

SCOOP

ON WIDENER

CONTENTS

- Important Dates 1
- Tips for Move-In Day 2
- Orientation Program Overview 2
- Campus Arrival Instructions..... 2
- Commuting to Campus..... 3
- Parking at Widener 3
- Technology on Campus..... 3
- No Car? No Problem! 3
- Important Dates for Residential Students 3
- Join Us on Presence 4
- Last-Minute Reminders 4



Your Journey as a Widener Student Continues...

We can't wait to officially welcome you to Widener University. 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, you'll find a wealth of helpful information and key dates to ensure you successfully arrive on campus.

Calendar Preview

Wednesday, August 23	New Student Move-In Day—starting at 8:30 a.m.
Friday, August 25	Academic Convocation and New Student Advising Day
Friday, August 25	Returning Student Move-In; concludes August 26
Sunday, August 27	Welcome Back Bash at 3:00 p.m.
Monday, August 28	First Day of Classes
Wednesday, August 30	Student Involvement Fair at 11:00 a.m.
Monday, September 4	No classes—Labor Day
Tuesday, September 5	Last day to drop or add classes
Friday, October 13	Homecoming weekend begins; concludes October 14
Monday, October 23	No classes—Fall Break; classes resume October 25
Monday, November 6	Registration for spring 2024 classes begins
Thursday, November 23	No classes—Thanksgiving Holiday Break; classes resume on November 27
Monday, December 11	Final exams begin; conclude on December 15

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. The Office of Residence Life will release additional information about this process.

Tips for Move-In Day

Coordinate with your roommate.

Contact your roommate to coordinate the items you're bringing to avoid duplicates in the room. We also recommend planning the timing of your arrival to campus. By staggering your arrivals, you can help create enough space to set up your room more efficiently.

Label items for move in. On move-in day, many volunteers will assist with carrying your items into your room. We recommend labeling items with your last name, building, and room number to expedite moving in.

Bring a small toolbox. Many items you may bring to campus will require assembly. A toolbox with a screwdriver, hammer, and other useful tools will make the setup more seamless.

Bring lots of command hooks.

Command hooks are a great way to hang up items in your room and gain additional storage. The Velcro options work great on all walls and do not cause wall damage.

Pack essentials in a separate bag.

Packing and organizing a room can take a bit of time. We recommend packing an essentials bag, including water and light snacks, a phone charger, toiletries, and tools to help make the unpacking process more comfortable.

Keep clothes on hangers. All students will have a wardrobe in their room with space to hang clothing. We recommend keeping clothes you intend to hang grouped together on hangers in a garment bag or in a trash bag for easy transfer to your wardrobe.

Bring a small fan. While many of our residential communities are air-conditioned, move-in day tends to be warmer as our residents move items into the halls. A small fan may help circulate air in your room during this transition period, making it more comfortable.

Check your Widener email. In early August, the Residence Life team will email move-in times and information to students through their Widener University emails. Each student is provided a move-in window to help ease the traffic on move-in day. Additional information and instructions to sign up for the Drop n' Go program on August 19 and 20 will also be included.



The Pride Experience Orientation Program

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

Pride Experience I: Summer Registration. Held on **June 13-15** and **June 20-22**. During this time, students connected with their academic advisors to register for fall classes, met upperclassmen student leaders, and began preparation for the fall semester. If you still need to register for your fall classes, contact the Orientation Team at orientation@widener.edu.

Pride Experience II: Fall Orientation. Our second required orientation program is scheduled for Wednesday, August 23–Friday, August 25. Campus Move-In Day for new undergraduate students will begin on Wednesday, August 23 at 8:30 a.m. **For additional information, including a tentative schedule, please visit widener.edu/new-students.**

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

PRIDE Mentoring Program: The PRIDE Mentoring Program (PMP) is operated by the Multicultural Student Affairs (MSA) Office. The purpose of the program is to provide new students (protégés) with on-going support and guidance to help navigate Widener University. This is implemented by assigning you an upperclassmen mentor, offering workshops, social activities, and other personal development opportunities. You can sign up to be a PRIDE Protege.

