#### **ISSUE 1 - JUNE 2023**

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# SCOP ON WIDENER

# Are you ready for the Widener Pride Experience?

We're *ecstatic* you will be joining us this year! Let's discuss the kickoff to your college experience at Widener University.

The Pride Experience Orientation Program, an exciting series of introductory orientation programs, will guide you down a path toward collegiate success. All orientation programs are **required** for new and incoming first-year students.

Where can I park? What will my room be like? What classes can I take? When can I move in? Where can I hang out and relax? We're sure you will have many questions like these about attending Widener, and more!

Through the Pride Experience Orientation programs—as well as a **The Pride Guide**, an easy online orientation course, and a second edition of the SCOOP newsletter later this summer—we will address your questions, remind you of deadlines and key dates, and connect you with the departments you need.

What's next are some of the most memorable and formative years of your life. We look forward to supporting you every step of the way! See you soon.

#### Austin Duckett, M.S.

Assistant Dean of Students
Office of Student Engagement



#### **Next Steps**

In two short months, you will officially be a member of the Pride! As you begin your countdown, make sure to check out your Admissions

Portal on a weekly basis. This interactive, online portal contains useful information and important next steps in the new student process.



## In your Admissions Portal, you can...

- Complete your online housing application (resident students only)
- Choose a Pride 1: Summer Registration date
- Access your online Canvas orientation course
- Upload your Widener Campus
   ID Card photo
- Connect to health documentation
- View reminders to send your final, official high school transcript
- Add your favorite song to the Class of 2027 playlist
- Sign up for Optional Summer Programming
- Download your social media kit

## The Pride Experience: Registration, Orientation, and Other Programs

The Pride Experience Orientation Program will prepare you for a successful college experience at Widener University and introduce you to the tools needed to succeed academically and socially. Additionally, we'll help you and your family identify helpful campus resources designed to guide you through this important transition period.

#### There are two required parts of the Pride Experience:

- Pride Experience I: Summer Registration. During this required event, you will register for fall courses, meet new classmates, and learn more about campus life. Family members and other guests will experience their own set of orientation sessions that will introduce them to our services, our support systems, and the people who will help our students succeed academically and socially. Dates for the Pride Experience 1: Summer Registration Program are set for June 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, and 22. All orientation sessions begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude by 3:00 p.m. Please arrange your day to attend the entire program. If you haven't signed up to attend yet, please visit your Admissions Portal to register for a date. Dates are filling up fast and registration is honored on a first-come, first-served basis. For additional information about the program schedule, please visit widener.edu/new-students.
- Pride Experience II: Fall Orientation. This is our second required orientation program. Fall Orientation is scheduled for Wednesday, August 23 through Friday, August 25. Optional orientation programs will be held on Saturday, August 26 and Sunday, August 27. Classes begin on Monday, August 28. For additional information about the program schedule, please visit <a href="widnesday.html">widnesday.html</a> about the program schedule, please visit <a href="widnesday.html">widnesday.html</a> about the program schedule,

#### **Optional pre-orientation experiences include:**

• The 1821 Experience: The Office of Multicultural Student Affairs (MSA) invites new students to take this opportunity to ease into the Pride family by joining the 1821 Experience Pre-Orientation Program from August 18–22, 2023! Join your peers for five days of workshops, activities, and fun designed to assist new students with transitioning to college life and preparing for a successful undergraduate career. Move on campus early, meet new friends, explore campus, and connect with student leaders. Learn more about, "We're All Widener," an expression created by students that exemplifies the university's commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and respect for all members of the Pride community.

Earn one credit by getting an early start on your first-year seminar class with the 1821 Experience student cohort! Resident students participating in the 1821 Experience Pre-Orientation Program can also select to live in the 1821 Experience Living Learning Community (LLC) for your first year on campus. All students are welcome. International students, commuters, first-generation students, and students from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply!

The participation fee for the 1821 Experience Pre-Orientation Program is \$100.00. Space is limited, so please act soon. If you are approved to participate in the program, you will be notified by July 1 with additional details.

Have more questions about the program? Please contact Kortne Smith, Assistant Director of Multicultural Student Affairs by email at <a href="mailto:kasmith1@widener.edu">kasmith1@widener.edu</a>.

## 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. For additional information, please contact Kortne Smith, Assistant Director, by email at <a href="mailto:kasmithl@widener.edu">kasmithl@widener.edu</a>.
- **First-Year Seminar:** A one-credit freshman seminar course that covers a variety of topics related to becoming a successful student.

### Preparing for your Academic Advising Session

Academic success is the hallmark of a Widener student! Let's set you up for success! During the Pride Experience I: Summer Registration program this summer, each student will have an opportunity to meet with an academic advisor and schedule their courses for the fall semester. In order to successfully register for courses, please refer to your <u>Admissions Portal</u> for additional information on the following important next steps.

