YOUR STUDENT IS A BRONCO! WHAT’S NEXT?

New Bronco Transition Information

Congratulations to you and your student on choosing Western Michigan University and the College of Health and Human Services (CHHS). We hope this document answers some of your questions and will help you support your new Bronco in the transition from high school to college. Your student should attend to the items on this list before attending New Student Orientation. It will be beneficial for your student and for their advisors.

- **Bronco Net ID**: WMU Admissions has sent your student a Bronco Net ID and temporary password in the mail. The Bronco Net ID is a username used for many computer-based activities at WMU. If your student didn’t receive a Bronco Net ID and password, contact the Help Desk at (269) 387-4357 (option) 1 or email helpdesk@wmich.edu.

- **GoWMU Portal**: GoWMU (gowmu.wmich.edu) is a personalized information portal for every WMU student. There is a link to GoWMU at the top of most WMU web pages. When clicked, the link takes users to the sign-in page. On their first visit, your student should click “First Time Logging In” and enter the Bronco Net ID and temporary password. They will then create a personal password. **Your student must know their Bronco Net ID and Password to register for classes at orientation. Some students enter it as a note on their phone, so they can quickly access it.**

  - Across the top are helpful links: **catalog** links to the WMU Academic Catalog; **Elearning** links to WMU’s online learning system; and **W-Exchange** links to their WMU e-mail account. **Note**: Students should conduct all official WMU business from their wmich.edu email address. Also, students should check their WMU e-mail daily to receive important information from financial aid, academic advisor(s), instructors, etc.

  - **First-Year Student tab**: The information under the heading, “Congratulations – You’re in!” is helpful for many first-year students.

  - **Student Home tab**: This is where your student can take care of many kinds of WMU business, like checking their financial aid status and viewing their award, adding and dropping classes, checking account balances and paying bills. If your student wants to allow someone (like a family member) to view certain academic or financial aid information, they may designate that person as an **authorized user** on the “Student Home” tab.

- **Think About their Major**: Your student doesn’t need to declare a major right away. CHHS has many wonderful majors and degree programs! Encourage your student to explore the options at wmich.edu/hhs/academics.

- **Register for Classes**: No need to worry about this now. We will help your student register for fall classes on day two of orientation. They will register for 12 to 15 credits, which equates to four or five courses.

- **WMU Student ID**: Your student will have their ID picture taken at orientation.

- **Financial Aid Holds**: Help your student check to see that all financial aid requirements have been met. They can access this information on GoWMU by clicking on All Links and then clicking on Financial Aid. They can view missing requirements and their financial aid award. Contact Bronco Express on the lower level of the Bernhard Center with any questions. No appointment is needed at Bronco Express. Their phone number is (269) 387-6000. Learn more at wmich.edu/broncoexpress.

- **The Bottom Line**: There is a cost of attendance calculator on the Registrar’s home page at wmich.edu/registrar. You can select options to calculate cost of attendance. WMU charges a flat rate for full-time, on-campus tuition (12-15 credits) in the fall and spring semesters. Online courses are included in the flat-rate tuition and also incur a $60/credit hour fee. Courses at WMU regional locations are not included in the flat rate and are billed by the credit hour. Summer courses are also billed by the credit hour. After calculating expenses, subtract financial aid awards
to determine the bottom line. If needed, your student can set up a payment plan for their balance owed. Contact Bronco Express for details: (269) 387-6000.

- **Parking Passes:** If your student plans to have a vehicle on campus, they must purchase a parking pass. Parking passes can be purchased at Orientation. Parking passes cannot be billed to your student’s account, they must be paid for at the time of purchase. More information is available at parking.wmich.edu.

- **Meal Plan:** A variety of meal plans are available. Learn more at wmich.edu/dining/mealplans or call Dining Services at (269) 387-3463.

- **Housing:** The College of Health and Human Services has a Learning Community in Eicher Hall (Valley II) wmich.edu/housing/healthcommunity. If your student has already signed up for housing, they can request a change to live with other CHHS students in the Learning Community. Contact Residence Life at (269) 387-4735 for more information. Learn about all WMU housing options at wmich.edu/housing.

- **Send Final Transcripts:**
  - **High School Transcripts:** Help your student send their high school transcript with their final senior semester grades. If WMU Admissions does not receive final semester grades, your student will have a registration hold that could delay their ability to register for spring 2018 courses.
  - **Non-WMU College/University Transcripts:** Help your student send transcripts for any courses taken at community college, either through dual-enrollment, an early/middle college program, or on their own, or if they are currently taking non-WMU courses at any institution of higher education. In addition, please make sure your student brings official or unofficial copy of transcripts to orientation for any non-WMU courses they have completed, including those in which they are currently enrolled!
  - **Transcripts address:** WMU Admissions, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5211.

- **Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Tests and Scores:** If your student took AP or IB courses AND corresponding exams, make sure they know which exams they took AND what score they received. This information is needed for accurate course registration.

- **Important Dates:**
  - **Registration:** Help your student get the best possible spring 2018 schedule! Your student may register for spring courses starting in October. Review the registration calendar at wmich.edu/registrar/calendars and have them mark the date they can register on their calendar now. You can also see when classes start, dates for holiday breaks and deadlines to add, drop or withdraw from classes. We encourage students to call (269) 387-2656 by the end of September to set up their advising appointment to review for spring registration.
  - **Fall Welcome:** All first-year students are expected to attend Fall Welcome. More information will be provided at orientation. Learn more at wmich.edu/firstyear/fall-welcome.
  - **Fall Move-In:** Find out when to move in to your residence hall by visiting wmich.edu/housing/info/move-0.

- **Sign up for the Family Connection Newsletter:** As a proud parent of a Bronco, it is important to stay up-to-date on important information that affects your student. Sign-up to receive the WMU Family Connection email newsletter at wmich.edu/families/connection.

- **Our location:** The College of Health and Human Services building is located on WMU's East Campus. Our building was building 2005 and contains the latest in educational technology. Find us at wmich.edu/hhs/directions or by Google maps at goo.gl/maps/mzGnuyEaWG82.