Happy Veteran’s Day and thank you to all those WVU Parents who may have served! As we have turned the corner into November we have just four weeks of classes before Finals Week, December 16-20, meaning this is also a good time for a reminder on Winter Weather Procedures as we prep for colder temps and some snow in the forecast – see below. Regarding enrollment and class registration, two important dates are coming up for students on Nov. 19 (last day to drop individual classes or withdraw from fall term) and Nov. 30 (last day for continuing students to register for at least one spring 2020 class to avoid $50 late registration fee.) Also toward the end of this week spring charges should be available through STAR or the Parent/Guest Portal for those who have registered for spring classes. Spring balances will be due by January 6 – more on all these topics under Billing, Payments and Registration below.

Looking ahead to Thanksgiving Break, residence halls close at 7 p.m. on Friday, November 22 and reopen Sunday, December 1 at noon. The last day for students to request Break or Football housing for Thanksgiving Break, if needed, was extended to today, Monday, November 11. Parents Club buses for Thanksgiving are also filling (some full!) - see Holiday Break Reminders below to help with planning. NOTE: Winter Break bus details will be going live by early next week.

Good conversations over Thanksgiving dinner may involve signing leases for next year. We have a number of Housing Fairs coming up this month to help guide these conversations. Now is the time to start discussions and looking – remember Student Legal Services encourages students not to sign leases until after fall grades – leases are legally binding contracts no matter if a student is enrolled or not. In addition to Housing Fairs, a number of other November events can be found under Campus Happenings and Reminders. For a quick look ahead, including the 2020 Fall Family Weekend date, see Important Upcoming Dates at the end of this message and mark your calendars now! Good luck to all our students as we head towards the end of the semester. Here’s to a strong finish! In this edition:

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HOLIDAY BREAK REMINDERS

Housing for Thanksgiving Break
As a reminder, residence halls officially close for Thanksgiving Break on Friday, November 22 at 7 p.m. and will not reopen until Sunday, December 1 at noon: [http://bit.ly/ResHallOpenClose](http://bit.ly/ResHallOpenClose). Housing options for those who wish to stay with us for Thanksgiving Break as well as options for those who wish to remain on campus for the WVU Football game are noted on this page: [http://bit.ly/BreakHousingWVU](http://bit.ly/BreakHousingWVU). Registration for Break and Football housing options must be made in advance and registration closes Monday, November 11 (this is an extended deadline).

For Winter Break, students and families should also begin to plan ahead for the end of the semester. Students are expected to vacate their rooms within 24 hours of their last final exam to help keep floors quiet for those still studying [http://bit.ly/WVUFinalsWeek](http://bit.ly/WVUFinalsWeek) or by Saturday, December 21 at noon (whichever comes first). Residence halls officially reopen on Saturday, January 11 at noon for the spring term. If students anticipate difficulty meeting the departure time due to travel schedules, they must contact their Residence Hall Coordinator no later than a week prior to the closing date to see if alternate arrangements can be made. Students who need to stay on-campus for all or part of the Winter Break may register in advance; registration is open now and will be until Friday, December 6. Information about [Winter Break housing](#) was sent to residence hall students earlier this week.

Thanksgiving Buses
Still looking for a ride home for your student during Thanksgiving Break? Reservations for most Parents Club buses for Thanksgiving break are still being taken. Buses are confirmed to go to Allentown, PA; Carlisle, PA; Hagerstown, MD; Secaucus, NJ; King of Prussia, PA; and one to Highland, NY, for those in the Connecticut, New York and New England areas. The [deadline to cancel these reservations has now passed](#). The Northern Virginia (space limited), Southern New Jersey (FULL – use King of Prussia above as alternate), Central Maryland and Long Island local Mountaineer Parents Clubs also offer buses to their areas. **Please Note** - The bus to Massachusetts has been canceled due to a lack of ridership. For online reservations or to review all schedules and details, please go to [http://bit.ly/MPCBusDetails19](http://bit.ly/MPCBusDetails19). No phone reservations for the buses will be taken. Information on Winter Buses should be going live by early next week at the same address – so check back.

Limited on-campus Parking for Thanksgiving Break
The West Virginia University Parking Management office is providing vehicle storage options for students leaving campus during the fall recess. Temporary student permits can be purchased for $20, which covers on-campus parking from Saturday, Nov. 23, through Sunday, Dec. 1. The permits are valid at Area 51 on the Evansdale campus (Evansdale Crossing), lot ST-2 on the downtown campus (second floor of the Mountainlair parking garage) or Area 86 on the Health Sciences campus (fourth floor of Mountaineer Station). To purchase a permit, students should visit the WVU Parking Management office (1st floor Mountaineer Station), located at 1112 Van Voorhis Drive, from 8:15 a.m to 4:15 p.m., Monday
through Friday. For additional information, please call the WVU Parking Management office at 304-293-5502 or visit our website.

