

Parent Electronic News
West Virginia University
March 8, 2019

As clocks prepare to spring forward this weekend with daylight savings time, our students are also fully ready to head out for spring break! As a reminder, residence halls close today, Friday, March 8 at 7 p.m. and reopen at noon on Sunday, March 17: <http://bit.ly/SpBrkHrs>. I heard back from many of you in the last Parent E-news about some great adventures that your students will be embarking on from Medical and Dental Brigades, to a mom/daughter 21st birthday cruise, ATVing adventures on the Hatfield/McCoy trails, or roommate trips to ski and visit new places on the west coast! But a student last week summed it up for many others. He said he was headed home for break and since he goes to school so far from home, he was really looking forward to the visit – as I know many of you are. No matter where spring break plans lead, please remind your students to have fun and stay safe!

Regarding safety, we have also included some *Safety Updates* below based on the WVU emergency alerts that were issued Wednesday. Please see the following update from President Gee regarding HB 2519, the Campus Self Defense Act – otherwise known as Campus Carry – that we alerted you to in the last Parent E-News. The West Virginia Senate recently voted to end consideration on this bill: <http://bit.ly/GeeHB2519>.

Additionally, as promised, please see the *All Things Summer Term* section below for details on summer term classes, housing options, parking, billing updates and many other great programs such as Summer Boost for students who may need to use summer to get back on track. And for the *Parents of our Incoming Students* – New Student Orientation registration is now open; NSO will run the entire month of June. Details and registration info follow for this and much more, so read on. Think Spring (it is right around the corner!) In this edition:

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- Housing options for next year: University Apartments
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Safety Updates

Wednesday WVU issued a series of text alerts due to an incident off campus that was being handled by neighboring law enforcement agencies. This caused some questions, so we wanted to try to help clarify processes.

As a reminder, students are automatically added to the WVU Alert system as entering freshmen to get weather and emergency alerts such as the ones issued Wednesday. These are issued by

WVU Police and are meant to give quick, immediate details. Students are able to opt out (though this is not advised.) Students can also add their parents or a parent can request to be added to their student's account. PLEASE NOTE: If phone numbers change for you or your student, these should be updated at the WVU Alert site so you continue receiving alerts: <http://bit.ly/AlertsWVU>.

Depending on the agency in charge, follow-up details may be found from various units or agencies who operate in this area – WVU Police, Morgantown Police, Monongalia County Sheriff's Department, West Virginia State Police, or others. For more on the recent incident, see: <http://bit.ly/MPDUpdate>. Information will also be posted as it is confirmed on appropriate official University social media accounts: Twitter, @WestVirginiaU, @WVUPD, @WVUToday; Facebook: WVU Mountaineers page, <http://bit.ly/WVUPDFacebook>

Mountaineer Card-related Downtime over Break

Though students will be gone on spring break, we wanted to let you know that Mountaineer Card-related services, including the MyMountaineerCard website, will be unavailable from 12:01 a.m. Sunday, March 10 until 5 p.m. Thursday, March 14 while we do important work on the underlying system. Students won't be able to purchase or change meal plans and parents and students can't make Mountie Bounty deposits, or check balances until the work is finished. For more: <http://bit.ly/ITDowntime>

Housing options for next year: University Apartments

Has your student secured housing for next year? They can learn more about College Park and University Park Apartments – both are communities owned and managed by WVU – at “pop-up” open houses. Students can take a tour of the communities, sign a lease and enjoy free food and giveaways – each student taking a tour will be entered into a drawing to win a TV. The College Park open house is scheduled for today, March 8 from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Students who sign a lease at College Park during the open house will be entered into win a Nintendo Switch. The University Park Open House is scheduled for March 21 and March 22 from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Students who sign a lease during the open house will be entered into a drawing to win an iPad Pro. Want to know more about University Apartments? Floor plans, amenities and more are available at their [website](#).

Cheer on the Mountaineers over Spring Break!

Many Mountaineer athletic teams are hitting the courts, mats, track and field or diving in throughout the country over the next week as part of various [NCAA championships](#). Others kick off or continue their seasons, such as baseball, rowing and tennis. This is a great chance to check out the calendars <http://bit.ly/AthCalendar> and head out with your student to cheer on the Mountaineers in your hometowns!

