

THE LION'S ROAR

The monthly newsletter for Penn State Berks



Our Chancellor Welcomes You!

Dear Penn State Berks Students,

We Are ... very excited to welcome incoming and returning students to Penn State Berks this summer! This is the beginning – or continuation – of an exciting journey for you as you select your courses and learn more about your interests, your dreams, and yourself as an independent young adult.

The entire Penn State Berks community is very much looking forward to students returning to campus full-time this fall, and all that it entails from in-person classes and labs, to a full calendar of campus events, to the camaraderie of friends and classmates.

I'm very pleased to say that Penn State Berks is a welcoming community for students, faculty and staff of all cultures and backgrounds. The college embraces diversity and we are committed to fostering an inclusive campus that celebrates the unique strengths of all cultures. Students, faculty and staff have been hard at work on initiatives that embrace social justice and racial equity for all.

The future looks bright as we see the decline in the global pandemic and cries for social reform. I look forward to meeting many of you in person this summer or when the fall semester begins.

Sincerely,
Dr. George Grant, Jr.
Chancellor

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NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

BEFORE taking courses and coming to campus, ALL new first-year students must participate in New Student Orientation (NSO). During NSO, students meet with faculty, staff, and other students; begin to develop academic and co-curricular goals; become familiar with campus resources; and schedule courses for their first semester.

Learn more here: <https://orientation.psu.edu/nso> ➡

EXPLORING BERKS MAJORS

LIONSIDE CHATS

- LionSide Chats are an opportunity to develop a sense of connection and community for our local Berks County community at large.
- Review the "Majorly Prepared" series archive to learn about many of the majors offered at Penn State Berks!
 - <https://sites.psu.edu/lionsidechats/?s=majorly+prepared> ➡

ACADEMICS WEBPAGE

- At Penn State Berks, students can enroll in one of our 21 baccalaureate degrees, one of our 4 associate degree programs, or complete the first two years of more than 275+ baccalaureate degree programs offered by Penn State.
- Learn about program options and requirements here
 - <https://berks.psu.edu/academics> ➡



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IMPORTANT SUMMER DATES

JUNE

June 1 June account statement generated*

June 17 Late Drop Deadline [Summer Session I]

June 22

- June account payment due
- Second Installment Payment Plan payment due**
- Deadline to enroll in Installment Payment Plan

June 25

- Withdrawal Deadline [Summer Session I]
- Last day of classes [Summer Session I]

June 30 Classes Begin [Summer Session II]

JULY

July 1 July account statement generated*

July 2 Regular Drop Deadline [Summer Session II]

July 3 Regular Add Deadline [Summer Session II]

July 5 No Classes [Summer Session II]

July 20 Fall 2021 room assignments will post on eLiving at noon (for residential students ONLY)

July 22

- July account payment due
- FINAL Installment Payment Plan payment due**

AUGUST

Aug. 2 Late Drop Deadline [Summer Session II]

Aug. 11

- Withdrawal Deadline [Summer Session II]
- Last day of classes [Summer Session II]

Aug. 16 - Sept. 7 Intent to Graduate Activation Period***

Aug. 22 Course Registration Deadline [Fall 2021 Semester]

Aug. 23 Classes Begin [Fall 2021 Semester]

Aug. 28 Regular Drop Deadline [Fall 2021 Semester]

Aug. 29 Regular Add Deadline [Fall 2021 Semester]

* June and July account statements apply to students enrolled in summer courses ONLY.

** If you enrolled in the summer **Installment Payment Plan** before the first payment (5/22), your second and third/final installments are due on the 22nd of the two subsequent months. Read more on this, [here](#).👉

*** Intent to Graduate is ONLY for students planning to graduate at the end of Fall 2021.



FREE SUMMER TUTORING!

For help with Math, Science, or Study Skills make an appointment with our **Learning Center** Tutors [here](#)👉

Mondays and Wednesdays from 9am - 11am

- Bio 110, Math 21, 22, and Statistics

Wednesdays 9am - 11am and 4pm - 6pm

- Chemistry through 212 and Math through 140

Thun Library Summer Hours

Monday: 9am – 5pm

Tuesday: 9am – 5pm

Wednesday: 9am – 5pm

Thursday: 9am – 5pm

Friday: 9am – 3pm

Saturday & Sunday: Closed

COVID safety protocols remain in place for the summer.

To learn more visit: <https://libraries.psu.edu/berks>👉



NAVIGATING FINANCES: BURSAR VS. FINANCIAL AID


Bursar

The Office of the Bursar is responsible for maintaining student accounts pertaining to tuition billing, acceptance fees, charges, payments, posting of financial aid, and refunds of excess funds (when available).

This office accepts student payments in a variety of forms including check, cash, money order, and certified checks. Students may also choose to make payments through LionPATH with either an E-check or credit/debit card, but please be advised there is a 2% convenience fee for all credit/debit cards used.

Students may also enroll into our Installment Payment Plan through LionPATH, allowing payment in increments of 4 months (with the exception of our Summer semester where a student would have a payment plan in increments of 3 months). Please be advised that this plan will need to be linked to a personal checking account or credit card and there is a \$45 fee for enrollment of this plan.

Learn more about Bursar here:

- <https://www.bursar.psu.edu/> 

Contact Bursar

Phone: 610-396-6040

No answer? Leave a message with your name, phone number, 9-digit PSU ID number, and reason for calling

Email: bkbursar@psu.edu

Office: 125 Franco Building





Financial Aid

The Financial Aid Office is responsible for the awarding and disbursement of financial aid.

