Bursar’s Top 10 Things to Remember for Fall 2013

Residential Life Welcomes You

Husky One Card Can Do Double Duty, Enabling Husky Bucks Purchases

Welcome from the Office of Student Services and Advocacy
Greetings from the UCPA President

For many of you this is your first year as UConn parents—I am so excited for all of you. This is the start of my seventh year as a parent here at the University and I still get excited for the beginning of each new school year.

There is so much to do and see on top of the amazing classroom experiences that your students will have. Meeting new friends from 80+ countries, growing from new experiences in and out of classrooms, and belonging to a new community all contribute to our students’ excitement about attending UConn. As families, we get to share in the activities and watch them experience it all. What a perfect place to prepare for their future!

Please mark your calendars for Friday, September 27 to Sunday, September 29, UConn’s annual Family Weekend. Entertainment, food, tours, and exhibits will be happening all weekend to showcase all that happens here at UConn. It is such a fun event and I look forward to seeing you there for this annual tradition.

Caroline

Caroline Chapman
President, UConn Parents Association

Welcome to the UConn Community!

It is my pleasure to welcome our new and returning students and their families to the Storrs campus. This is an exciting time to be at the University of Connecticut. UConn now stands among the top national public research universities in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report. Each year, our students reach ever-higher levels of achievement, our campus becomes more vibrant, and Storrs Center evolves before our eyes, as various shops and restaurants open for business.

A new academic year means fresh opportunities and challenges for students, as well as parents. Attending UConn is an incredibly fulfilling experience—one that students will look back on with fondness and pride for the rest of their lives. As your student comes to you for guidance, I offer some simple pieces of wisdom picked up through my years in higher education as a student, faculty member, and administrator.

Be patient. Remember, college can be a challenging time for students, but also for you as parents. Be patient as you and your son or daughter figure out how to navigate these challenges together.

Educate yourself. Familiarize yourself with the University of Connecticut and its wide array of resources for parents. UConn Parent Talk is a great place to start. We also recommend that you register online for the UConn Parents Association LISTSERV so that you can receive important University updates and other information. Visit parents.uconn.edu to sign up.

Stay up-to-date on all the University has to offer for you and your student. Receive the latest University news for free by subscribing at today.uconn.edu/subscribe.

I am delighted to welcome you to campus. Best wishes for a wonderful semester.

Sincerely,

Susan Herbst
President, University of Connecticut

Check our website at parents.uconn.edu for campus events and activities throughout the year.
From the day they are accepted to the day they graduate, your student’s time at UConn marks one of the most significant transitions of their lives. They’re not only embarking on a path to future careers, but also living and learning on their own, often for the first time. They will meet new people, experience new things, and gain new insight into their world.

UConn is much more than academics. The University provides innovative resources and programming to support smooth transitions and real world preparation in every stage of our students’ experiences. As a result, we are among the nation’s top public research universities, with one of the highest retention and graduation rates in the country. In fact, UConn received high marks in the MoneyWatch national survey for public universities with the “happiest freshmen.”

UConn parents are happy to see their students succeed and flourish at UConn. Parents can be partners in that success with a gift to the Parents Fund. The Parents Fund supports initiatives that enhance the UConn journey, such as Learning Communities, the First Year Experience, and the Senior Year Experience programs. The Parents Fund also supports an array of academic enrichment and leadership programs, internships, resources for service learning projects, student activities, research, areas of greatest need as determined by the President, and much more.

With 28 academic and special interest Learning Communities on campus, our students have a unique opportunity to collaborate with like-minded peers and are encouraged to achieve success in these specialized communities. Many students (and their parents) have found this invaluable on a campus of nearly 30,000. The First Year Experience course prepares students to face challenges and thrive through instruction and peer mentoring. As the University experience concludes, the Senior Year Experience course provides real-life training in career preparation and finance, encouraging students to take advantage of the many resources available for their lives after UConn.

Help continue to provide our students every opportunity for success. Be on the lookout for your Parents Fund appeal this fall.

Partnering in Students’ Success
Lauren F. Prause, Director of Parent Giving

“The Parents Fund supports initiatives that enhance the UConn journey, such as Learning Communities, the First Year Experience, and the Senior Year Experience programs.”

