

West Virginia University
Parent Electronic News
August 6, 2009

August is here, and move-in day is approaching in just two short weeks! WVU and Morgantown are preparing to welcome back over 28,000 students for our fall semester. Whether you are preparing for your students to come to WVU for the first time or sending them off for their senior year, this edition of Parent E-News provides you with information regarding move-in day for students on and off campus, transportation developments on campus, and more.

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MOVE-IN DETAILS

UPPERCLASSMEN RETURNING TO TOWN

The Housing Office has worked closely with the City of Morgantown, WVU Police Department, and faculty and staff to establish the most efficient process for move-in day. Many upperclassmen live off campus and will be returning to town for the fall term in the coming weeks as well. We encourage off-campus students to AVOID moving back to town on Friday, August 21. If your student will be in town that day, please remind them that this is on-campus move-in day and they should avoid unnecessary trips to and from campus areas or use alternate means of transportation, such as the Mountain Line buses or PRT.

LOADING AND UNLOADING AT RESIDENCE HALLS

On Friday, August 21, new students who will be living in the residence halls will be moving in to their new homes. People who attended New Student Orientation on or before June 10 should plan to move in from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. New students who attended Orientation on or after June 11 should plan to move in from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Students attending August Orientation should have received information in the mail about their residence hall move-in process.

Residence hall students will be receiving information in the mail from the Housing Office with specific directions to the residence halls and info about parking. The mailing is set to go out at the end of this week/beginning of next week, so be looking for that in the near future. When your family arrives near the residence hall, University police officers will be directing traffic and can answer questions about when and where to park. Again, additional Parents Club parking passes will be on hand in the residence halls if you do not have one or forget yours.

Be prepared to unload your car quickly in front of the residence hall, and leave one member of your family there with the belongings while someone parks the car. Returning students known as "Hot Shots" will assist with the move-in process. If you own a moving cart or a dolly and can fit it in the car, bring it. You'll be glad you did. For more on move-in day, go to: <http://www.wvu.edu/Redirect/?id=1096>.

If your son or daughter is living in the residence halls for the first time and has questions about what to bring (and what not to bring), check out <http://www.wvu.edu/Redirect/?id=1097>. This page contains a ton of useful information, and can help your family as you think through the move to WVU.

MOVE-IN TRAFFIC NOTICES

As Morgantown prepares for the return of students in the coming weeks we work in conjunction with the city and county municipalities to ensure as smooth of a transition as possible. This year, as last year, police officers from both the West Virginia University Police Department and Morgantown City Police Department will be working traffic control outside of WVU residence halls and at strategic intersections on the Downtown and Evansdale campuses. We anticipate the most traffic congestion to occur Friday, August 21, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. We will work to get you to your designated location as quickly as possible. Your patience and understanding during this hectic time of the year will be appreciated.

PARENTS CLUB MOVE-IN PARKING PERMITS REMINDER

As a reminder, special parking permits for members of the Mountaineer Parents Club were mailed during the week of July 27-31. The mailing included the move-in and move-out parking passes. If for some reason you haven't received your permit prior to departing for WVU don't despair . . . extra permits will be available at the front desk of every residence hall, at the WVU Visitors Resource Center, and at the Mountainlair Information Desk.

Please note the instructions/limitations on the back of the pass. The Morgantown and WVU Police departments will honor this parking pass on city streets while you load/unload your vehicle, as long as it is not parked in a manner that will impede traffic or cause an unsafe circumstance. Please realize that these passes do not entitle you to park your vehicle in an area designated as a private parking lot or in the Mountainlair Garage so be sure to follow the guidelines set forth! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the Mountaineer Parents Club at parentsclub@mail.wvu.edu. Welcome families!

TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING AT WVU

There have been some exciting developments and some important changes with transportation and parking at WVU that your students will find when they return to campus. First, there are exciting developments in WVU's WE GO! program that promotes alternative transportation and reducing parking demand in the Morgantown area. Next, there are changes to our parking regulations and citation rates. Please pass on this information to students to help them avoid tickets and towing!

WE GO! PROMOTING ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

WE GO! is the Department of Transportation and Parking's campaign promoting alternative transportation and reducing parking demand in the Morgantown area. This campaign works hand in hand with the WE CAN program (WVU's Environmental Conservation Awareness Now). WE GO! provides on-campus residents, commuter students and University employees options for getting to and around campus. Besides the use of free Mountain Line and PRT services and the continued development of bicycling and safer pedestrian pathways, WE GO! is offering carpool and car-share programs that will reduce congestion and pollution, while saving students money. WE GO! includes the following:

WE Car - This car-sharing program will allow users who may not have a car at school access to a car on a short-term, hourly rental basis. The cars will be hybrid vehicles, and two cars will be located on the downtown and Evansdale campuses. Users will be charged an hourly fee for the use of the car, which has no limit. To use this convenient program, you must pre-enroll online.

Carpool - This is an online carpool matching service for students/employees who have the same commute areas and times. It includes information on commute cost savings, emission benefits, and mapping that shows the locations of other potential passengers for your carpool. The software enables students to collaborate with others using Facebook.com. The parking arrangements are for the students and other carpoolers to figure out. Students can register for this program and software on the Web at the Transportation and Parking website.

Bicycle Racks - While the hills provide a challenge to those wanting to ride bikes, the University, in conjunction with the Morgantown Bicycle Board, is looking at new ways

to encourage bicycles as a viable mode of transportation. Students can contact the Morgantown Bicycle Board with suggestions on ways to get bicycles in the transportation flow. In September, WVU will be providing students with free bicycle training focused on riding in an urban environment. More information on this training will be available during WVU's Transportation Week in early September.

