



WE WELCOME

Welcome to WCU and your new Golden Ram's orientation day! Today's program will help your new Ram be successful at WCU and help you support them as they take this next step in their academic journey. Use this time to learn about WCU's academics, support services, and resources and to have your questions answered. We're so happy you're here and excited to be among the first to welcome you to the Ram Fam!

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION 2022
**FAMILY & GUEST
INFORMATION**



NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION 2022

FAMILY & GUEST SCHEDULE



8:00 AM – 8:40 AM	Check-In & Registration	Business & Public Mgmt. Center
	Campus Partner Reception	Academic Quad
8:50 AM – 9:05 AM	Welcome from the Vice President Overview of Day	Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall
9:05 AM – 9:50 AM	We're all Golden Rams: Residence Life & Off Campus & Commuter Services	Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall
9:50 AM – 10:05 AM	Student Dismissal	Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall
10:05 AM – 10:15 AM	Break	Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall
10:15 AM – 10:45 AM	Supporting Your Students: Office of Family Engagement, Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, and Department of Public Safety	Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall
10:45 AM – 10:55 AM	A Message from the Assistant Dean of Students	Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall
11:05 AM – 12:00 PM	Lunch	Dining Hall
12:10 PM – 1:00 PM	College Meetings with the Deans	
<i>Wednesday June 22, Friday July 1 & Thursday July 14</i>		
	The College of Arts & Humanities	Sykes Student Union Theater
	The College of Sciences & Mathematics	Sykes Student Union Ballrooms
	Wells School of Music	Sykes Student Union 10A
<i>Thursday June 23, Wednesday June 29 & Friday July 15</i>		
	The College Business & Public Management	Sykes Student Union Ballrooms
	The College of Education & Social Work	Sykes Student Union Theater
<i>Friday June 24, Thursday June 30, & Thursday July 21</i>		
	University College (Exploratory Studies, Liberal Studies)	Sykes Student Union Ballrooms
	The College of Health Sciences	Sykes Student Union Theater
<i>Wednesday June 22, Thursday June 23, Friday June 24, Wednesday June 29 & Thursday June 30</i>		
	Academic Success Program	Sykes Student Union 115



Orientation guests can purchase a meal ticket to eat lunch in the campus dining hall for \$5.00 at check-in or at the door to the dining hall at lunchtime. Guests are also welcome to explore the many dining options available in downtown West Chester which is about a 10-minute walk from campus. Students participating in orientation do not need to purchase a meal ticket.

1:10 PM - 1:40 PM **Ram Resource Sessions (concurrent sessions, descriptions on page 6)**
 1:45 PM - 2:15 PM

SENSORY SPACE AVAILABLE

Our morning sessions from 8:50–10:05 AM take place in Asplundh Concert Hall with all students and guests. This space and large audience may trigger sensory concerns for some individuals. If you or your student prefer to view the morning sessions live-streamed from a more sensory-friendly space (quieter, less people, low lighting), please find a member of the orientation staff and we will be happy to assist you.

Career Development Center	Sykes Student Union 254
Counseling & Psychological Services	Sykes Student Union 209
Dining Services	Sykes Student Union 115
Dowdy Multicultural Center	Sykes Student Union 210
Financial Aid and Bursar's Office	Sykes Student Union Theater
Learning Assistance & Resource Center	Sykes Student Union 255
Office of Services for Students with Disabilities	Sykes Student Union 257
Office of Family Engagement	Sykes Student Union 10A
Ram Card	Sykes Student Union 252
Student Health Services	Sykes Student Union 10B

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM	Taking Care of Business: Family & Guest Free Time	<i>Various Locations</i>
	Residence Life and Housing (until 4:15)	Sykes Union Ram's Head Food Court
	Office of Services for Students with Disabilities	Sykes Student Union 257
	Parking Services	Ground floor of Sykes
	PSECU Campus Banking	Ground floor of Sykes
	Bursar's Office: Student Financial Services	25 University Ave., Suite 50
	Financial Aid	25 University Ave., Suite 30
	Dub-C Autism Program (D-CAP)	20 Linden St.
	Veterans Center	624 S. High St.