On-Campus Address Formats:

Traditional Residence Halls, Suites, Charter Oak & Hilltop Apartments
Student’s Name
Room# Building Name
Storrs, CT 06269

Mansfield Apartments
Student’s Name
1 South Eagleville Road, Apt. XX
Storrs, CT 06268

Northwood Apartments
Student’s Name
1 Northwood Road, Apt. XX
Storrs, CT 06268

Husky Week of Welcome

An extension of Orientation, Husky WOW helps new students transition to campus. Events begin on Friday, August 23 when freshmen and transfer students move into the residence halls. The University Convocation ceremony will be at 5 p.m. in Gampel Pavilion. Right after the ceremony, enjoy the Husky WOW picnic for students and families. After the Husky WOW picnic, new students living on campus meet with their Resident Assistants. Students’ first night on campus includes an Ice Cream Social and the first UConn Late Night—a weekly free entertainment program. New students will join WOW groups and be assigned a WOW leader to participate in activities on Saturday and Sunday focusing on involvement and academics.

Family Weekend 2013 is right around the corner! This annual tradition is September 27, 28, and 29 with events for the entire family. For more information visit the Family Weekend website at familyweekend.uconn.edu.

Be sure to make your overnight reservations early, and remember special meals, such as the BBQ and Family Weekend Dinner, have a limited capacity and are reserved on a first-come, first-reserved basis.

For more information about the Parents Fund, contact lprause@foundation.uconn.edu.
The Bursar’s ‘Top 10’ Things to Remember for Fall 2013

Here are what I consider the most important items to help your student’s arrival at UConn go smoothly.

Margaret Selleck, University Bursar

1. UConn utilizes electronic billing (e-bill) and does not issue paper statements. Students can view their e-bill, designate an authorized user such as a parent or guardian, make free online e-check payments or enroll in an installment payment plan by logging into the UConn e-Bill and Payment Plan Suite. The fastest way to access the suite is to go to the Bursar’s home page at bursar.uconn.edu and click on the large View and Pay e-Bill button. Students and authorized users should check their email accounts often. At UConn, your e-mail = your business.

2. Fee bills were due August 1. Unsettled fee bills can result in a late fee and an account “hold” that prevents students from adding or dropping classes, using the recreation center, and other important services. The fee bill is considered settled if your student has paid it in full or if the balance will be covered by one or more of the following scenarios: 1) your student is paying through UConn’s installment payment plan and is current; 2) your student has been granted a deferment for an outside scholarship; 3) The student (and you, if applicable) has completed the financial aid process with UConn’s financial aid office. Incomplete financial aid is not considered settled.

3. Students and authorized users can make free online e-check payments by logging into our e-Bill and Payment Plan Suite. Or, you may login to your own bank’s online bill paying system and select “UConn Fee Bill” from the list of payees. Credit card payments can only be performed by students through the PeopleSoft Student Administration System. The University accepts MasterCard, Discover, American Express and Diners Club. A 2.5% convenience fee will be charged for credit card transactions.

4. Don’t forget to have your student waive the health insurance charge if you already have health insurance that covers them. Waiving the charge decreases the fall fee bill by $2,338 for most students. Your student may complete the waiver by logging into the Student Administration System and going to the Student Permissions area of the Student Center. Print out or write down the waiver confirmation number.

5. Due to federal regulations, if your student wants their financial aid to pay all their UConn charges they must grant us permission through a “Title IV Financial Aid Waiver.” Otherwise, certain kinds of charges may remain on their account resulting in a hold. If they’ve never done this waiver they may do so by logging into the Student Administration System and navigating to the Student Permissions area of the Student Center. If your student has completed the waiver in a previous semester they do not need to do it again.

6. Similarly, if you’re taking out a Parent PLUS Loan you must indicate whether you want your loan funds to pay all your student’s charges and whether or not you want any excess loan funds to be refunded to your student instead of you. You may indicate this when applying for your PLUS loan.

7. It is strongly recommended that your student review his or her online fee bill in the Student Administration System a few days before arriving on campus.