The carpool and car-sharing programs, as well as more attention to bikes and pedestrians, are designed to provide an option for getting around campus and Morgantown. These programs will also help in decreasing transportation costs, increasing air quality, and reducing traffic congestion.

For more information on these new programs, please call the Department of Transportation and Parking at 304-293-5502 or visit the website at <http://www.wvu.edu/Redirect/?id=1098>.

CHANGES IN PARKING REGULATIONS

Beginning July 1, 2009, there were several changes in the Parking Rules and Regulations.

First, all citation rates with the exception of expired permit and improper display of a permit increased from \$10 and \$15 to \$20 per citation.

Second, short-term parking rates increased from \$.75 to \$1.00 per hour in the Mountainlair garage and from \$.50 to \$.75 per hour in all other short-term lots.

Third, towing in short-term lots is allowed for persons with ten or more unpaid citations.

Finally, effective September 1st, there will be an increase in the parking permit rate for students that purchase an on-campus parking permit. The new rate for surfaced parking is \$147 per semester and remote student parking at \$103 per semester. Students that purchase their permit before September 1st will still fall under the old rate and parking in the Coliseum lot is still free.

The purpose of the rate increases is to provide a more effective deterrent to illegal parking on our campus, protect parking for those persons who have purchased a parking permit, and increase the efficiency of our short-term lots. Funds generated from these increases will be used to provide increased maintenance of our parking lots and fund new WE GO! programs that encourage people to leave their car at home.

UNIVERSITY WELCOME FOR INCOMING FRESHMEN

For parents of incoming freshmen, please remind your students to attend the University Welcome event on Sunday, August 23. The event will begin at 2:00 p.m. at the WVU Coliseum, with an information fair to precede the presentation. The University Welcome is a required student-only event for incoming freshmen and transfer students with fewer than 29 credit hours. For more info, visit: <http://www.wvu.edu/Redirect/?id=1099>.

MORGANTOWN BANKS, ATMs, CELL PHONE PROVIDERS, AND GROCERY STORES

Moving to a new area can often leave you with questions about services or retailers that will be available in your student's new home. So you can get acquainted with some of these options, I want to highlight a webpage that the Office of Student Life pulls together as a quick listing of service providers that can be found in the Morgantown community. For a list of key service providers and their contact numbers you may go to: <http://www.wvu.edu/Redirect/?id=1100>.

Many retailers will be hosting booths during move-in weekend at their retail locations for new students to sign up for services. This site provides a listing, but generally we do not tout one company over another. If you have questions about what services work well, we have found that parents and students find it helpful to inquire with others from your local area or other students on campus to find the best options. For instance, certain areas have better luck with certain cell phone services, or certain banks may have home branches close to you or offer lower/no ATMs fees, so you may wish to check with upperclassmen or veteran parents from your area for pointers.

ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION FOR INSURANCE AND OTHER PURPOSES

Your student may need enrollment verification for various purposes, while in college. To aid in receiving verification, the Office of the University Registrar at West Virginia University is pleased to announce a new service available to your student. Enrollment verifications (used for loan deferment, health insurance, etc.) are now available on your student's MIX/STAR account. These requests were previously completed by a representative in the Registrar's Office and normally took three to five business days to complete because of the high volume of requests we receive. Now your student can receive an enrollment verification in a matter of seconds! Please pass this information on to your student so they will know of this new, convenient method.

Your student can follow the steps below to log in to the National Student Clearinghouse website and print the enrollment verification form(s):

- 1) Log in to MIX at <http://www.wvu.edu/Redirect/?id=1101>
- 2) At Secure Access Login enter User Name and Password. Click Login button
- 3) Click STAR tab
- 4) Click on the link "Click here to enter STAR"
- 5) Click "Student Services, Housing, and Financial Aid"
- 6) Click "Registration"
- 7) Click "Request NSC Enrollment Verification"
- 8) Click "Go to National Clearinghouse Site" button. You are now directed to the National Student Clearinghouse website. Review the options and make your selection. After a selection has been made, print.

If your student doesn't know their MIX/STAR log-in information, they can come to the Office of the University Registrar in Colson Hall for assistance (photo ID required). The Office of the University Registrar would like to wish all of our students best wishes for the fall semester!

MOUNTAINEER ACADEMIC PROGRAM (MAP) FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Mountaineer Academic Program (MAP) is currently enrolling students for the fall 2009 semester. The Mountaineer Academic Program is a fee-for-service academic enrichment program that assists students with disabilities at WVU. The services provided by MAP include academic tutoring and coaching. Academic tutoring is provided to students on a one-on-one basis and provides tutoring for students in both specific content areas and in basic study skills. Academic coaching provides students with one-on-one support with an academic coach to assist in acquiring academic, time management organization and study skills. These skills are needed by all students to be successful in the college environment. In order to best serve your student's needs, MAP has varying options and levels of services. Space in this program is limited, and students are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. To learn more about MAP services or how MAP can assist your student, visit our website at

<http://www.wvu.edu/Redirect/?id=1102> or contact Derek Fincham, MAP Academic Coach, at 304 293-7752 or via e-mail at mountaineeracademicprogram@mail.wvu.edu.

REMOVAL FROM THE LISTSERV AND MOUNTAINEER PARENTS CLUB

If you wish to be removed from the Parent E-Newsletter Listserv and the Mountaineer Parents Club, please simply reply to this e-mail. Please include your name, your student's name and, if you'd like, your reason for requesting removal (i.e., student graduated, student transferred, etc.). You may also call the Mountaineer Parents Club directly at 304-293-2506 to make this request.

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