Welcome to the Wayne State University Parent Newsletter.

Welcome to the Fall 2014 Semester

We are pleased to continue enjoying this summer weather while welcoming your new and returning students to the Wayne State campus for fall semester!

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 orientation presentation at http://wayne.edu/parents/resources/index.php as promised.

This newsletter offers important information for parents and family members of new and returning students. As always, do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

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Important Financial Aid Update

Payments for fall tuition and fees were due on August 15, 2014. 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

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
Software Discounts/Free Software
The South End

Important Dates to Note
Is your student aware of what’s coming up on the academic calendar?

Nov. 9: Last day to withdraw from class.

Nov. 26: No classes.

Nov. 27-29: University closed. Holiday break.
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.
• 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 at http://fisops.wayne.edu/bursar/e-bills/index.php. If you have any questions, call 313-577-3653.

**Financial Aid Outstanding Requirements**

Even if your student has financial aid awards, aid will not be applied to the student account balance unless all requirements are met. Requirements may include forms or documents that must be submitted. Students should check their Pipeline accounts for outstanding requirements.

**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 twelve 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.

**Parent Loan Options**

The Federal Parent PLUS Loan is one of the options available to assist with the financing of your student’s education.

If you decide to apply for this loan, now is the time. To get started, log in at studentloans.gov and complete a 2014-15 Federal PLUS Loan Application and promissory note.
FERPA: Has Your Student Completed the Authorization to Release Records Form?

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (also known as FERPA) affords students certain rights concerning their student educational records. When a student reaches the age of 18 or begins attending a post-secondary institution regardless of age, FERPA transfers the rights to the student. This limits the student educational record information that may be released to third parties (including parents and guardians) without the student’s permission, unless it is considered to be directory information. Wayne State University fully complies with FERPA. Talk to your student to see if they have completed the form, which gives you permission to access their records and conduct business on their behalf.

For more information about FERPA and how Wayne State complies with this law, visit reg.wayne.edu/pdf-privacy/ferpa_brochure.pdf.

Health and Wellness: Campus Health Clinic

The Campus Health Center is an on-site wellness resource for students. Our team of health care providers can assist your student with everything from acute illness care to routine health management. We handle a variety of services for enrolled students, including but not limited to clearance exams, immunizations, illness care, physicals, women’s and men’s health, weight management and health education.

A couple of reminders for parents at the beginning of the school year:

- Mandatory move-in forms: Completed immunization forms are required for each student living in the residence halls. The form can be found at health.wayne.edu/new-students.html and can be turned in at the front desk of the clinic, mailed or faxed in. Please turn them in to the Campus Health Center as soon as possible.

- No-cost flu shot: Every student at Wayne State is eligible for a flu shot from the Campus Health Center at no out-of-pocket cost. The calendar of available dates and locations can be found at health.wayne.edu/flu-shots.html. The calendar is updated constantly, so please check back to find dates convenient for your student.

- Free illness visit: Each semester, students are
eligible for one free illness visit. This covers the cost of coming in and speaking to one of our health professionals. Please note that any labs or additional fees beyond the illness visit fee will be billed to insurance and normal fees will apply.

The Campus Health Center is excited to welcome both our new and returning students. We hope we can help everyone with all of their health and wellness needs!

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 a 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.

Life in the Neighborhood at WSU

Living on campus is a big step for your student as they continue their journey. Your student may be an old pro at Wayne State or they may be living on their own for the first time. We are here to help everyone succeed — as a student and as a young adult transitioning to living on their own. Our buildings have staff members who come from diverse backgrounds and have experienced (and conquered) many of the challenges your student will face.

Every building has Resident Advisors (RA for short) who help guide and mentor your student throughout their time in the residence halls and apartments. Each RA is an old pro to life in the halls. These upperclassmen are selected for their leadership and success as residential students at Wayne State. They receive intensive training on transitional support, roommate conflicts and building issues, many of which they have experienced and overcome while living in the halls. Your student’s RA is their primary contact when they need help getting through a challenging situation with roommates or
navigating their transition to independence. Your student’s RA is just a walk down the hall and a knock away.

When your student needs additional support to conquer challenges, a Community Director (CD) is there to help. Each residential building has at least one CD, and one is always on call. These team members live in the buildings they represent and are full-time professionals with master’s degrees. They help residents with roommate conflicts, facility issues, conduct and community building. Visit housing.wayne.edu/contact.php to connect with your student’s CD. If you or your student have general questions, call 313-577-2116 or write to housing@wayne.edu.

**Voluntary Student Meal Plans**

The dining halls are a great value for everyone! Whether your student lives on campus, commutes or walks to campus, there is a meal plan that’s just right for them. Your student can benefit from healthy and nutritious meals offered at either Gold ‘n’ Greens or the newly renovated Towers Café. From 15 meals a semester to unlimited daily dining, there are meal plans that fit everyone’s lifestyle. Visit go.wayne.edu/meal plan and click on Voluntary Meal Plans to enroll.

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

**New 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. We are all in this together.

**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 those returning to campus. 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:
Thank you for signing up as a member of the Wayne State University Parent Information Network and allowing us to share WSU news and updates.

Our mailing address is:
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