8. Financial Aid refund checks are handed out starting the first day of classes (Aug. 26). Lines for refund checks at the start of each semester are very long, so if your student can afford to wait a few days they may want to do so. Also, before coming to the Bursar’s Office, your student should login to his/her student account to make sure a check has been written. A check is ready when it appears in the “Refunds” section of the online fee bill account and will be available for pick-up at the Bursar’s Office. Direct Deposit (or “e-refund”) is available to students. This allows students to have their excess financial aid, scholarships, and personal payments deposited directly into their bank checking accounts instead of receiving paper checks. (Note: excludes Parent PLUS Loans unless the parent has designated funds to go to the student; U.S. bank accounts only.) Students may sign up for Direct Deposit by logging into their Student Administration accounts and navigating to Enroll or Edit Direct Deposit Information under the “Finances” section of the Student Center.

9. If your student is expecting an outside scholarship that has not yet been received by UConn, they may request a deferment online by going to the “Forms” area of the Bursar’s website. Both the Bursar’s Office and the Financial Aid Office need to receive copies of the scholarship award letters. This is the same process for third-party payments, for example: military, 529 plans, or employer payments.

10. Lastly, confirm your UConn email and home mailing addresses are updated. Students can update addresses by logging into the Student Administration System and navigating to the Personal Information Section of the Student Center.

Read All About It

The UConn Parents Association LISTSERV provides important updates via emails from our Association and from the UConn administration. We hope you want to receive these emails; please sign up at parents.uconn.edu. You may also remove your email address when you no longer wish to receive these very important messages.
As summer winds down, the Office of Student Financial Aid Services (OSFAS) is preparing to welcome new and continuing students as they arrive in Storrs. To provide a smooth transition, we urge all students and families to ensure that financial aid awards have been processed and fee bill arrangements have been finalized with the University prior to arrival.

The University has established email as the primary means of sending official information to students. Whenever a change is made to a financial aid award, or if action is required, students are notified via University email accounts.

**Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Regulations**

Federal regulations require the Office to review the academic progress of each continuing student applying for aid. Applicants who are not in compliance with the University’s Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy are ineligible for the aid programs governed by the guidelines. Details regarding the SAP policy can be found at financialaid.uconn.edu/sap.

**STUDENT TO-DO LIST**

- Log into the *Student Administration System* to determine financial aid status and take action on awards.

**Financial Aid Recipients**

- Verify status of any outstanding required items.
- Accept or decline awards.
- Enter anticipated credits per semester.
- Enter information on any awards such as scholarships, tuition waivers, etc. expected from outside sources. Questions? Contact our client services staff at financialaid@uconn.edu or 860-486-2819.

**UConn Scholarship Recipients**

- Review the type and amount of scholarship(s) awarded, and accept applicable terms and conditions.

**First-Time Federal Direct Stafford Loan Borrowers**

- Complete required Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note (MPN) for Federal Direct Stafford Loans at studentloans.gov.

**All Federal Perkins Loan Borrowers**

- Obtain information regarding the completion of the required Master Promissory Note at financialaid.uconn.edu/Perkinsmpn.

**PARENT TO-DO LIST**

- If interested in applying for a Federal Direct PLUS Loan to help pay for your student’s education, obtain additional information at financialaid.uconn.edu/plus.
- Remind your student to check both his/her UConn email and the *Student Administration (SA) System* regularly.
- Encourage your student to respond promptly to all requests for required documentation. If your student’s FAFSA is selected by the federal processor for verification, additional documentation will be required. Visit financialaid.uconn.edu/verification for details.
- Verify that the student’s name and Student ID appear on each piece of paper submitted.
- Fax required documents to 860-486-6629.
- Before calling on behalf of a student, please ensure that the student has identified you as a designee via the Online FERPA Privacy Waiver in the *Student Administration System*, and that you have your assigned access code available. Our office will not be able to speak with parents about their student’s financial aid records without this access code.
- Determine if additional resources are required to meet any outstanding balance due to the University. The Financial Aid Worksheet, available at financialaid.uconn.edu/verification, can help in estimating the amount needed.

