

Parent & Family Newsletter



Spring Break Reminders

Spring break begins at noon on Saturday, March 8, and continues through Sunday, March 16. Classes are not held during this time; however, Illinois State University offices maintain regular business hours.

Watterson Towers, Wright Hall, and Haynie Hall will close at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 8, and reopen at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 16. Wilkins Hall, Hewett-Manchester halls, Cardinal Court, Fell Avenue Apartments, and School Street Apartments remain open. For more information, visit [University Housing Services](#).

Fall Course Registration

Advanced course registration for Fall 2025 begins at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, March 24, 2025. Registration dates and times are available in your student's [My.IllinoisState.edu](#) portal as of March 1. Students should pay **careful attention to their registration start time as there are multiple start times**. Registration dates and times are determined based on the number of credit hours earned (not including in-progress credits). If students have not yet made an appointment with their advisor to discuss their fall courses, they can schedule an appointment through [My.IllinoisState.edu](#).

Fall course information is available through your student's [My.IllinoisState.edu](#) portal and the [Course Finder](#) site. Additional registration information can be found through the [Office of](#)

On-Campus Housing for Fall 2025

It's time for your student to start thinking about their [on-campus residence](#) for the 2025–2026 academic year. There are some important differences between incoming and returning students.

- **Returning students:** [Contract renewal](#) for returning students required to live on campus ends on Friday, March 21, at 4:30 p.m. Please remind your student to sign their contract and select a room by the deadline. Students who miss the contract renewal deadline will be charged a \$50 late application fee and assigned housing in late July after new students have been placed.
- **Incoming first-time college students:** If your student is within their first two years out of high school, they are required to live on campus in the fall. Visit the [Housing and Dining Portal](#) to sign a housing contract and select a meal plan. Required first-time college students who submit their housing contract and initial payment by May 1 can participate in roommate matching and be eligible to participate in room selection in the summer months. If it is done after May 1, they will be randomly assigned a room in July by a Housing team member.
- **Transfer students:** If your student is transferring to Illinois State within two years of high school graduation, they must live on campus. Transfer students who meet the May 1 priority filing date will be entered into a lottery where some will be chosen to participate in online room selection. Those who are not awarded a selection date will be assigned by a Housing team member.

Students who have been out of high school for two or more years and want to live in University Housing may submit a [request to live in on-campus housing](#). Admission to the University does not guarantee a space in on-campus housing. More information is available in the [Housing and Dining Portal](#).

- **Exemptions:** Students who are required to live on campus but wish to live off campus must [request an exemption](#). Students should wait to receive approval for their exemption request before securing off-campus housing.

Resources for Off-Campus Students

The [Off-Campus Housing Marketplace](#) is a resource to assist students in searching for off-

campus housing. This site is a comprehensive resource for Illinois State students to search for vacant listings managed by private landlords and management companies, search for roommates, or find a sublease. The marketplace search function allows students to look for apartments or houses with specific criteria such as price, number of bedrooms, and whether pets are permitted.

To help your student enhance their off-campus living experience, they are encouraged to check out the resources offered by [Off-Campus Services](#).

As your student selects a place to live in Bloomington/Normal, you may be asked to sign as a guarantor on their lease. A lease may be the first legal document your student is asked to sign. Before signing, your student should consider [scheduling an appointment](#) with the Students' Attorney in the Dean of Students Office for a free lease review.

Spring 2025 Commencement

Students who have applied to graduate in spring or summer 2025 and wish to participate in their commencement ceremony must register to participate through the [commencement registration portal](#) (there is no registration fee) and [purchase a cap and gown](#) no later than **Friday, April 4**. Both spring and summer graduates participate in the May commencement.

Spring 2025 Commencement Ceremonies, CEFCU Arena

Friday, May 9, 2025

- 4 p.m.: Mennonite College of Nursing and College of Arts and Sciences Social Sciences, including students in the majors of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Economics, Politics and Government, Psychology, Social Work, and Sociology and Anthropology
- 8 p.m.: College of Arts and Sciences Natural Sciences/Mathematics and Humanities including students in the majors of Biological Sciences; Communication; Chemistry; English; Geography, Geology, and the Environment; History; Languages, Literatures, and Cultures; Mathematics; Philosophy; Physics, and Interdisciplinary Studies

Saturday, May 10, 2025

- 9 a.m.: College of Education, Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts
- 1:30 p.m.: College of Applied Science and Technology
- 6 p.m.: College of Business

No tickets are needed, and there is no limit to the number of guests that may attend. Each commencement ceremony will last approximately 2 ½ hours.

For more information, visit the [commencement website](#).

Sibling Weekend April 11-13, 2025

Mark your calendars for Illinois State University's [Sibling Weekend](#) on April 11-13. This weekend includes a variety of activities, including the [Gamma Phi Circus](#). This year marks the 96th anniversary of the founding of Gamma Phi at Illinois State. Tickets for the circus are available for purchase [online](#), in-person at the CEFCU Ticket Office, or by phone (309) 438-8000 Monday-Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Adding Emergency Contacts

It is important that every student has an emergency contact listed in their profile. Encourage your student to add emergency contacts by logging onto [My.IllinoisState.edu](#), going to the My Profile section, and scrolling down to the Emergency Contacts button under "Manage Your Profile Information." Students can list multiple emergency contacts but must designate one as their preferred contact.

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