

Fall Break Reminders

Fall break for students begins at noon on Saturday, November 21. Classes resume Monday, November 30. University offices will be closed Wednesday, November 25, through Friday, November 27.

On-campus students

Watterson Towers, Haynie Hall, and Wright Hall will close at 2 p.m. on Saturday, November 21. All students in these halls must vacate their rooms by this time. Students may leave their personal belongings in the room; however, they must take whatever they need for the week while on break, as no student will be allowed back into these halls for any reason. These residence halls will reopen at 2 p.m. on Sunday, November 29. Hewett, Manchester, and Wilkins halls remain open during fall break, along with Cardinal Court and the Fell Avenue and School Street apartments. For more information, visit the University Housing website.

Dining hours

Marketplace at Linkins will close on Friday, November 20, at 2 p.m. and will reopen on Sunday, November 29, at 4 p.m. Watterson Dining Commons will close on Friday, November 20, at 8 p.m. and will reopen on Sunday, November 29, at 4 p.m. For more information, please visit the Campus Dining website.

Important Academic Deadline: Course Withdrawal with WX Grade

Friday, November 6, is the last day for students to withdraw from a full-semester course and receive a withdrawal grade of WX. A WX grade indicates that a student officially withdrew from a course before the

withdrawal deadline. It does not affect GPA, but no credit is earned. Students should consider any potential financial aid implications before withdrawing.

Students can complete the withdrawal process through their My.IllinoisState.edu account. The withdrawal form may be submitted any time before 11:59 p.m. on November 6, even after campus offices close for the day.

Encourage your student to carefully consider the academic implications of withdrawing from a course and to reach out to their academic advisor if they have questions about how it might affect their progress toward graduation.

Final Exam Resources for Your Student

Finals week arrives quickly after fall break, with exams starting on Saturday, December 5, and continuing through Friday, December 11. Remind your student to take advantage of the resources available to help them prepare. One such resource is Finals Blitz tutoring offered through The Julia N. Visor Academic Center. The Finals Blitz schedule will be posted at the end of November, with sessions available through finals week. These sessions are open to all ISU students, and no registration is required.

Stay in the Know about Important Campus Dates and Events

Looking for important campus dates like academic breaks, deadlines, or course registration? Check out the Academic Calendar, which lists dates for the current and upcoming academic years. For information about campus events, the University Events Calendar and Redbird Life highlight activities happening throughout the semester.

Secretary of State Mobile Office on Campus

The Secretary of State's Office will host its final Mobile DMV visit for the fall semester at Illinois State University on Tuesday, November 17. Services will be available in the Spotlight Room of the Bone Student Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Services include:

- Driver's license including REAL ID (renewal, replacement, corrections)
- State ID card (renewal, replacement, corrections)
- Vehicle sticker sales
- Passenger, B-Truck, and motorcycle license plates
- ISU collegiate license plates
- Organ/tissue donor registration
- Vehicle title and registration
- Parking placard for persons with disabilities

Motorists may renew their driver's license one year in advance of their license's expiration date. A complete list of acceptable forms of identification is available at ilsos.gov.

Acceptable forms of payment include personal checks and Visa, Mastercard, American Express, and Discover credit and debit cards. Cash will not be accepted.

Redbird Well Resources

Redbird Well helps connect students to well-being resources. The website includes links to clinical services, screenings, support services, and emergency helplines available to the Redbird community.

Winter 2026 Commencement

Winter 2026 Commencement will be held on Saturday, December 12, at CEFCU Arena. No tickets are required, and there is no limit to the number of guests. Each ceremony is expected to last about two hours.

Saturday, December 12, at CEFCU Arena

- 9 a.m.: College of Arts and Sciences, College of Education, Mennonite College of Nursing, Interdisciplinary Studies, and University Studies
- 1 p.m.: College of Applied Science and Technology, College of Business, and Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts

Graduates and guests can watch the commencement informational video to get a quick overview of what to expect on the day of the ceremony.

For more information, visit the Commencement website.

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 into My.IllinoisState.edu, going to the My Profile section, and scrolling down to the Emergency Contacts button under "Manage Your Profile Information." Multiple contacts can be listed, though only one can be selected as preferred.

Safe Redbirds App

Safe Redbirds is the official safety app for Illinois State University. Through the app, users can receive important safety alerts and access campus safety resources instantly.

Download the free app today from the Apple App Store or Google Play.

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