**FERPA: What’s Different Between K-12 and Post-secondary Education?**

Lauren DiGrazia, University Registrar

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), originally passed in 1974, applies to both K-12 and post-secondary education, but there is a key difference. In K-12, the rights under the law belong to the student’s parents, not the student, until the student turns 18. In post-secondary education, including the University of Connecticut, the rights *always* belong to the student, regardless of the student’s age or dependency status. While your student’s high school could freely share information with you about your student’s grades and other information—that was your right under the law—the University cannot. To do so without your student’s permission would be a violation of the law.

A couple of years ago, the University developed a mechanism for students to give the University permission to share various types of information with their parents or guardians. The *Online FERPA Waiver* allows students to indicate the types of information to be shared, with whom information can be shared, and allows students to assign an access code to be used to identify the approved recipient(s). More information on this process and on the law itself can be found on the University’s FERPA website: ferpa.uconn.edu.

Check out the OSFAS website at financialaid.uconn.edu.
Greetings from UConn’s Cultural Centers. The missions, constituencies, and programmatic initiatives vary from Center to Center, but all are committed to supporting the mission of the University to promote academic excellence and support ALL students in developing to their fullest potential. The Cultural Centers provide many opportunities for exposing the University community to widely diverse people, cultures, ideas, and viewpoints and to an increasingly globalized workplace and society. Most Cultural Centers are located on the 4th floor of the Student Union. We invite you to visit us early in the fall semester.

H. Fred Simons African American Cultural Center (AACC)
Willena Kimpson Price, Ph.D., Director
aacc.uconn.edu
860-486-3433, aacc@uconn.edu
Established on the Storrs campus in 1968, the mission of the AACC is to promote academic excellence, cultural preservation, and quality leadership through a unique approach to cultural advocacy, academic support, and community outreach to middle schools, high schools, and community organizations and institutions in the State of Connecticut and across the region. The Center assists students in navigating the many resources of the University and accessing information and assistance in academic support, financial aid, career services, mental health/counseling services, student employment, Office of Student Services and Advocacy, the Office of Student Activities, and other campus offices, schools, and departments.

Asian American Cultural Center (AsACC)
Angela Rola, Director
asacc.uconn.edu
860-486-0830, asacc@uconn.edu
AsACC provides resources to enhance the University’s diversity commitment through its recruitment and retention efforts, teaching service, and outreach to the Asian American community on campus and beyond. Central to all its programming, the AsACC assists students in defining and expressing their cultural identity in multicultural America and provides employment and volunteer opportunities for undergraduate students.

Puerto Rican/Latin American Cultural Center (PRLACC)
Fany Hannon, Director
latino.uconn.edu
860-486-1135, prlacc@uconn.edu
Established in 1972, PRLACC’s mission is to improve the status of Latinos and to promote awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the richness and diversity of Latinos and Latin American cultures and serve as an advocate for Latinos, providing support for students, staff, and faculty. PRLACC works independently and collaboratively with University departments and community organizations to sponsor educational and cultural programs, provide services and leadership opportunities, foster connections, and educate the University and extended community about Latino issues, supporting student, faculty, and staff recruitment and retention, as well as enriching the multicultural climate of our community.

Rainbow Center
Fleurette King, Director
rainbowcenter.uconn.edu
860-486-5821, rainbowcenter@uconn.edu
The mission of the Rainbow Center is to serve the diversity of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, and Heterosexual Ally community and to provide resources and services to the wider community of students, faculty, staff, and local residents; to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to learn, work, and grow in a supportive and safe environment; to act as an accessible and safe space for reporting incidents of harassment and discrimination; and to diminish the effects of alienation experienced by community members by reducing negative, oppressive, and harmful behaviors and/or attitudes towards the GLBTQ community through the use of education and advocacy. Everyone is welcome regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression!

Women’s Center
Kathleen Holgerson, Director
womenscenter.uconn.edu
860-486-4738, womenscenter@uconn.edu
The Women’s Center’s mission is to educate, advocate, and provide support services for the achievement of women’s equity at the University and within the community at large; special attention is focused on, but not limited to, women who face additional challenges due to their race, ethnicity, socioeconomic class, sexual identity, religion, age, and physical or mental ability. The major activities of the Women’s Center are concentrated in three core, interconnected areas: education (programs focused on raising awareness on issues related to gender); advocacy (assisting individuals who experience violence and/or discrimination and assisting various campus departments in creating more equitable and inclusive policies and practices); and support services (referrals and crisis intervention).