BILLING, PAYMENTS AND REGISTRATION
Spring Payment Plans available, Charges to post mid-November
As a reminder, spring payment plans via CASHNet are now available for six monthly installments if your student enrolls in a plan by November 30. The earlier you sign up, the more time you have to pay! Please note that the first installment plus the enrollment fee of $35 will be due when your student signs up for a plan. Even though your student’s charges won’t show until mid-November, they can still sign up for the plan. They can estimate the amount based on their fall 2019 bill. They can also stop by or call the Hub, our team can help them estimate based on their fall 2019 bill. Any final adjustments can be made once their spring 2020 bill is ready. Spring 2020 payment is due on Monday, January 6. If you have questions about billing, aid or payment options, please contact the Mountaineer Hub at 304-293-1988. To stay updated on important spring payment messages or for more information, http://bit.ly/WVUBilling.

NEW: Last day to withdraw from classes and the University is Tuesday, November 19
Effective with the Fall 2019 term, the last day to both withdraw from an individual course as well as withdraw from the full term occurs during the 13th week of instruction as noted in the new withdraw policy. Based upon the policy, the last day to drop an individual course for the full Fall term with a “W” or withdraw from all your courses for the Fall term is Tuesday, November 19th. If an individual course does not run the full Fall term, the dates for dropping with a “W” may be different. Please go to the link provided below to view the drop dates for the different term calendars. To formally withdraw from the University, students need to contact the Registrar’s Office at registrar@mail.wvu.edu via their MIX e-mail account and include their student ID. Students who have a hold on their account and cannot withdraw from individual classes on their own through STAR must email their request by the November 19th deadline to be considered. For information on the withdrawal process, please go to the link below. Students should consult their advisor when making any changes to their schedule. Questions: registrar@mail.wvu.edu or (304)293-5355

NEW: Late Registration Fee – Register by November 30 to avoid
Parents please remind your student to register for spring 2020 classes by November 30 to avoid a $50 late registration fee. Registering for classes in a timely manner is important as students work toward graduation. Students are more likely to get the courses they need to stay on track to graduate within their expected timeline, and graduating on time can reduce loan and credit card debt.

Continuing students will be assessed a $50 late registration fee if they do not register for any spring 2020 classes until after November 30. If they register for classes by November 30, they would not be assessed the fee. Your student may begin registration based upon a time ticket provided by the Office of the Registrar to their MIX email (via their WVU portal at https://portal.wvu.edu). Learn more about time tickets and important dates about registration. Please note that if your student is not returning for spring 2020, they would not be assessed this fee. It only applies to students who register after November 30. More information about the late registration fee can be found at the Office of the Registrar site.
**DINING UPDATES**

**Spring Dining Plan Updates**

For Students Residing Off-Campus: Students who live off-campus (non-residential students) are not required to purchase a dining plan though many choose to do so. Non-residential students who wish to purchase a spring dining plan should visit mymountaineercard.wvu.edu, select their preferred plan and complete their transaction online. Students may upgrade or downgrade their spring dining plans online any time before the spring semester begins by visiting mymountaineercard.wvu.edu and using the “Add Meal Plan” option to select their preferred plan.

For Current Students Residing in the University Residence Halls: Students who live in residence halls (on-campus students) who do not make changes to their dining plan will automatically receive the same plan as the fall semester and do not need to sign up again. Students may upgrade or downgrade their spring dining plans online any time before the spring semester begins by visiting mymountaineercard.wvu.edu and using the “Add Meal Plan” option to select their preferred plan.

For Incoming Students Residing in the University Residence Halls Starting in Spring 2020: As a reminder, all students who live in residence halls are required to purchase a dining plan. New residential students will automatically be enrolled in the Go 13 dining plan if they do not select an alternative plan by the following deadlines:

- Residential students **who sign up for housing after Friday, Nov. 8**, will have until **Monday, Dec. 2**, to select a dining plan for the spring semester.
- Residential students **who sign up for housing after Monday, Dec. 2**, will have until **Tuesday, Jan. 7**, to select a dining plan for the spring semester.