We would be remiss if we didn't give a shout out to our Mountaineer Rifle Team, who will be playing host to the [2019 NCAA Rifle Championships](#) for the first time in program history here in Morgantown, today and tomorrow, March 8-9. WVU is the nation's winningest team, having won 19 NCAA Championships, including five straight from 2013-17. Tickets are on sale [online](#) and at Mountaineer Ticket Office at 1-800-WVUGAME. The two-day competition will be held at the WVU Coliseum. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults, \$5 for youth 18 and under and \$5 for groups of 10 or more.

Spring Suit-Up Event – March 24

WVU Career Services and JCPenney are partnering again for the [WVU Suit-Up Event](#) designed to help students dress for success and jump start their careers. This private event on Sunday, March 24, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. provides students deep discounts on career and professional attire at our local JCPenney store. WVU students will receive an EXTRA 40% discount with a valid school ID on men's and women's career dress apparel, accessories, and shoes, including those items already marked on sale. Students should register in advance at the link above.

New Mountaineer and Student Leadership named

Recently we have named the new [Mountaineer Mascot](#) and elections were held for the new [Student Government Association](#) leadership. Congrats to all those stepping forward to represent our students and University!

ALL THINGS SUMMER TERM– Comprehensive Summer Details

Summer Term Registration Open

Students may register up through the first day of classes, as long as space remains. WVU Summer Term is ideal for students who want to focus on challenging courses, take on campus or online classes to get ahead or graduate faster, add or complete a minor online, take General Education Foundation (GEF) courses, or who want to enrich their educational experience with WVU's Study Abroad program. The summer course schedule is flexible, with classes offered in 3, 6, 9 and 12-week increments. Students interested in taking summer term courses should talk to their adviser to see how they can benefit from [WVU's Summer Term](#). Please note that students who register for summer classes, but later decide not to attend, need to drop the courses by the first day of each class to avoid charges.

Summer BOOST Program

Students who may have hit an academic road bump this year can apply for this special [Summer Boost](#) program designed to get them back on track. By enrolling in on-campus courses this summer, participants will have access to dedicated tutors, success coaches and advising. Those who successfully complete their courses will be eligible for a summer stipend valued up to the 30 percent of WVU tuition.

Summer Charges and Payment Deadlines

If your student is registered for summer classes (these have been open for registration since November and are still available for registration), they will receive an eBill notification in their student MIX email on April 4 if they have a balance due. The eBill will provide additional information about payment deadlines and options or parents/students can visit <http://bit.ly/WVUBilling> after April 4 for information on billing deadlines and payment for summer 2019.

Summer School Housing

WVU's residence halls will offer [summer school housing](#) on the Morgantown campus. Housing will be available in Oakland Hall while the student is enrolled in summer classes.

[University Apartments](#) also has some limited summer leases available. Students should e-mail UniversityApartments@mail.wvu.edu with the dates they will need summer housing to receive a list of available properties, options and details.

Summer meal plan information announced

Three different meal plans will be offered by WVU Dining Services for Summer Term 2019. Plans will range from Summer 20 (\$186.60), Summer 40 (\$364.80) or Summer 80 (\$695.20). Each plan allows that number of swipes of the student's choice with no daily limit of use. The summer dining plans, offered for students living on or off campus, will be available for use from Monday, May 13 through Friday, Aug. 2. April 1 is the first day dining plans will be available for purchase. Plans will be available for purchase by students through their MyMountaineerCard system: <http://bit.ly/SummerDine>.

For questions about summer meal plans, contact WVU Dining at 304-293-3166.

Student Parking Summer Permits Available

Beginning Monday April 1, 2019 ,WVU Parking Management will begin selling [summer student parking permits](#) for summer semester 2019. Summer permits will be valid from May 13 - August 9, 2019. Permits are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. The student must be registered for classes and have all citations paid. Students should visit Mountaineer Station, located at 1112 Van Voorhis Road, to purchase permits. 304-293-5502

Summer Tips: Classes at Another Institution

If your student will be taking class(es) back home or at another institution over the summer, there are steps that need to be taken in advance to ensure that the credits will transfer back to WVU correctly. Students can access all necessary information for approving transient work by clicking on the "Transfer Credits" button in their WVU Portal or at the [WVU Transient](#) site.