Each protege is assigned a PRIDE Mentor for their entire first year at Widener! PRIDE Mentors are upperclassmen and MSA student leaders who volunteer to serve as a resource. Workshops focus on developing skills for a successful college experience, including topics such as time management, study skills, health and wellness, etc. This program is a great opportunity to get connected and build a network throughout the university.

If you are seeking a smooth transition to Widener, the PRIDE Mentoring Program is definitely for you! Follow PMP on Instagram: [@widener_pmp](https://www.instagram.com/widener_pmp). If you have any questions or would like more information, contact Ms. Kortne Smith Assistant Director, Multicultural Student Affairs at kasmith1@widener.edu.

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

Campus Arrival Instructions

The New Student Orientation Program will begin on Wednesday, August 23, 2023 for all new undergraduate students. Attendance is required. The program will conclude on Friday, August 25, 2023.

Commuter students will check in from 3:30–4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 23 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 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 23 in the University Center Atrium.

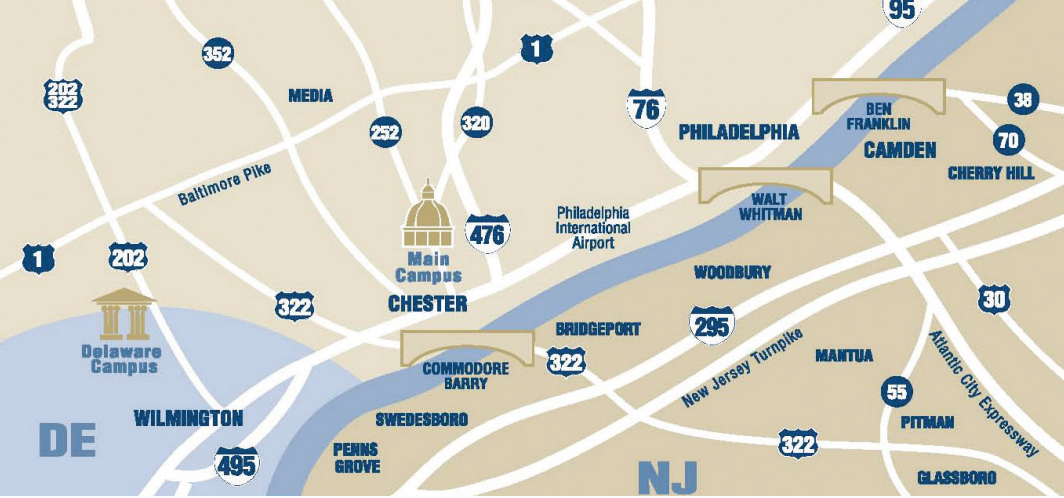
Move-in instructions will be sent to your official Widener University email account in early August from the Office of Residence Life. Students are assigned their move-in time by their residential neighborhood and building areas.

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 temporarily parking in the designated lot, students will walk to the University Center Main Atrium to check in and 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.

For more information: widener.edu/new-students/fall-orientation.



Commuting to Campus

Commuters are welcome and strongly encouraged to take advantage of all Widener University has to offer: academic and support resources, 70+ student clubs and organizations, athletic and recreational programs, career services, study and relaxation lounges across campus, several dining facilities, 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 Center to learn more.

Commuter students will check in on **Wednesday, August 23 at 3:30 p.m.** in the University Center Atrium to begin the Orientation Program.

Parking at Widener

Parking permits are required in order to park in campus-owned parking lots for the 2023–2024 academic year. Parking permits can be purchased at the following website: widener.arms.app/parking

The parking permit store will go online on July 5, 2023. Students will be notified when the store opens via e-mail. Purchased permits are automatically charged to your student account and can be paid for through the Bursars Office. Five days after the purchase date, parking permits charges will be posted to your account. Also at that time, permits will be mailed out or available for pick up. There is a two-week grace period at the beginning of the semester to acquire parking permits before parking citations are issued. Parking permits are valid starting **August 1, 2023–August 1, 2024**. For additional information or questions, you can contact the Parking Office by emailing parking@widener.edu.