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM	End of Day Activities	<i>Various Locations</i>
	Off Campus & Commuter Student Reception	Sykes Commuter Lounge (3 rd floor)
	First-Generation Student Reception	Sykes CSI (2 nd Floor)

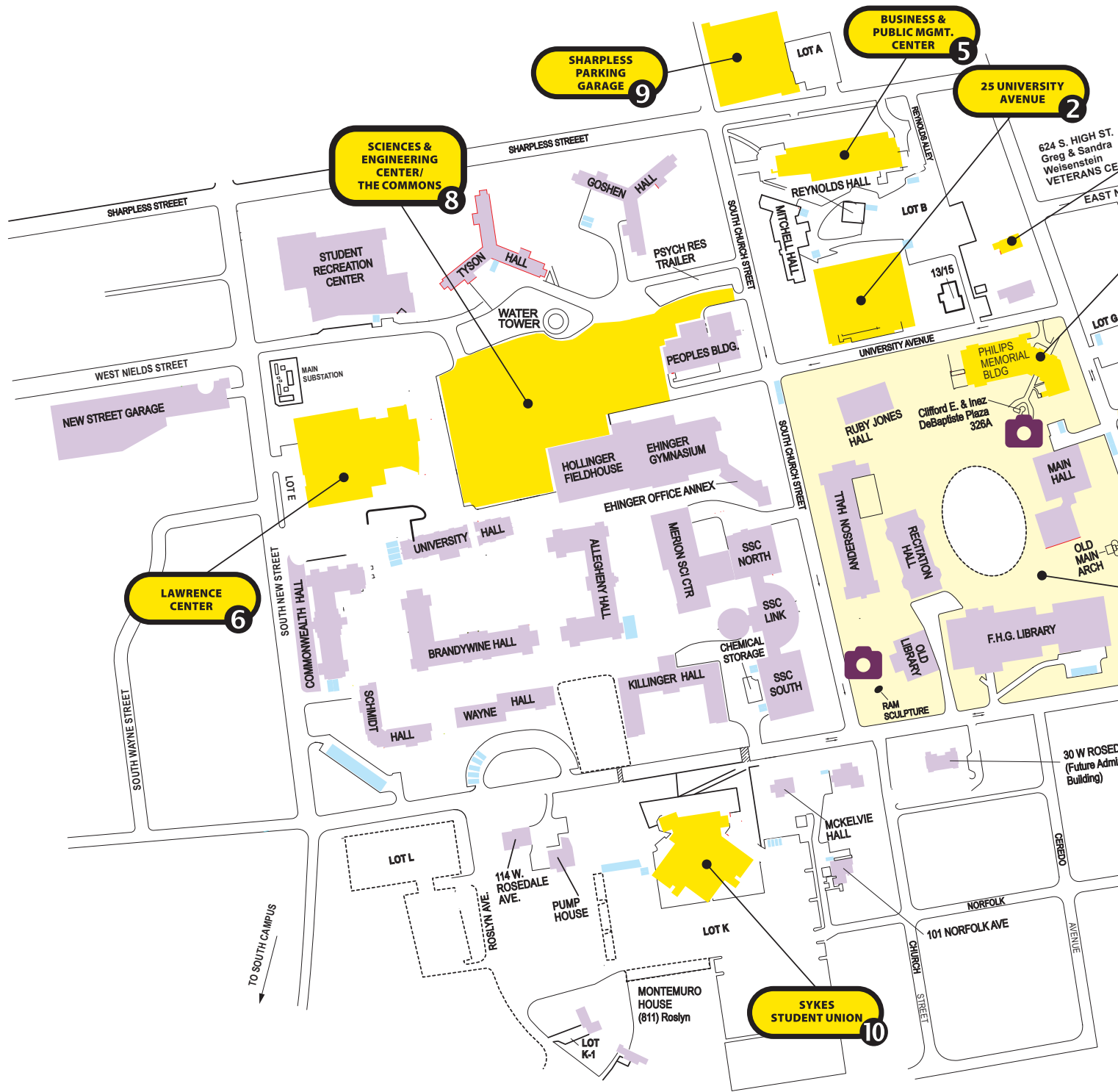
- Photo Opportunities** 
- Ram Statue
 - Ware Plaza
 - Frederick Douglass Statue

See Map for Locations

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

We've designed today's guest schedule to include time for you to handle any University business you may need to attend to while you're on campus.