This is the office students contact if they have been selected for **verification**, have questions about the **FAFSA**, and/or want to know their **aid amount and type** (e.g., loans, scholarships, grants).

Important note: Penn State cannot meet the full financial need of all students. Students and their families/supporters have the primary responsibility for paying tuition and other costs. **Education loans comprise the largest percentage of all available student aid.**

Learn more about Financial Aid here:

- Berks: <https://berks.psu.edu/financial-aid> 
- University: <https://studentaid.psu.edu/> 

Contact Financial Aid

Phone: 610-396-6070


No answer? Leave a message with your name, phone number, 9-digit PSU ID number, and reason for calling

Email: BerksFinAid@psu.edu

Office: 14 Perkins Student Center



Verification


- If you completed the 2021-2022 FAFSA, you may see verification requests in LionPATH in HOLDS or TO-DO List. Complete all requests as soon as possible!
- The requests will be for the "2022" aid year in LionPATH. For questions about verification, learn more [here](#) 



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LIVING ON CAMPUS


REQUESTING A HOUSING CONTRACT:

- Log on to www.eLiving.psu.edu  with your Penn State login information.
- Under the HFS Contracts icon, select 'Request Housing'.
- Choose the campus and contract period.
- Select the 'Request Now' button.
- The page will refresh with a confirmation statement.

VIEW INVITATION AND GENERATE CONTRACT:

- In www.eLiving.psu.edu, select **View Invitation** to view available housing options.
- Select the housing option you desire and click 'Continue'.
- (Optional) Add the PSU Access ID for your desired roommate and click 'Continue'. **IMPORTANT:** *Not all housing options allow for a roommate.*
- Review your selections and click 'Create Contract' to generate the HFS Contract for your selected housing option. If you added a roommate, that student will also be offered the HFS Contract.

ACCEPT YOUR CONTRACT:

- Select the **Shopping Cart** icon and view the offer.
 - Click 'Begin Acceptance Process' to view and read the HFS Contract and Terms, Conditions, & Regulations (TCRs).
 - **Check the box** to indicate that you have read and agree to abide by the TCRs.
 - **Type your name** to electronically sign the HFS Contract.
 - Click the 'Accept Contract' button.
- For more on Housing Contracts click [here](#) 



MOVE-IN DATES


To review move-in dates, times, and instructions, please visit <https://arrival.psu.edu/fall/berks>. 

IMPORTANT FOR NEW STUDENTS

- **BEFORE:** Submit your immunization records. Not doing so can impact your ability to move in.
- **DURING:** The student must be physically present at check-in. The university cannot give keys or room information to friends or family members attempting to pick up a student's key.
 - Bring PHOTO ID!



PACKING FOR CAMPUS

To review a comprehensive list of items to pack and items to leave behind, visit <https://arrival.psu.edu/fall/berks>. 

IMPORTANT FOR NEW STUDENTS



- **ALREADY IN YOUR SUITE**
 - Bed(s)
 - One microwave/refrigerator unit per bedroom
 - Semi-private bathroom
 - WIFI Access
- **LEAVE AT HOME**
 - Air conditioners and/or heaters
 - Candles
 - Pets
 - Weapons/Firearms
- **BRING TO CAMPUS**
 - Bedding (twin XL) and bed risers
 - Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, etc.)
 - Laundry bag/basket and detergent




NEW STUDENTS: GET CONNECTED ON CAMPUS

Welcome Weekend 2021

DATES: August 21st & 22nd

Learn more and see the full schedule:

<https://berks.psu.edu/welcome-weekend> 

Penn State Berks offers a variety of programs, events, and activities designed to welcome new students to our campus community. These events are created and facilitated by student leaders (i.e., Orientation Leaders) with the goal of helping each student transition to Berks--whether that transition is from high school, from another institution, or returning to formal education after some time away. The weekend is an exciting way to begin your journey at Berks, make new friends, and acclimate to the campus.



Check your PSU email over the summer for more details!

First Week of Fall 2021

DATES: August 23 through 27, 2021

Check your Penn State email over the summer for more details!

The Office of Campus Life in collaboration with Campus Activities Board, presents a week-long schedule of activities and programs to help students connect with the campus community.

- **First Year Convocation on Monday, August 23 at 12:15pm**
 - **WHAT IS IT?** An official introduction to academic and student life at Penn State Berks for all new students (i.e., first-year, transfer, and adult learners).
- **Club Rush on Wednesday, August 25 at 12:15pm**
 - **WHAT IS IT?** Involvement fair where all students can learn more about and begin connecting with the various clubs and organizations at Penn State Berks.
- **Arts and Lecture Series on Friday, August 27 at 6pm**
 - **WHAT IS IT?** Year long series which brings popular figures and world-renowned researchers to campus.
- **Penn State Berks Community Weekend on August 28 and August 29**
 - **WHAT IS IT?** Offers additional opportunities to make connections through activities facilitated by our student leaders
- AND MORE, like events hosted by a Penn State Berks favorite, Crazy Bob

Stay informed of campus activities, follow us on social media!

INSTAGRAM:

@berkscampuslife, @berkswelcomeleaders, @psubk_cab

FACEBOOK:

Official Penn State Berks Class of 2025
Penn State Berks Student Life