Office of Global Programs — the International Center
Robert Chudy, Director
disp.uconn.edu
860-486-3855, disp@uconn.edu
The Office of Global Programs — the International Center provides a supportive environment for international students, scholars, and their dependents who are experiencing cultural adjustment issues. Coupled with these adjustment issues, the International Center provides a wide array of activities ranging from educational outreach programs to coffee hours; held weekly, the theme is “my country,” honoring a different nationality each time. Located in McMahon Hall.
Off-Campus and Commuter Tips for Parents and Family Members

John Armstrong, Interim Director of Off-Campus Student Services

Off-Campus Student Services (OCSS) offers resources and advocacy for UConn students who chose to live off-campus or commute from home. Our website, offcampus.uconn.edu, provides information about programs, services, and resources that students and/or their families may find helpful. The Off-Campus Housing Guide, found on our website, provides comprehensive information about how to search for and lease an apartment in the area.

If your student moves off campus or commutes to UConn from home, OCSS can serve as advocate and guide to ensure they have a positive experience. Our office can assist your student in the housing search, lease review, and offer tips for moving into the community. As a parent or family member, your support and involvement is critical to your student’s experience. Here is some information to help your student make a successful transition.

Understanding Responsibilities
Leasing or renting a place to live off campus can be very exciting for students. However, the responsibilities associated with the newfound freedom can be confusing and overwhelming. As a parent or family member, you can help your student better understand and prepare for new responsibilities by discussing topics such as paying bills and communicating with their property manager. Moving off-campus often results in neighborhood living that is a mixture of both students and nonstudent residents. Therefore, living off-campus is no different than living at home with neighbors in regard to community expectations. Finally, your student should be aware that living off-campus does not exempt them from adhering to the UConn Student Code of Conduct and local town ordinances.

Utilizing Resources
There are many services on campus that are available to off-campus and commuter students. Dining Services offers a meal plan that is flexible and convenient. Student Health Services provides medical care, and HuskyTech offers computer technical assistance. The Commuter Lounge is located on the first floor of the Student Union; it includes a television, day lockers, a refrigerator, and more. Encourage your student to take advantage of these and many other resources to help them be successful.

Exploring Opportunities
OCSS offers resources and support for UConn students’ off-campus living and/or commuting experience. If you or your student has a question or concern about living off campus and/or commuting, please visit our office in the Wilbur Cross Building or our website at offcampus.uconn.edu for more information.
**Public Transportation Options—In and Out of Storrs**

*Consider these travel options when planning travel to and from the University of Connecticut’s Storrs campus.*

**Hertz on Demand:** This is a car rental option available on the Storrs campus. There are four rental cars, offered at affordable hourly and daily rates. Drivers must be at least 18 years old with a valid U.S. or international driver’s license. For more information, go to hertzondemand.com/uconn.

**Windham Regional Transit District (WRTD):** The WRTD bus provides transportation between Storrs and neighboring Willimantic. Upon showing their UConn ID, UConn students may ride for free. For routes and schedules, go to www.wrtd.net.

**Megabus:** Get discounted direct bus service to and from New York City and Hartford. The Storrs campus Megabus bus stop is located between the UConn Co-op and Gampel Pavilion. Go to us.megabus.com for more information about rates and routes.

**Peter Pan Bus Lines:** Enjoy express service to and from New York City or Boston, with connections in Hartford. The Storrs campus Peter Pan bus stop is located between the UConn Co-op and Connecticut Commons Residence Halls. To check schedules and Peter Pan’s other stop locations, go to peterpanbus.com.

**Bradley International Airport:** Located 45 minutes away from Storrs, Bradley International Airport offers flights to locations across the country and the world. UConn Transportation Services provides an on-demand airport shuttle service to and from the airport for students. For more information on the Bradley Airport Shuttle, go to transpo.uconn.edu/#shuttleAirport.