Note: Once the semester starts, ALL students can make changes to their dining plans between **Thursday, Jan. 9**, and **Monday, Jan. 20**, by calling 304-293-3166. **Any changes to a plan may result in a billing adjustment.** Visit the [Dining Services](#) website for more information and to view FAQs on dining plans. If you have any questions, contact us at dining@mail.wvu.edu or 304-293-3166.

**End of the semester dining plan reminders**

**Meal Swipes and Dining Dollars:** As a reminder, **meal swipes expire at the end of the semester.** However, Dining Dollars (flex funds good at all WVU Dining locations) will carry over from the fall semester to the spring semester and do not expire until the end of the school year in May. Students can check their Dining Dollars balance and remaining meal swipes online by visiting mymountaineercard.wvu.edu and selecting “Check your Balance.” Whenever students make a purchase, the remaining balance will also appear at the bottom of their sales receipt. **Note:** Mountie Bounty is separate and those balances carry over throughout a student’s time at WVU.

**Care Packages:** The holidays and final exams are coming fast, so be sure to check out a variety of care package options from WVU’s Culinary Creations team. We’ve got a whole list of baked goods that can be delivered to WVU residence halls or held for pickup in the Mountainlair.

**Dining Plan Refills:** If your student’s fall dining plan is depleted, refills are available. Dining Dollars and swipes for Prime dining plans also can be refilled once they are depleted. Refills must be purchased through a student-only WVU web portal, so be in communication with your student if you’re anxious about their dining plan running out.

Visit the [Dining Services](#) website for more information. If you have any questions, contact us at dining@mail.wvu.edu or 304-293-3166.
**CAMPUS HAPPENINGS and REMINDERS**

**November student ticketing requests for Men’s Basketball underway**

Students who wish to attend WVU Men’s Basketball games must request tickets. Similar to student football ticket requests, student request these online but can request for all basketball games within the month. That process is now underway for all November games. Also, requests for the last two home football games are also now available. More here: [http://bit.ly/BBTicketsWVU](http://bit.ly/BBTicketsWVU)

**Housing Fairs – Start Nov. 11**

**University Apartments Fair – Nov. 11 and 12** – If your student is interested in living in one of our four University Apartments, have them drop by to speak with one of our property managers: [http://bit.ly/UAptFairs](http://bit.ly/UAptFairs)

**WVU Off Campus Housing Fair – Nov. 20** - Students interested in exploring housing options for next year should attend the Off-Campus Housing Fair Wednesday, November 20 in the Mountainlair Ballrooms. Can’t make the first fair? A spring fair will be happening! [http://bit.ly/WVUOffCampus](http://bit.ly/WVUOffCampus)

**Return to the Residence halls** – Current residents have received info about returning to the residence halls if they wish to live with us again next year!


**November Sales at the WVU Bookstore**

- **Get 25% OFF all Champion product** from Nov. 11-24. In Store and Online.
- **Get 25% OFF all Nike product** on Nov. 26 & 27. Online Only
- **Get 30% OFF Fleece/Cold Weather/Outerwear** on Nov. 29 & 30. Online Only


**Mini Student Org Fair – Nov. 13**

We have held several theme-based mini fairs this fall. On November 13 students can meet representatives from some of our faith-based groups during the next mini student organization fair. For students looking for a HOME while on campus, this is a chance to learn more about the variety of faith-based groups! Students can drop by the Mountainlair on November 13 from 11am-1pm. The fair will be held next to Hatfield’s! For more on all student groups, check out [WVUENGAGE](http://bit.ly/WVUENGAGE).

**WVU Day of Giving – Nov. 13**

Kick off the season of giving with the WVU Foundation’s Day of Giving November 13: [http://bit.ly/WVUDayOfGiving](http://bit.ly/WVUDayOfGiving). Check out some of the fun challenges and great programs you can donate to! Last year alumni, family and friends of WVU helped raise over $6 million in one day!

**Food for Parking Fines – through Nov. 14**

Does your student have a parking ticket? From now until November 14, they can donate ten non-perishable food items to receive an excused parking citation (up to a $20 value). Food for Fines benefits The Rack - WVU's student food pantry. Items can be donated at the Parking Office at the first floor of Mountaineer Station from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays. [http://bit.ly/WVUFood4Fines](http://bit.ly/WVUFood4Fines)

**Order December Graduation Regalia, Diploma Frames, etc. – by Nov. 15**

All caps and gowns, personalized announcements, diploma frames and college rings can be ordered online through the WVU Bookstore at [http://bit.ly/WVUHerffJones](http://bit.ly/WVUHerffJones). All cap, gown and frame orders need to be ordered by November 15th and can be picked up in the Downtown or Evansdale Bookstore (per your choice) starting December 9th. The cap and gown can also be shipped to the student’s home
for a $15.95 fee. The home-ship orders must be placed by November 25th. Diploma frames are not part of the home-ship program. There is no shipping fee on caps and gowns and diploma frames that are shipped to the WVU Downtown and Evansdale stores for pick-up.

