Commuter students will check-in at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 18 in the University Center Atrium. We recommend that commuter students park in the 13th Street, Kirkbride, or Spang parking lots.

Residential students will check-in from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 18 in the University Center Atrium. Students must sign-up for a check-in appointment. Your check-in appointment sign up link will be emailed to your official Widener email account on August 2, 2021.

Upon arrival to campus, students and families should park in **Academic Center North and Library Parking Lot**, located at the intersection of Melrose and 17th Streets.

After parking in the lot, students will be instructed to walk to the Main Atrium of the University Center to check-in, grab their Orientation schedule, student ID card, residence hall keys, and parking lot placard.





IMPORTANT: All vehicles must stay parked in the lot until cleared to leave. A parking placard is **REQUIRED** to leave the lot and enter the unloading zone. Our Campus Safety Department will be on-site and available to assist as needed.

For additional campus arrival process details, please visit widener.edu/new-students/fall-orientation.

Commuting to Campus

Take advantage of the inside track for the Commuter student experience! Our commuters are welcome and strongly encouraged to take advantage of all Widener University has to offer – including academic and support resources, 70+ students clubs and organizations, athletic and recreational programs, career services, study and relaxation lounges across campus, utilizing all dining facilities, the Wolfgram Memorial Library, service-learning projects, and more! Join the **Commuter Student Association** to stay connected with commuter student initiatives and services on campus. Visit the Office of Student Engagement on the Lower Level of the University Student Center to learn more. We're here to help! To learn more, visit my.widener.edu and search "Presence" to get connected.

Again, commuter students will check in on Wednesday, August 18 at 3:00 p.m. in the University Center Atrium to begin the Orientation Program.

Parking at Widener

Parking permits are required in order to park in all campus-owned parking lots for the 2021–2022 academic year. To purchase a parking permit and register your vehicle, please visit widener.edu/ParkingStore. After purchasing a permit in the online store, students may choose to have their tag mailed to their home address or picked up in Lipka Hall starting on August 2. For additional information or questions, please call the Campus Safety Department at 610-499-4200 or email cmptsftmc@widener.edu.

Technology On Campus

The Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) offers members of the university community support around the clock in various ways:

- Call 610-499-1047 to speak with a support specialist day or night, or submit a ticket to the HelpDesk at quicket.widener.edu.
- Having a technology problem? The Student Technology Support Center (STSC) is a walk-in support center where students can go for assistance with their computers and mobile devices. No appointment is necessary. **Hours are posted in my.widener.edu.** Location: Right side of main floor, Wolfgram Library.

Wireless Internet access is available in all academic buildings, residence halls, and social areas. All students are required to register their wireless devices on the Widener network.

No Car? No Problem!

Our Campus Safety Department offers a Campus Shuttle Program to help students get around on and off campus. Visit my.widener.edu and search "Campus Shuttle" to view the schedule online. Two SEPTA bus routes—Routes 109 on Providence Road and Route 113 on Melrose Avenue—are close to campus. Visit septa.org for additional information.

Things You Don't Need

In order to reduce the risk of damage or injury to yourself or your fellow students, we do not allow you to have any of these items in your room:

- Air Fryer
- Alcohol containers (even those of a decorative nature—e.g., bottles, shot glasses, or paraphernalia)
- Appliances with open coils or burners
- Broilers
- Candles or incense (even those of a decorative nature)
- Cinder-block bed risers (only plastic are permitted)
- Contact grills (e.g., George Foreman)
- Decorative string lights
- Electric frying pans
- Extension cords
- Furniture without fire retardant material (items must meet California Technical Bulletin 133 standards for fire retardancy)
- Halogen lamps
- Heating coils
- Hot plates
- Immersion coils
- InstaPot
- Live Christmas trees
- Nails, hooks, double-faced adhesive tape, or other items that will damage walls
- Power tools
- Power cords without a multi-plug power strip with an internal circuit breaker
- Space heaters
- Toaster ovens, toasters, griddles, or any open element appliances
- Waterbeds or lofts
- Weapons, firearms, knives, pepper spray, or explosive devices
- Any type of air conditioning unit

We ask that you leave all pets at home with the exception of fish, which must be cared for responsibly and kept in a maximum 10-gallon tank.