**Amtrak:** Hartford’s Union Train Station is located just 30 minutes away from the Storrs campus. The station services Amtrak’s Northeast Regional and Vermonter routes. UConn Transportation Services provides an on-demand Union Station shuttle service that goes to and from the Storrs campus. Check out transpo.uconn.edu/#shuttleUnion for more information.

**Cross Sound Ferry:** The ferry offers transportation from New London, CT to Orient Point, NY on Long Island. UConn Transportation Services offers an on-demand New London Ferry shuttle service for those looking to travel between New London and Storrs. For more information on the New London Ferry Shuttle, go to transpo.uconn.edu/#shuttleNewLondon.

**CTrides:** CTrides is a free service that provides assistance and information about commuting options in Connecticut. For additional information regarding specific areas, go to www.ctrides.com.

**Enterprise Car Rental:** Enterprise offers daily service from its Willimantic location. To get more information about rentals and rates, go to enterprise.com/car_rental/home.do.

You may find lots of UConn transportation news to “Like” on our Facebook page: facebook.com/uconntranspo.

Visit transpo.uconn.edu for more information about transportation and parking at UConn.
What’s There To Do On Campus?

Christine M. Wilson, Ph.D., Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs & Director of Student Activities, Department of Student Activities

What does it mean to be involved?
UConn is full of life! Students just have to take a little initiative to open the many doors there are to involvement here in Storrs.

What does “involvement” mean? Being involved means engaging in campus life. It means taking advantage of the myriad opportunities available, from athletics to fine arts to student-run organizations. It means having places to go and people to see, finding people who have similar interests, and interacting with folks who disagree about some topics.

It means getting to know professors who are passionate about their disciplines and seeking out staff for support and guidance. It means fully living while earning a degree at UConn. There are many ways to get involved.

How can students get involved?
Attend the Involvement Fair. The Involvement Fair this fall is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4 in the Greer Field House. Most of our 600+ student clubs and organizations will be there. Check out studentactivities.uconn.edu/inv_fair.html.

Check out all the student organizations on UCONNTACT, our student organization database. Anyone can browse the list and descriptions of clubs and organizations. In each organization description, there is a place to send a message to the primary contact. Encourage your student to be bold—to go ahead and contact the leader of the group, to find out more about the group, or when the next meeting is scheduled.

Ask a friend…bring a friend…go with a friend. A lot of students get involved because friends encourage them to check out an organization’s activity. It’s always easier to go with a group to something new, so encourage your student to ask some friends to come along and see what a place or an event is like. Conversely, encourage your student to go along if someone asks them…nothing ventured, nothing gained, right?

What is there to do on the weekends in Storrs?
The campus is alive on the weekends with safe, fun activities. Encourage your student to go to the Student Union for everything from movies to karaoke to live music. Many of these activities are planned by our student programming board, SUBOG. The Student Union schedule is listed at studentunion.uconn.edu/calendar and SUBOG’s schedule is at subog.uconn.edu. There are also plenty of athletic events; many are free and right here on campus. The schedules of all the sports teams can be found at uconnhuskies.com. Several theatres on campus host student performances as well as Broadway shows; check out their calendars at jorgensen.uconn.edu and cft.uconn.edu. One thing is for sure—students won’t be bored because there is always something to do!

Will involvement have a negative effect on my student’s grades?
Involvement can have a positive effect on students’ grades and satisfaction. Students who are involved learn to manage their time and handle multiple priorities. They are also happier with themselves and their overall college experiences. But over-involvement can be problematic. Students who are over-involved don’t always take care of themselves; they don’t eat as well and start sleeping less. This can lead to poor health and slipping grades. Help your student understand that being a college student is like having a full-time job. First priority is academics: attending class, keeping up with homework, studying for tests (not cramming—actually absorbing material over time), and taking plenty of time to draft and revise papers. Next, add on “integrated” activities. Meet people and make friends by creating study groups. Join clubs or participate in service projects that are related to their major. Next, stretch beyond. Attend athletic events, concerts, and movies, and join a club just for fun. Don’t forget to make good choices at the dining halls (nutrition information is available at dining.uconn.edu/nutrition) and to work out (Recreation has an extensive list of classes; information is available at recreation.uconn.edu).

