

Office of Parent Services



April 24, 2014

Greetings from the Office of Parent Services!

The end of the semester is a busy time for students and families. As the spring semester draws to a close, we want to share important deadlines, information on hall closing and commencement, and some key summer 'to-dos.'

This is our last scheduled e-newsletter of the semester; we'll resume in August with information to help you get ready for fall. We hope you and your student have a wonderful summer break!

Reminders from Financial Aid Services

Financial Aid Services will begin sending e-mail award notifications for continuing students in mid-June. Students should check the SPIRE Student Center to ensure all required financial aid paperwork has been submitted. Delayed, missing or incomplete documents may jeopardize aid eligibility. If you have questions, visit the [Financial Aid Services website](#), call (413) 545-0801, or stop by room 243 in Whitmore.

Fall 2014 Course Registration Reminder

By now, students returning for the fall semester should be registered for courses. Students can make changes to their schedules between now and the end of the Add/Drop period, September 15, but need to be registered for at least 12 credits to maintain full-time status.

Hall Closing Information

Starting this semester, Residential Life has made several changes to improve the move-out process. Go to the [Residential Life Student Services website](#) for helpful checklists and important information on traffic patterns and parking.

Residence halls close May 8 at 8 p.m. Graduating seniors are automatically granted permission to stay until 10 a.m. on May 11. All other students who have a specific need to stay late can submit a request form on the Residential Life website through May 7.

Summer 'To-Do' Preview

Students and families have a number of 'to-do' items to complete over the summer. Fall semester bills post to SPIRE accounts in July and are due in August. Once bills have posted, eligible students who already have health insurance and want to waive the Student Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) should complete the waiver through SPIRE. Students who do not wish to purchase the SHBP must complete the waiver every year. Visit the [University Health Services website](#) for more information on the health plan and online waiver.

Family Recipes Wanted

The award-winning UMass Dining Services would love to include your family's favorite recipe in the "Taste of Home" special next fall. Your recipe will be featured in all dining commons for a particular meal and will be published in the sixth edition *Taste of Home Cookbook*; you'll also receive a UMass travel bottle as a token of our appreciation.

Send your recipe, a short description of why it's special, your complete mailing address and your student's name by Wednesday, June 11. E-mail ktoong@umass.edu or mail to:

UMass Dining, Worcester Dining Commons
University of Massachusetts Amherst
669 North Pleasant Street
Amherst, MA 01003-9301

Parents of the Class of 2014: Thank You!

Congratulations on your student's upcoming graduation! It's been a pleasure to work with you during your student's time at UMass Amherst and we wish your entire family the best of luck going forward. As students transition to life away from campus, many parents like to stay connected with the university. An easy way is to visit the [News Office website](#) or subscribe to their RSS feed. You're welcome to remain part of the Parent Services mailing list; to remove yourself, click the 'unsubscribe' link at the bottom of this message.

Important Dates

April 29: Founder's Day (Classes meet)
April 30: Last day of classes
May 1: Reading day
May 2: Finals begin
May 8: Finals end
May 9 - 10: Commencement weekend
May 19: First day of summer session classes

Helpful Web Links

[Commencement 2014](#)
[Financial Aid Services](#)
[Residential Life Student Services](#)
[University Health Services - insurance information](#)

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, contact the Office of Parent Services. We're open Mon. - Fri., 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. and are happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Horrigan, Director
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Treating Our Parents as Partners

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[Office of Parent Services website](#)
[Office of Parent Services on Facebook](#)
Save the date! [Family Weekend](#), October 24 - 26.