Please see the Widener University **Student Handbook** online for a complete description of rules and regulations, catalog.widener.edu.

EXCITING NEWS! JOIN US ON PRESENCE TODAY!

Make your presence known from day one by getting engaged and experiencing Widener! We are ecstatic to announce the launch of ExperienceWidener by Presence, a virtual student engagement platform designed to make it easier for both undergraduate and graduate students to get involved and stay connected.

ExperienceWidener by Presence will be a one-stop shop for all things student involvement – including ...

- A centralized calendar of student events and activities – all in one place
- A dedicated portal for student clubs and organizations – including the ability to join an organization and connect with students that have shared interests
- Student Organizations will be able to track events, attendance, manage organization finances, and evaluate the success of their programs and events
- A dedicated space to participate in specialized programs – including leadership development programs, service-learning experiences, and much more!
- A mobile app to quickly find out what events are happening on campus

Beginning **August 9**, all undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and staff will have access to ExperienceWidener.

Visit **widener.presence.io** to login and download the app. Please use your Widener email and password to log in.

Below are a few organizations we suggest that you check out on Presence. Here's a taste of what Widener has to offer:

- Academic organizations for specific majors
- Alternative Spring Break Program
- Black Men United
- Black Student Union
- Commuter Student Association
- Fraternity & Sorority Life
- Honors Organizations
- International Club
- Pride Activities Council
- Residence Hall Association
- Student Government Association

For more information on how to connect with campus organizations, please contact the Office of Student Engagement by calling 610-499-4411, e-mailing **studentengagement@widener.edu**, or by visiting our office located on the ground level of the University Center.

A Few Last-Minute Reminders

- ☐ **Submit Your COVID-19 Vaccination Record.** Before arriving to campus, please submit your COVID-19 vaccination record to your online Student Health Services portal or seek a medical exemption. Students will not be able to participate in on campus classes or activities without completing this process. For additional information, please visit widener.edu/coronavirus.
- ☐ **Important Financial Aid Reminders.** For first-time Federal Loan borrowers, both the Loan Entrance Counseling and the Master Promissory Note processes must be completed. Please visit studentloans.gov and select the 'IN SCHOOL' tab to access the links to complete both processes.
- ☐ **Complete E-Check In.** When you receive an e-mail about E-Check In, be sure to complete all the steps mentioned. This is your opportunity to provide emergency contact information, as well as indicate those to whom you authorize release of your financial and academic information.
- ☐ **Submit Health and Immunization Information.** Your Health History Form, Pre-Matriculation Certificate of Immunizations Form, and Athletic Physical Exam Forms were due to Student Health Services by **June 28** to remain in good standing. Forms can be dropped off to a Student Health Services representative during your August Orientation check-in
- ☐ **Online Student Account Access.** Go to widener.edu/BursarOffice and follow the appropriate instructions to grant access for your parent(s) to view your e-bill.
- ☐ **Forward official final high school transcript showing graduation date,** and if applicable, forward official Advanced Placement (AP) scores and/or official dual enrollment transcript to the Office of Admissions.
- ☐ **Shop the bookstore early.** As soon as you know your class schedule, head to the bookstore to avoid the first week lines and have your pick of new and used texts.
- ☐ **Review Student Code of Conduct.** Before you arrive to campus, please take a moment to review the Student Code of Conduct available online at catalog.widener.edu.
- ☐ **Download the Presence App!** Our new student engagement platform, Presence, will be a valuable resource for students. Visit widener.presence.io to activate your account and get the app. Login with your Widener email and password.

Business Questions? Ask Enrollment Services

Enrollment Services is here to help you take care of the business side of going to school—including processing financial aid, paying your semester bill, registering for class, getting a parking permit, and managing 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](https://twitter.com/lipkahall)

Paying Your Bill

The Enrollment Services website at www.widener.edu/BursarOffice provides details on the services that we provide and has information for our Widener parents, including information on your bill and links for paying online. Bills are sent electronically. The payment due dates for the 2021–2022 academic year are as follows:

Fall Semester 2021

e-Bill Due Date: August 9, 2021

Spring Semester 2022

e-Bill Due Date: January 10, 2022

Widener University

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