Involvement, if managed well, will make your student’s UConn experience healthy and productive. If you have questions, call us at 860-486-6855. If we’re not open, leave us a message and we’ll get back to you!
How to Best Access the Care that Student Health Services Provides

Michael Kurland, Director, Student Health Services

Student Health Services is an accredited and licensed ambulatory care facility, employing licensed and fully-credentialed, board-certified healthcare professionals. We recognize that this may be the first time your student will be in charge of managing his/her own healthcare. Not only do we partner with your student to ensure access to the healthcare and services that may be needed during his/her academic career, but we hope to ultimately help him/her become a responsible healthcare consumer when it is time to venture out into the “real world.”

While we also value our partnership with parents and families, please realize that in compliance with applicable privacy regulations and standards, students control access to their medical information. Therefore, if you wish to discuss your student’s specific medical treatment with a member of our staff, you should first consult with your student so he/she can sign a release to allow us to discuss his/her care with you. Ideally, it is best for you to encourage your student to discuss issues directly with his/her healthcare provider so that he/she can be actively involved with his/her health and medical care.

Student Health Services offers a wide range of services, including primary healthcare, immediate care (non-life threatening), counseling and mental health, in-patient care, laboratory, radiology, and pharmacy. Specialized services include a women’s clinic, allergy and travel medicine clinic, nutritional counseling, physical activity counseling, sports medicine, and an orthopedic clinic.

Since many of the services provided by Student Health Services are on a fee-for-service basis, it is important that your student bring his/her insurance identification card, prescription card (if applicable), and student identification card to each visit, so that we can work together in determining how to best access any necessary care. Please make sure that you have discussed any insurance limitations or prior authorization requirements with your student prior to his/her arrival on campus. This will help expedite the decisions regarding accessing cost-effective care.

Please remember that while Student Health Services provides a variety of excellent healthcare services, our focus is primary care. If your student has serious or chronic medical conditions, please note them on the submitted health history form. Also, please maintain existing relationships with your medical specialists. We will work in conjunction with them to provide coordinated care while your student is at UConn and will help collaborate with any healthcare resources or support services that are needed on campus or within the local community. While the University runs ambulances staffed by EMTs that will transport to hospitals for emergencies, it is important to realize that if your student requires non-emergency medical transportation to an offsite provider, Storrs is a rural area with limited public transportation. If you have any questions regarding our services or any special circumstances regarding your incoming student, please feel free to call us at 860-486-4700. We are here to help.

Students are able to access care by phone at 860-486-4700, by appointment at 860-486-2719, or on a walk-in basis for immediate care. We are available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week when school is in session. Of course, not all services are available at all times.

More information is available by calling 860-486-4700 and by checking shs.uconn.edu.
Your family is embarking on an exciting journey—a year filled with enjoyable opportunities, coupled with personal challenges and growth. Your student will live near a Resident Assistant (RA), an experienced UConn student-staff member who will be most familiar with and closest to your student. RAs assist residents’ transition through floor and residence hall community programming, and by encouraging students to take advantage of opportunities to merge curricular, co-curricular, and residential experiences. We encourage students to get involved in their community and to give staff input by participating in area councils and various residential programs and committees.

Residential Areas
All of UConn’s residence halls have unique and special environments based on facilities, traditions, and resident populations. Students can have a successful and enjoyable on-campus living experience in any hall where they are assigned. The most important housing issue relates to how residents adjust and adapt to their roommates. Residential Life provides support and resources to all resident students to help facilitate this process, including the opportunity to complete a HuskyMate Agreement very early in the semester. This is an important first step in laying the foundation for a successful roommate relationship. We encourage you to talk with your student about using all of the resources that will be available to them in developing their roommate relationship.

Moving-in Advice
Move-in day is both exciting and emotional for you and your student. Moving 12,000+ students to campus is well-planned; please follow the move-in directions your student receives in the Housing Assignment email in August. Upon arrival, unload your car in the designated area. While you move your car to the parking lot, your student can check in and someone from your group can wait with the belongings. Following these steps will allow another family to begin unloading, as well as help keep traffic flowing. Try to be flexible in the time you allot to the move-in process—no matter how much the University prepares, there will be a wait given the large number of students who are moving in. Just remember that you will make it through the day... everyone always does.