The process is initiated when a student fills out the Transient Request and emails it to his or her adviser. The adviser must make sure that the courses requested for transient approval have been evaluated for equivalency at WVU. Remember that courses that have not yet been evaluated will not be approved. Once the adviser has checked the Transient Application for accuracy, they submit the request for final review. The appropriate dean's office will then approve, hold or deny the application. Students are notified via email of any decisions.

When the class is completed, students must make sure that transcripts are sent to WVU Admissions so the credits will officially transfer. If this class will serve as a prerequisite for a fall class, it is important to have a final transcript sent back quickly to make sure students are not removed from an up-and-upcoming class due to a missing prerequisite. If your student has any questions, they can speak with their adviser or email transfercredit@mail.wvu.edu.

Career Prep Summer Plans

If you are waiting for your student to lock in their summer internship or first full-time job, there is still time to make the most of it. You are probably wondering what you can do to assist your son or daughter; here are some suggestions to share:

Network – Reach out to family, friends, or alumni who work at a company of interest to see what is out there.

Get Experience – There are many opportunities to develop transferable skills through traditional summer jobs. It is important to value your experiences and be ready to tell potential employers how you can add value to their company.

Develop a Skill – Summer is a great time to focus on the things you have been putting off, for example, learning some new Excel formula or brushing up on a foreign language.

Volunteer – Approach volunteer opportunities as if you're applying for a job; you never know how much you may gain from the experience of giving back.

Hopefully when your student heads back to school in the fall and someone asks, "What did you do this summer?" they will have plenty to talk about. For more information on making a meaningful summer, contact the [WVU Career Services Center](mailto:careerservices@mail.wvu.edu): 304-293-2221
careerservices@mail.wvu.edu | Monday-Friday, 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

By Sarah Steenrod. *Courtesy of the [National Association of Colleges and Employers](#)*

Study Abroad this Summer

It is not too late to study abroad this summer! Applications for [Summer 2019 faculty-led programs](#) remain open until April 1.

PARENTS OF INCOMING STUDENTS – Helpful Resources for Common Questions

The Families of the Class of 2023 Facebook page provides a resource for you to virtually meet other families with students looking to enter WVU this fall. If you have not already joined, feel free to search for the page and join today. Below is some more info on some recent topics and some quick resources that we are seeing being discussed on the page.

June New Student Orientation Registration Open – If your student will be entering WVU this fall, New Student Orientation (NSO) is one of the final steps in the enrollment process. Registration has opened for these daily sessions that run the entire month of June. Students will learn about financial aid, housing, pick up their student ID, register for their fall classes and leave with their schedule in hand as well as find answers to any questions. There is a parallel parent program that we welcome and encourage parents and family members to attend. Have your student [register today](#).

Housing Living-Learning Communities – Help your student find their niche! At West Virginia University, learning doesn't stop when your student leaves the classroom. Housing and Residence Life offers [Living-Learning Communities](#) (LLCs) that allow them to become immersed in their passions and build a network of friends and professors who can help them land internships and find jobs, all while keeping them on track to graduate. And there's a community for everyone. From artists to engineers to innovators to health professionals. Students make their selection during the housing application process.

Where is Everyone From – People often wonder where new Mountaineers are coming from, and we know this topic has been very popular on the Families of the Class of 2023 Facebook page. Often our students wonder the same about their classmates. Regardless of an incoming student's original home, WVU offers a unique opportunity to support incoming Mountaineers in embracing West Virginia as their new home. Through the [Adventure WV First-Year Trips](#), students are given the opportunity to visit iconic locations throughout the state, to learn the ins and outs of life at WVU, and also (and perhaps most importantly) to form bonds and friendships with other incoming students. First-Year Trips are \$95 or free for students who are Pell Grant-eligible; students can also earn one academic credit. Encourage your student to check out the Adventure WV First-Year Trips today.

/Katie Gallagher and Lisa Hanselman

Office of Parent Relations

West Virginia University