Please feel free to ask a member of the orientation staff for directions if you'd like to visit an office that is not listed on the schedule. You're also welcome to use this time to relax or explore campus on your own.



KEY

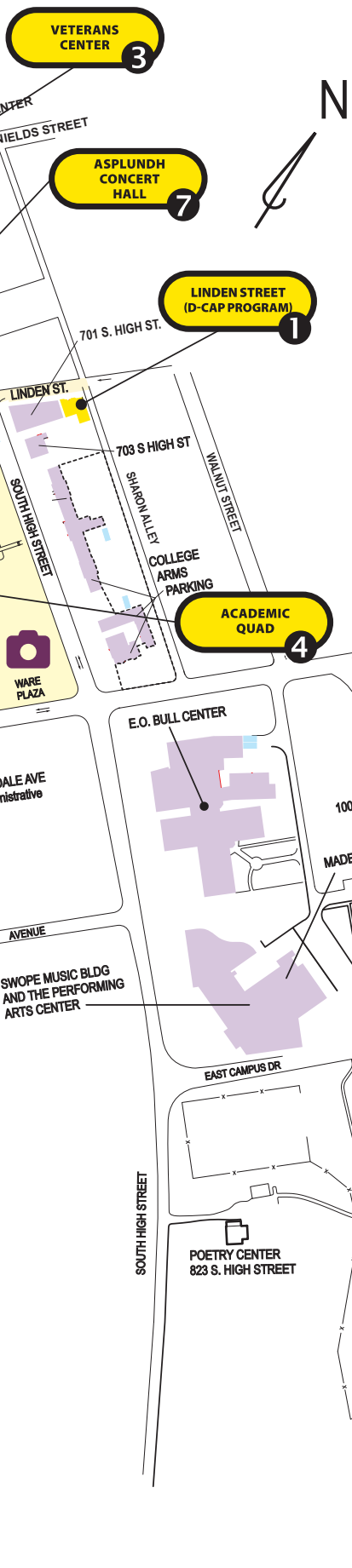
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| ① 20 Linden Street (D-Cap) | ⑤ Business & Public Management Center | ⑨ Sharpless Parking Garage |
| ② 25 University Avenue | ⑥ Lawrence Center | ⑩ Sykes Student Union |
| ③ 624 S. High Street (Veterans Center) | ⑦ Philips/Asplundh Concert Hall | ♿ Accessible Parking |
| ④ Academic Quad | ⑧ Sciences & Engineering Center/
The Commons | 📷 Photo Opportunity |

10. SYKES STUDENT UNION



Although our campus buildings are all within close proximity, an ADA-accessible shuttle will be available for orientation attendees at the following times and locations:

- 7:30 – 8:00 AM:** Business and Public Management Center (BPMC) to Asplundh Concert Hall
- 8:00 – 9:30 AM:** Sykes Lot K to BPMC and Asplundh Concert Hall
- 2:30 – 4:30 PM:** Sykes Student Union to Sharpless Garage



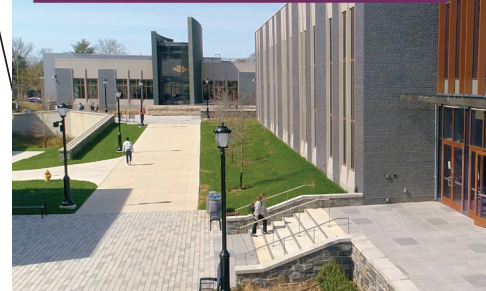
5. BUSINESS & PUBLIC Management center



7. PHILIPS/ ASPLUNDH CONCERT HALL



8. SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING CENTER/THE COMMONS



RAM RESOURCE SESSIONS

Career Development Center – Learn about the many resources available in the Career Development Center including exploring major and career options, preparing for jobs and internships, developing resume writing and interview skills, building connections through networking, and more.

