



Residential Learning Tips

WHC: What's Happening on Campus?



Living on our campus is a smart move! You will find our dorm buildings convenient, safe and friendly.

Is there anything to do while on campus? Are you kidding me! ***This campus is alive!*** Our *Office of Student Life* organizes a plethora (that means, tons!) of activities during the daytime, evening and weekend. We will be sending you an email with the details of the *Student Life* calendar for August/September. Is there really anything to do on campus? The problem you will have is selecting from a schedule that offers so many activities you will not be able to attend all of them. (The mother of a student actually complained that there are too many choices! Really?)

What to expect: 26 student organizations that offer activities all week. The *Office of Student Life* also offers outdoor movies, a free coffee house, live entertainment, camp fires (with s'mores!), midnight breakfasts (wake up, eat and go to sleep!), trips to NYC, DC, outlet shopping and more.

Valuable Tip: Download the Student Life calendar onto your tablet. Watch the TV monitors around campus, displaying info on activities. Select your favorite activities; sign up when required, and convince your housemates to join in. You will also receive email notices.

Safe is more than a feeling



We want you to learn, expand yourself and have fun. But; safety first! Our security and safety program will see to that. With your cooperation, we will continue our nearly stellar record of having one of the safest campuses in Philadelphia.

How do we do it? Consider this:

- 24/7 security guards
- Nightly inspections of security guards by a manager
- *Residential Learning Coordinators* on duty seven nights a week and all day Sunday
- Computer-operated door controls that let us know who is arriving and when
- 4-digit code entry for rooms
- 220 closed-circuit TV security cameras that cover the campus
- Fire drills in the classroom and dorm buildings
- Fire equipment that exceeds the city's requirements
- ID cards that are door "keys"
- Extra lighting not only in our buildings but on the sidewalks
- Director of Facilities inspections of all utilities
- *Residential Learning Coordinators* and facilities team inspections of rooms
- Cell-phone and radios connecting staff and security
- Of course you need to add your cooperation to the list to keep us safe, sound and ready for fun.

Valuable Tip: Don't bring excessive jewelry, sentimental items or excessive money to campus. Consider purchasing a small, brief-case style, fire-resistant safe.

Space Management: Go Digital



It seems to be the classic freshmen-dorm-student disdain; where do I put all my stuff? Okay, problem number one might be that you brought - ALL your stuff!

Need more space? In some cases you can find it in outer space; well, in digital space. Are you an avid reader; download free books as well as new purchases onto the tablet that you will soon be receiving. If you already have an Amazon, Kindle or other book account you can easily access them from your new tablet. So, heavy hardback books be gone!

Video games and movies? As well, you can download those from services such as Netflix. With your tablet and phone you can read an inspiring book, watch a great film and blow-up a city (using a video game please!).

Download your music library. No stepping on your CDs. (Hey, what are you CDs doing on the floor anyway? Be neat!)

Valuable Tip: We are going to give you a tablet on the first day of school, and it's yours to keep if you graduate.

Honey, don't forget to pack your....

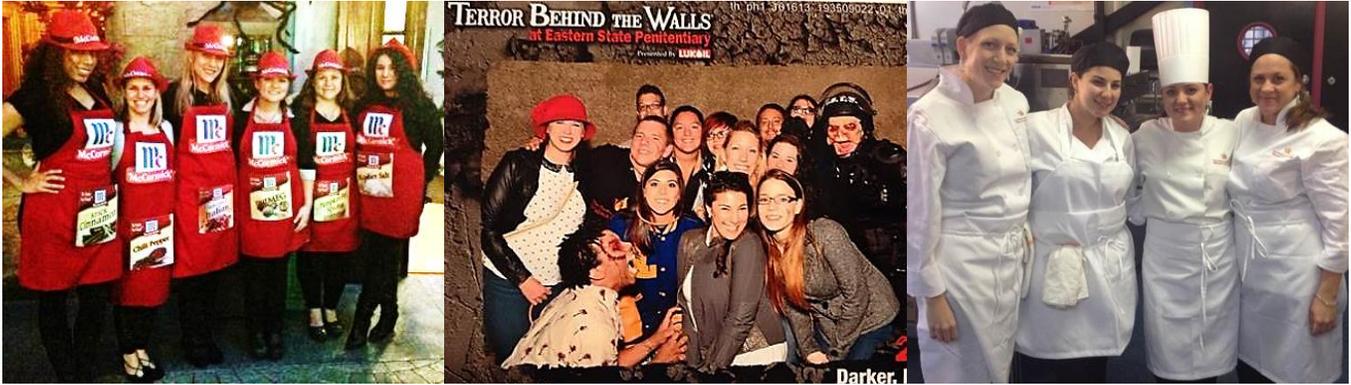


Favorite jeans? Yes, bring them. That giant, five-foot Tweety Bird that you won at the boardwalk or carnival? NO - there is no room for that!

Planning and packing is easy – IF – you know what to leave home. Remember, there are laundry machines in each building as well as a larger laundry center in McManus Hall. There are eight machines; and while your wardrobe tosses and turns, you can shoot a game of pool, watch a film, or just relax with friends in the adjoining student lounges. And guess what; the laundry machines are FREE (We can hear your parents cheering “Do you own laundry!”)

Valuable Tip: This is a good one! Consider packing only the items that you truly need from your move-in day until the next time you plan to go home. For most students that means a late summer and early fall wardrobe. Hey! – don't go home just yet. We have a September full of non-stop activities. Make your high school friends jealous of what you did; rather than going home to perhaps do nothing. Once you do go home you will be more the expert to decide what you may (or may not) need.

Mom? Dad? Is that you?



Okay, you just moved out for the first time in your life; and who is in your dorm building to visit? Your Mom and Dad??!!

Can this be? Well, let us explain. In addition to our committed *Residential Learning Coordinators* who manage all aspects of the dorms, we also feature an “adoption” program in which caring staff choose a dorm building to adopt. Our students have decided to call these wonderful “parents” *Mom and Dad*.

Your dorm *parents* will be available to you at any time. You can talk with them about anything. They requested to be dorm parents because they truly do care. You and your dorm parents will meet from time-to-time to plan activities. Sometimes the activities will be exclusively for students in your building. Sometimes the activities will be open to the full *Residential Learning* community.

Valuable Tip: Add all of the important contacts that matter to you to your cell phone ASAP. They should include the Residential Learning Coordinators and your dorm “parent”.

There is no place like home. Both of them.



Okay, we call it, “*Welcome Home*” instead of the dreaded dorm move-in. We promise you will LOVE our dorm move-in experience. We refer to it as your home away from home. But is it? YES!

There is more that you can do to make it a little more personal, like your home. Pick two or three items that will make your room connect to your home. Bring a favorites blanket. That will benefit in two ways; you feel connected to your home and will be warm! A photo collage of family and friends is a great idea. You can find the collage frames at home stores, Target, Walmart, etc. Perhaps your favorite mug or glass will make you connected each morning while you sip hot chocolate.

Valuable Tip: Most rooms feature a cork boarder which you hang posters and décor using push pins. Also, use that removable wall putty to hang items. Please do not pin, nail or tape anything to the walls, wood, doors and furniture. Also, do not duct tape your roommate!

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