- 1) Activate your Widener University student email account.
- 2) Review your Academic Advising Preparation course in Canvas. Review and print (if needed) your course advising planning sheet (if applicable). Review your ASC 101 Program choices in Module 3 of your Academic Advising course.
- 3) Review your Student Planning software tutorial (you will use this software to submit your course selections).

#### Need more information about the ASC 101 Program?

Foundations and Transformations is Widener's general education curriculum. It is designed to work with your major to spark curiosity, challenge your mind, and power your personal and academic growth. The first course in this program is **ASC 101: Thinking Through**.

Choose from over 30 course topics to explore during the fall semester of your first year at Widener. During the course, you'll have an opportunity to examine a pressing question — one that focuses on an intriguing, yet complex issue, without a simple answer, like: How do we make change? What makes a revolution revolutionary? How do we make choices about the food that we eat? How do group identities come into conflict and how can we resolve it? How have social media and technology influenced our relationship with the natural world?

There is so much more! Sound interesting? Come to Pride Experience I ready to choose your course and question. A full list of course topics is available in your Academic Advising Preparation course in Canvas. Your academic advisor can help you choose the course that best fits your interests and schedule.

### Living on and Commuting to Campus

We recognize — and research supports — that undergraduate students thrive academically and socially when living on campus in community with their peers. On-campus living engages students in co-curricular activities, cultivates a sense of belonging, helps foster independence, and supports the development of skills essential to academic success.

For that reason, Widener requires that traditional, full-time undergraduate students live on campus during their **first two years of study**, unless they are living at their permanent address with their parents or guardians.

If you do not register for on-campus housing as a first- or second-year student, we consider you to be a commuter student living at your permanent residence with a parent or guardian. Commuter students may qualify for less financial aid and may be ineligible for some Widener aid programs, including the Campus Experience Grant.

Married students, students with dependent children, students with at least two years of military service, and students 24 years or older are exempt from this policy.

For additional information on residential life policies, please consult the **University Student**Handbook

## Student Accessibility Services

To request academic or housing accommodations due to a disability, please visit the website for the Office of Student Accessibility Services. On this site, you can submit your request for an accommodation along with supporting documentation from a treatment or evaluation provider.

If you have any questions about this process or what accommodations are available, please contact the Office of Student Accessibility Services:

520 E. 14th Street • Chester, PA 19013 610-499-1266 phone • 610-499-1192 fax disabilities@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 as space and resources allow.



## 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 classes, 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 or email us at enrollmentservices@widener.edu.

You can also follow on Twitter: @LipkaHall

#### **Paying Your Bill**

#### The **Enrollment Services website**

provides details on the services that we provide and has information for parents, including billing information and links for paying online.

#### Bills are sent electronically.

The payment due dates for the 2023–2024 academic year are as follows:

- Fall Semester 2023
   e-Bill Due Date: August 10, 2023
- Spring Semester 2024 e-Bill Due Date: January 16, 2024

#### Campus1Card

You can now create your student ID card at home. Please visit your Admissions
Portal to create your account and submit your photo online. You will receive your student ID card when you arrive to campus in August.

## Proud to be tobacco-free

Widener University's campuses are completely tobacco-free. This includes parking lots and all outdoor spaces.



#### Directions:

#### 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 E 14th St. into the main entrance of the university.

From Philadelphia: Take I-95 South to Exit 7 (I-476 N toward Plymouth Meeting). Take the MacDade Blvd. exit, Exit 1. Keep left to take the MacDade Blvd. West ramp. Merge onto MacDade Blvd., which becomes E 22nd St. Turn left onto Providence Ave/PA-320. Turn left onto E 14th St.

From Western & Northern Pennsylvania: Follow the Pennsylvania Turnpike to Exit 333, I-476. Take I-476 South to Exit 1, MacDade Blvd. exit. Keep right to take the MacDade Blvd. West ramp. Merge onto MacDade Blvd., which becomes E 22nd St. Turn left onto Providence Ave/PA-320. Turn left onto E 14th St.

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 E 14th St. into the main entrance of the university.

From Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Follow I-76 East (exiting the Pennsylvania Turnpike at Valley Forge) to Exit 331A (I-476 South). Take I-476 South to Exit 1, MacDade Blvd. Turn right onto MacDade Blvd., which becomes E 22nd St. Turn left onto Providence Ave/PA 320. Turn left onto E 14th St.

**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. Merge onto I-476 N via Exit 7 toward Plymouth Meeting. Take EXIT 1, MacDade Blvd. Keep right to take the MacDade Blvd. West ramp. Merge onto MacDade Blvd., which becomes E 22nd St. Turn left onto Providence Ave/PA-320. Turn left onto E 14th St.

If you are navigating with a GPS, use this address: 1341 Melrose Avenue, Chester, PA 19013.