Counseling & Psychological Services – In this session, you'll learn how WCU's counseling center strives to promote the optimal health of all WCU students by providing quality and culturally competent mental health services and education for the campus community.

Dowdy Multicultural Center (DMC) – Meet staff from the DMC to learn about how this center promotes holistic success and development of Students of Color through collaborative co-curricular experiences that promote multicultural awareness, create a sense of belonging, affirm racial and cultural identity, and empower all students to challenge systems of oppression.

Financial Aid and Bursar's Office – A fan favorite! Learn how to secure students' financial aid and navigate the billing process.

Learning Assistance & Resource Center (LARC) – The LARC session will focus on ways your student can enhance their academic success efforts by highlighting resources such as tutoring, academic coaching, academic success workshops, and more.

Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (OSSD) – Meet with the Director of OSSD to learn how this department assists students with various learning, physical, and emotional disabilities.

Office of Family Engagement – Join the Office of Family Engagement as they offer insight into your students' first year at WCU and discuss opportunities to promote their success.

Ram Card – Discover how the Ram Card is your student's key to everything on campus—from food to the Rec Center to their residence hall. Learn about the many places it can be used off campus as well.

Student Health Services – Learn about the wide range of clinical care available to WCU's students through the on-campus Health Center.

TODAY'S TERMINOLOGY

Like most schools, WCU has its own lingo. Some of these terms you may already know, some you may not. Here's a list of terms you're likely to hear today and what they mean.

ACADEMIC TERMS

Curricular – Activities students participate in that are directly related to their coursework and academic curriculum. Detailed information about WCU's academic curriculum can be found in the Undergraduate Course Catalog.

Enrollment Portal – Overseen by the Registrar's Office, the enrollment portal is a series of online surveys and placement tests students complete in myWCU. Academic departments use this information to build each new first-year student's fall class schedule. Students are not scheduled for classes until they complete their enrollment portal.

First-Year Experience (FYE) – A general education course that all new first-year students are required to complete in their first semester at WCU. This course provides students with the skills and knowledge to grow and thrive at WCU. FYE courses are dynamic and engaging because they are developed by teams of faculty from across the University. Students learn about core academic concepts and skills as well as about disciplinary trends and research.

Student Success Coordinators – Each academic college has dedicated Student Success Coordinators who provide students with accurate information about their program and help them navigate

WCU's resources so they can make well-informed decisions about their education.

Student Success Coaches – Any student who needs one-on-one support with skills including time management, test prep, study habits, stress reduction, note taking, self-care, goal setting, and more are encouraged to sign up for a Student Success Coach at any time during their academic career. Success Coaches provide individualized support to guide students toward academic and personal success at WCU. Students can meet with a Success Coach weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly, or they can meet for a specific need.

HOUSING TERMS

Affiliated Housing – University Student Housing LLC (USH) owns and operates Allegheny, Brandywine, Commonwealth and University Halls, as well as The Village and East Village apartments on South Campus. These are collectively known as affiliated housing. First-year students are only eligible to live in Allegheny, Brandywine and Commonwealth Halls.

WCU-owned Housing – West Chester University owns and operates Goshen, Killinger, Schmidt and Tyson Halls. WCU also operates the College Arms Apartments on North Campus and the South Campus Apartment complex. WCU-owned housing is sometimes referred to as traditional housing. First-year students are eligible to live in Goshen, Killinger, Schmidt and Tyson Halls.

Desk Assistant (DA) – DAs are undergraduate student staff members who work at the front desks of the various residence halls.

Resident Assistant (RA) – RAs are undergraduate student staff members who play a vital role in facilitating an atmosphere of community on their specific floor, wing, or apartment building.

Residence Hall – WCU uses the term residence hall in place of the term dorm or dormitory. The term residence hall is preferred because a student's hall is not just a place to sleep. It also provides opportunities for personal and educational growth.

OTHER TERMS

Co-Curricular – Activities beyond a student's normal coursework or academic curriculum that contribute to their learning outside the classroom. Examples include athletics, community service, Greek Life, student clubs and organizations, and student government.