Technology on Campus

Library and Information Services (LIS), IT Division offers members of the university community technology support around the clock in various ways:

- Call 610-499-1047 to speak with a Client Experience (CX) specialist day or night, or submit a QuickTicket at quickticket.widener.edu.
- Do you prefer in-person support? The Technology Support Center (TSC) 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 on my.widener.edu**. Location: Main floor, Wolfgram Library.
- Need Canvas support? You have 24/7 Canvas support by calling 1-844-865-8963 or **initiating a chat**. In addition, check out the resource pages (Students: Learn How to Use Canvas, Need Technical Assistance?, and Widener University Resources & Policies) in the “Modules” section in all of your courses.
- For technology discounts and free offers: <https://sites.widener.edu/service-catalog/discounts-and-free-offers-2>

Wireless Internet access is available throughout campus. Students are required to register their wireless devices.

No Car? No Problem!

Campus Safety 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—Route 109 on Providence Road and Route 113 on Melrose Avenue—are close to campus. Visit septa.org for additional information.

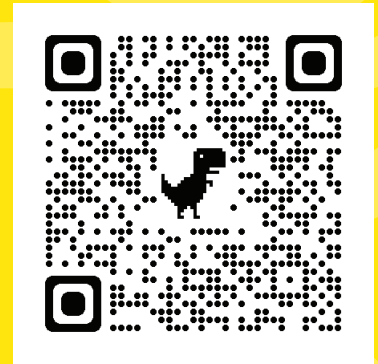
Important Dates for Residential Students

July 31: Last day to request a housing release for students wishing to commute with a \$250 cancellation fee; priority deadline for micro-fridge rentals to have in rooms for move-in day on August 23.

August 18: Transfer student move-in day.

August 19-20: Drop n' Go program for new students who sign-up to participate in early August.

August 23: New student move-in day during a time slot sent in early August.



Scan to view residence life resources

Contest alert!

Residential students: as you gear up for your arrival to Widener, be sure to bring your unique dorm décor to participate in our Residence Hall Photo & Video Contest.

Commuter students: you can also join the fun by sharing your favorite spots around campus.

Don't miss your chance to unleash your creativity and compete for exciting prizes including Amazon gift cards and exclusive Widener swag.

DON'T MISS OUT! JOIN US ON PRESENCE TODAY!

Make your presence known from day one by getting engaged and experiencing Widener! We are excited to connect you with Experience Widener by Presence, an online student engagement platform designed to make it easier for both undergraduate and graduate students to get involved and stay connected.

Experience Widener by Presence is a one-stop shop for all things student involvement, including a:

- Centralized calendar of student events and activities
- Dedicated portal for student clubs and organizations. Join an organization and connect with students who have shared interests.
- Spot for student organizations to track events and attendance, manage organization finances, and evaluate the success of their programs and events
- Dedicated space to participate in specialized programs, including leadership development programs, service learning experiences, and much more!
- Mobile app to help you find out what events are happening on campus

All new and incoming students have access to Experience Widener. 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 you check out on Presence:

- Academic organizations for specific majors
- Black Men United
- Black Student Union
- Commuter Student Association
- Fraternity & Sorority Life organizations
- Honors organizations
- Latinos Unidos
- Pride Activities Council
- Residence Hall Association
- Student Government Association

To learn more about our student clubs and organizations, please contact the Office of Student Engagement by calling 610-499-4411, emailing studentengagement@widener.edu, or visiting our office located on the ground level of the University Center.

A Few Last-Minute Reminders

- 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 email 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 immunizations, IGRA blood test requirements, and athletic physical exam forms were due to Student Health Services by **June 26** to remain in good standing.
- 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.** To do so, visit your Admissions Portal. If applicable, also 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 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 online student engagement platform, Presence, will be a valuable resource. 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, and managing your student ID card.

If you have any questions about any of these services, please call us at 610-499-4161, email 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 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 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

Widener University

One University Place, Chester, PA 19013
1-888-WIDENER www.widener.edu