**Class rings – New vendor will be on campus Nov. 18-22**
We are now offering official Class Rings through Jostens. The representative will be available on campus from Nov. 18-22 and Dec. 2-6. They are working to finalize the website so please be sure to check back: [http://bit.ly/WVUClassRing](http://bit.ly/WVUClassRing).

**Spring Health Insurance Waiver – Available through Jan. 6**
NOTE: Students with an approved waiver on file from fall of 2019 have opted out of the WVU Aetna student health insurance plan for the entire 2019-2020 academic year and **DO NOT** need to complete this spring waiver. For any others, the spring 2020 student health insurance waiver opened Monday, October 28th, with a deadline for completion of Monday, January 6th. Eligible students without an approved student health insurance waiver on file will be automatically enrolled in the WVU Aetna student health insurance plan at a cost of $1,086 per term, assessed to the student’s account. For more information about the WVU Aetna student health insurance plan, view the [2019-2020 WVU Aetna Plan Summary](http://bit.ly/WVUPlanSummary). Contact the WVU Student Insurance Office at sio@mail.wvu.edu with questions or concerns, or for assistance completing the student health insurance waiver.

**Study Abroad November Events and Global Mountaineers Certificate News**
As students look ahead at finalizing their spring classes, the Global Mountaineers Certificate Program helps prepare your student to be part of an increasingly globalized, modern workforce. The certificate can easily be completed along with the normal degree required courses for most majors, and will give your student an edge in today’s interconnected and global world. Interested in other study abroad or Global Affairs events? Students can also visit upcoming info sessions to learn about study abroad, Coffee Hours to learn about new cultures and regions, or topic driven Q&A sessions! Visit our Parents Page to learn more and share with your students: [http://bit.ly/EdAbroadParents](http://bit.ly/EdAbroadParents).

**Quick look: IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**
- University Housing Closes for Thanksgiving Break: Friday, November 22, 7:00 p.m.
- Last day for continuing students to enroll in at least one spring term class to avoid $50 Late Registration Fee: Friday, November 30 [http://bit.ly/LateRegFee](http://bit.ly/LateRegFee)
- University Housing Reopens: Sunday, December 1, noon
- University Housing Closes for Winter Break: Saturday, December 21, noon
- December Commencement: Saturday, December 21, 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. ceremonies [http://bit.ly/WVUGraduation](http://bit.ly/WVUGraduation)
- WVU OFFICES CLOSED – Tuesday, December 24 - Thursday, December 26
- Last day to enroll in a five-month payment plan for spring charges: Tuesday, December 31
- WVU OFFICES CLOSED – Tuesday, December 31 – Wednesday, January 1
- University Housing Reopens: Saturday, January 11, noon
- First Day of Spring Classes: Monday, January 13
- Mark your calendars: 2020 Fall Family Weekend Date has been set for October 2-4, 2020!

WINTER WEATHER PROCEDURES
Parents – so you are also aware of University procedures, please review the statement that has been
shared with students, faculty and staff have been notified of the procedures concerning possible
inclement weather: http://bit.ly/WVUWinter2019. It is quite a rare occasion when the University will
close entirely due to weather or low temperatures. So students should be sure to leave early for classes
and dress warmly with appropriate winter gear. If a closing or delays do occur at WVU, a "WVU Alert"
will be sent: http://bit.ly/WVUAlert. Note: your student can add you on to also receive WVU Alerts if you
wish to be added.

It is important to remind your students that they should treat classes as they would a job. If they feel it is
unsafe, they should be proactive and contact the instructor to let them know why they will be missing or
running late. Also remind your students to plan ahead. If inclement weather is in the forecast, they
should plan ahead for delays and allow extra time to accommodate any unforeseen circumstances or
travel delays. Students should also note that there are typically some form of absences built in to nearly
every syllabus as noted in the attendance policies for each class. These absences are there as a courtesy
and should be used sparingly or in instances such as these. As in any other situation, safety is most
important and they should use their best judgment for their particular circumstances and follow up as
needed.

/Katie Gallagher and Lisa Hanselman
Office of Parent Relations
West Virginia University