FERPA – The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 which governs the privacy and confidentiality of students' education records.

First-Generation College Student (First-Gen) – West Chester considers a student First-Gen if none of their parents or guardians completed a bachelor's degree. WCU celebrates these students and their successes, while providing specific resources to help these students and their families navigate college.

First-Year Student – New students entering their first year of college. WCU uses this term in place of "freshman" as part of our commitment to gender equity.

Legacy – A legacy student is someone with a parent, sibling, grandparent and/or guardian who is a West Chester University alum.

New Student – Any student starting WCU for the first time, including first-years, transfer students, and adult learner students.

Orientation Leader (OL) – These student leaders will guide you and your new Ram through the orientation experience. OLs acclimate students and guests to the WCU campus community and offer new students support throughout the summer and welcome week.

Ram Card – Students' official WCU ID card used to access residence halls, meal plans, printing, library services, and more.

Public Safety – WCU has its own police department that oversees primary law enforcement jurisdiction on all areas of campus. Public Safety at WCU includes Police Services, Security Services, Parking Services, Electronic Security, Risk Management and Emergency Services.

Ram Plan – The Ram Plan is a co-curricular transcript that mirrors students' academic transcript. In place of tracking coursework and grades, the Ram Plan transcript documents students' co-curricular learning and can be used for volunteer, job, internship and graduate school searches.

Title IX – This is a portion of the Educational Amendments of 1972 that prohibits discrimination based on sex. "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." The Title IX Coordinator is dedicated to ensuring equity on the campus of West Chester University.

TECHNOLOGY TERMS

D2L – The learning management system (LMS) used at WCU for course materials, assignments, syllabi, grades, etc.

myWCU – Where students access bills, view holds on their account, schedule classes, and view final grades, GPA, and unofficial transcripts.

Navigate – Launching in the fall, Navigate is a student success platform that allows students to schedule advising appointments, view their class schedule, find campus resources, and more in one convenient app.

RamConnect – WCU's online student involvement center and student organization management platform where students can check out upcoming events, sign up for leadership programs, explore student clubs and organizations, and more. RamConnect is a student's one-stop shop for getting connected with campus life.

WCU Alert – Free service that sends direct text messages with WCU announcements including on-campus emergencies, inclement weather cancellations, delayed openings, and University closings. Students can add parents/guardians to their WCU Alert account.

WCU email – WCU's primary means of communicating with students. Students should check their WCU email daily.

WELCOME WEEK

NEW RAMS CHARGE IN AUGUST 24-28

With events that are sure to engage, excite, and educate, it's not to be missed! Be sure your Golden Ram keeps an eye on their email, RamConnect, and the New Student Programs website—wcupa.edu/orientation—for information.



MOVE-IN



AFFILIATED HOUSING

USH Affiliated Housing is excited to welcome you to WCU in the fall. Incoming students can select a move-in timeslot in their USH Residential Portal starting in mid-July. If you are living in USH Affiliated Housing, please use the QR code to access our move-in guide for more information.

WCU OWNED HOUSING

The Office of Residence Life and Housing Services, located in 202 Lawrence Center, oversees all WCU-owned housing. The RLHS staff is committed to making your experience in on-campus housing an enjoyable one. For information, please go to wcupa.edu/housing, call 610-436-3307, or email housing@wcupa.edu.



Save the Date for Family Weekend, **September 23-25!** More details including a schedule of events and local accommodations will be shared through Ram Fam Central later this summer!

RAM FAM CENTRAL

Ram Fam Central is a customizable communications platform that's specifically for parents, family members, and anyone else who supports a Golden Ram. Signing up for Ram Fam Central ensures you receive the most relevant news and updates so you can stay informed about deadlines and receive newsletters tailored to your interests. You can also stay connected with the Office of Family Engagement on Facebook @WCUramfam or email them at parentfamilyrelations@wcupa.edu.



WE'D LOVE YOUR FEEDBACK!

After the program, please take a few minutes to complete our survey using this QR code. Your feedback is important to us, and we'll use it to improve the orientation experience for future Golden Rams and their guests.

