Greetings from the Office of Parent Services (OPS)!

As students welcome spring and plan for the second half of the semester, we’re sharing information on fall course registration, housing selection, May Move-Out, and Commencement.

Fall 2022 Course Registration and Advising

Early registration for current students begins Monday, April 11. For a speedy and productive registration process, students should:

- **Meet with their academic advisor** to make sure they are on track with requirements. They can find their advisor’s contact information, review the course catalog, and see their enrollment appointment on SPIRE.

- **Check SPIRE for registration holds** and contact corresponding offices ASAP to resolve any holds so that registration is not delayed.

- **Declare a major by the end of their third semester.** If your student is ready to declare or wants to change their major, study abroad, or take a for-credit internship, they should speak with their academic advisor. Some majors have restrictions or an application process that students must follow. Your student’s advisor can help determine next steps.

You'll find more information on the University Registrar’s website.
Spring Safety

Warmer temperatures and sunshine bring a new sense of freedom with students biking, running, socializing, and studying outside. Remind your student that alcohol and other drug policies and town bylaws still apply, and to follow safe practices when hosting or attending off-campus gatherings.

Fall 2022 Housing

Online Room Selection is underway! Check with your student to make sure they are aware of deadlines and understand the next steps to secure on-campus housing for fall.

- **Students have until 11:59 p.m. Monday, March 21** to request a Multi-Year Room Selection appointment on SPIRE. This allows them to search for singles, shared rooms, campus apartments, and suites.
- **Students who miss this deadline** may request a late appointment starting on Tuesday, March 22. Late appointments post on Thursday, March 31, if space is still available.
- **SPIRE will be down for scheduled maintenance** from noon Friday, March 18 until 8 p.m. on Sunday, March 20. Students must plan accordingly.

Got housing questions? Find answers [here](#).

May Move-Out

It’s not too soon to start thinking about May Move-Out! To make the experience as simple and stress free as possible, follow these tips:

- If your student is coming home for the weekend, remind them to take home items they no longer need and bring back packing supplies like bins and boxes.
- If they need storage space, start looking now because local facilities fill up quickly.
- Consider donating unwanted items to New2U, the student-run collection and tag sale. (Students who want late Move Out permission can volunteer to help.)
Except for graduating seniors and those helping at Commencement, students must leave residence halls by 8 p.m. Thursday, May 12. Allow plenty of time to be out before halls close.

Visit the Move-Out website starting Monday, April 11 for more information about traffic pattern changes, loading zones, and maps.

**Reporting Maintenance Concerns in Residence Halls**

If your student tells you about a maintenance concern in their residence hall, please encourage them to submit an iService Request online. These requests must be submitted from a device that is connected to the campus network. The iService system directs a request to the appropriate area and allows your student to track its progress.

**Financial Aid Update**

Correspondence from Financial Aid Services, including award notifications and requests for additional information, is sent to your student’s university email account. Remind your student to monitor this account and check their SPIRE To Do list for notices.

Fall 2022 award emails are sent beginning in early June. Visit the Financial Aid Services website for additional information.

**Fall 2021 Dean’s List**

The Fall 2021 Dean’s List is now available. Congratulations to everyone whose student made the list! For more information on finding the Dean’s List in your local paper, visit News and Media Relations.

**Making the Most of the UMass College Experience**

During their college years, students mature and experience intellectual growth. As you communicate with your student, encourage them to fully engage with their college experience and adopt a growth-mindset. Here are some insights to share and ways to show support:
• We are a community of learners. Everyone has something to contribute and something to learn. Encourage your student to be open and respectful, embrace the world around them, and welcome other people’s points of view.

• It takes a while for some students to transition to college life. Successful college students are those who ask faculty, mentors, advisors, classmates, and friends for help. Challenges should not be seen as failures, but as opportunities to learn, grow, and develop new skills.

• No one should go through college with regret about missed opportunities. Whether it is courses, guest lectures, clubs and activities, community service, or travel, remind your student to try something they have never done before.

• Establishing new friendships in college is important, but students should choose thoughtfully and find friends who will help them succeed.

• UMass strives to maintain a healthy and safe environment with resources to help students succeed at all levels of their development. Students are responsible for taking advantage of these and behaving responsibly.

Commencement 2022 Updates

If your student is graduating in May, we look forward to seeing you! Please visit the Family and Friends page for all things commencement including dining and residential lodging! Information, to do’s, and deadlines to share with your graduates are available here.

Conversation Starters

Supportive and consistent messages and discussions about college life can play a significant role in a student’s college success and development. Here are some questions to continue meaningful conversations for a deeper relationship with your student.

• How have your study habits changed since you started college?
• How has your approach to classes this semester been different from last semester?
• How do you feel about leaving college? Have you spoken with anyone about your feelings?
March Polling Question

Where does your student plan to live in Fall 2022? Participate in the poll and view previous results on the OPS website.

Important Dates

- **March 21:** Classes resume
- **March 29:** Mid-semester date: Last day to drop a class with a record of “W” and select ‘P/F’
- **April 11:** Registration begins for Fall 2022
- **April 18:** Patriot’s Day (campus closed)
- **April 20:** Monday class schedule followed

Links to UMass Amherst Websites

- Off Campus Student Life
- Office of the University Registrar
- Residential Life

We encourage you to look through our sites and become more familiar with campus resources so you can better direct your student to the appropriate office or department as they learn to navigate college life.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the Office of Parent Services, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. We’re more than happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Rose M. Boulay, Director
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In case of a campus emergency, visit the university’s homepage at umass.edu. The site will display a distinctly colored banner at the top containing status updates and emergency information.