Welcome to the Wayne State University Parent Newsletter.

School Is Back in Session

We hope you had a good summer! Now that school is back in session, you can be assured that our students are settling in and finding their way to class.

Those of you who attended Parent Orientation are probably already putting the information you learned to good use. In case you need some reminders (and even parents of returning students sometimes do), we have posted the Parent Orientation presentation on our website as promised.

This newsletter offers some important reminders for parents and family members of new and returning students. There are important dates to remember, upcoming events on campus, and student support resources to help parents stay informed about their child’s academic and social experiences.

Quick Links

- Academic Calendar
- Academic Success Center
- Ask-a-Librarian
- Athletics
- Broadcast Messaging
- Directory of WSU Departments
- Events On and Around campus
- Health Center
- Public Safety
Has Your Student Checked Their eBill Yet?

Payment for fall tuition and fees was due on August 15, 2013. Wayne State University does not issue paper bills, so we hope your student checked their electronic bill (eBill) in Pipeline and submitted any payment that was due to the Cashier’s Office.

On or around the first day of each month during the semester, the Student Accounts Receivable Office will post an updated eBill in Pipeline. Each new eBill will reflect any changes to the account since the last eBill was posted. The eBill also includes any pending financial aid that your student may be entitled to receive. The actual amount of financial aid is dependent upon your student’s eligibility, and is subject to change. Any changes will be reflected on the eBill.

A more accurate display of your student’s account is provided in the Account Summary link under the student tab in Pipeline. Account Summary provides a real-time view of your student’s account because it updates immediately when there is a change in fees or payments. It also provides a history of all payments and charges for every semester that your student is enrolled at Wayne State University.

It’s easy for students to view their eBill or Account Summary in Pipeline:

• Log in at pipeline.wayne.edu
• Click on the Student tab
• Look for eBill information in the top-middle of the page
• Get a copy of the most recent eBill by clicking on the envelope

Important Dates to Note

Is your student aware of what’s coming up on the academic calendar?

Sept. 11: Last day to drop class with tuition cancellation

Sept. 28: Degree applications due for students graduating at the end of this term
For Account Summary, click on the link beneath the eBill information or on the link in the menu on the left under Financial Records

Additional information about the eBill schedule or payment options is available online at http://fisops.wayne.edu/bursar/e-bills/index.php. If you have any questions, call 313-577-3653.

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**Financial Aid Outstanding Requirements**

Students with financial aid awards may still have outstanding requirements to complete. Aid is not applied to the student account balances unless all requirements are met. Requirements may include forms or documents that must be submitted.

Students should check their Pipeline accounts for outstanding requirements.

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**Full-Time Enrollment**

Full-time enrollment is a requirement for WSU grant funding. Funds will not be applied if an undergraduate is not enrolled in at least 12 credits. Federal loans will not be applied unless the student is enrolled at least half-time.

Questions about aid? Call us at 313-577-2100.

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**Financial Aid Text Messages**

Students can sign up to receive financial aid announcements on their cell phones via text message. Registration takes place through the WSU Broadcast Messaging system. More information is available online at http://www.computing.wayne.edu/broadcast.

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**S.M.A.R.T. Check**
Stay Smart. Finish What You Start.

Because we are committed to helping your student make the best decisions to progress toward their degree, WSU has implemented a new withdrawal education program called S.M.A.R.T. Check. This is a mandatory part of the withdrawal process to ensure that each student fully understands the academic and financial consequences of withdrawing from class.

Student aid eligibility is affected any time a student withdraws from a class. Withdrawals affect satisfactory academic progress status and extend the time and cost of the degree. Students who withdraw from all classes during a semester may be required to repay a portion of their aid back to the university.

The S.M.A.R.T. Check program allows students the opportunity to sit down with us at the Welcome Center and hear exactly what would happen if they were to withdraw. You can read more about this program by visiting go.wayne.edu/smart.

Housing

It’s back to college all across America. In Detroit, that means Anthony Wayne Drive was lined with eager students and parents unpacking piled-high supplies — mini-fridges, crates of ramen noodles, cases of Red Bull and plenty of clothes. Fall has officially arrived and the semester is off to a great start! This year, we welcomed 3,000 new and returning students to our residence halls. Some students traveled across the city and some from across the globe to live on campus at Wayne State University.

Orientation Part Two (O2) helped freshmen get their school year off to a good start while returning residents reconnected with old friends. Several events were planned for residents, including mixers, karaoke and an outdoor movie. It was the last weekend of the summer to relax before classes began on August 29.
Parents, if your freshman student attended O2, they were paired with a WSU faculty or staff member. Although the Campus Connector (CC) program kicked off during O2, students who were unable to attend were still assigned a CC to help them through their first year. This program makes sure your student will never feel alone or lost during their transition to WSU. So if your student says that they don’t know what to do in a certain situation or seem frustrated, ask them to talk to their Campus Connector. If they’ve lost their CC’s name or contact information, they can send an email to campusconnectors@wayne.edu for those details.

Move-in might be over but the fun continues. The housing staff has many activities planned throughout the year to keep students involved in their communities.

Hall councils will kick into full gear soon, offering programs and leadership opportunities to residents. Some September events are already planned and can be found on the screen of your student’s building or on the homepage of the housing website. Encourage your student to check out all the events in their community and to get involved. If they need help finding out what’s going on around campus or in the halls, suggest that they speak to their RA.

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**Important Reminders for Your New and Returning Students**

**Commuting Students**

Everyone reading this newsletter wants their student to succeed. Having a good game plan and knowing what resources are available will help make that happen. Here are some key strategies your student should keep in mind:

- Go to class — every class, every day.
- Go to class prepared. Faculty will not ask you if you are prepared; they will expect you to be.
- Books are a must in almost every class.
Check your Pipeline account to see which books are needed for each course.
- Visit the academic study labs for free tutoring early on — don't wait until it is too late.
- Know your academic advisor.
- There is a syllabus for every class, which includes faculty office hours, contact information and classroom expectations.
- Balance classes with college life. Getting involved in at least one campus organization will increase your odds of completing college successfully.
- Keep a calendar to schedule class times, activities and study time.
- Be aware of your surroundings, use the buddy system, walk in well-lit areas, lock your doors, report suspicious activity, and know that campus police officers are here to help.
- If you need special accommodations, make sure that your psychometric testing is on file with Student Disability Services and schedule a meeting with them.
- Roommate issues? Talk to your RA for help.

Parents, please understand that even the best students can find college life stressful. There are many support resources available. If your student does not know where to go for help, have them see their advisor or stop by the DOSO office for advice. You can contact me as well. We are all in this together.

**Tips for Returning Students**

While much advice is given to first-year students to help them transition to college, not a lot of information is out there for returning students. Hopefully, your student had a great first year and will pick up right where they left off. However, if your student does not ease back into school or is looking to turn things around from a not-so-great first year, here are a few suggestions to pass along:
- Get involved in a new activity.
- Take on a leadership role.
• Find a new homework approach or a new place to study — all tutoring labs are great places to study, and the library has special quiet rooms.
• Connect with one or two professors in your major.
• Get to know your academic advisor.
• Visit Career Services for seminars on job searches, resume writing, internships and more.

Brought to you by:

WSU Parent & Family Programs
Parent Helpline: (313) 577-CALL
1-877-WSU-PARENT
parents@wayne.edu
parents.wayne.edu
Dean of Students Office

Our mailing address is:
Wayne State University
Parent Services
5221 Gullen Mall
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Detroit, MI 48202

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