Roommates
Roommates are strongly encouraged to make a connection with each other so they can set a communication pattern to work together on common concerns. If roommates are having trouble, they are encouraged to discuss the matter with their RA or a professional hall director.

Safety and Security
Safety is a shared community responsibility. Residents should always lock room doors, carry their keys and ID, and register overnight guests with hall staff. No one should leave personal belongings unattended in lounges or laundry rooms, or let strangers into the buildings and rooms. The University Escort Service is available to students at night, or students can walk with a friend.

Room Amenities
All rooms include study desks and chairs, a closet or wardrobe, a bed, and mattress for each resident. These furnishings must remain in the room throughout the year.

What to Bring
Packing for college requires some preparation; do not let your student bring every possession. A dorm room has shared, limited space.

Connecticut State Laws
Any student residing in on-campus housing must be vaccinated against meningitis. Proof of vaccination must be provided before occupying a room on-campus during the academic year. Smoking is prohibited in state-owned buildings and is not permitted near entrances/exits and windows of any on-campus housing. Every UConn residential student must abide by the on-campus housing contract’s rules and regulations regarding alcohol (part 4, reslife.uconn.edu/housing_contract_forms).

More Questions?
Your student’s hall director can provide you with valuable resources about residence hall living and campus life. Equally important, we want you to know that if you ever have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact us. Our email address is livingoncampus@uconn.edu.
It is very important that returning students carry their current ID card when they return in the fall. If they forget or lose that card, they will be charged the current replacement fee.

Some people have UConn IDs featuring an interim design* that the One Card Office began issuing last May to quickly adopt the new Husky logo and University branding. However, as done in the past, we would like the UConn community to participate in the design of our ID card. Accordingly, several designs will be presented this fall to be voted on by the UConn community. The winning design will become the permanent design for the UConn ID card.

Students and employees with functional UConn ID cards will not be given a card with the temporary design.

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Husky One Card Can Do Double Duty

Ellie Prairie, Business Services Supervisor, One Card Office

Students carry just one card—their Husky One Card—as on-campus identification to access services and facilities. Once a deposit is made to the student’s Husky Bucks account, the Husky One Card also operates like a debit card to pay for purchases both on and off campus. Over 30 businesses including the Co-op, the Jorgensen Theatre, grocery stores, gas stations, and restaurants on or near the Storrs campus accept Husky Bucks, with many merchants offering discounts for purchases made with Husky Bucks.

Here’s a freshman move-in day tip: avoid the Co-op bookstore busy check-out lines by opting instead to make a Husky Bucks deposit to cover textbook costs. This way, books can be bought when the store isn’t as crowded.

An easy and convenient way to make purchases, any Husky Bucks balance rolls over between semesters and years, and balances are refundable upon graduation. Some parents especially like that Husky Bucks serve as a controlled spending account, since Husky Bucks can only be spent at merchants that have been approved by UConn.

Husky Bucks are not like a credit card, nor are they the same thing as the University’s meal plan points. Points can only be used for food and beverages at University-operated dining facilities.

There are two popular deposit methods: online from our website using MasterCard or Visa; or sending an electronic transfer from your personal bank’s bill pay system. More deposit methods are listed at onecard.uconn.edu. Here you can also view a complete list of Husky Bucks merchants.

To contact the One Card Office, please call 860-486-3129 or email onecard@uconn.edu.
Although your student has already signed up for a fall 2013 meal plan with Residential Life/Housing, students have until Friday, September 13 to downgrade from the option that has been selected. If your student is considering changing his or her meal plan decision, the following information may help; if you or your student have questions about the meal plans, please visit the main office at One Bishop Circle or call 860-486-3128. We'll be happy to talk to you.

Resident Meal Plans
There are three resident meal plans to choose from: Ultimate Plan, Value Plan, or Custom Plan. These meal plans are priced per semester and are active only when school is in session. All UConn resident students living in undergraduate and graduate housing are required to have a meal plan. (Students living in on-campus apartments are not required to have a meal plan.) All three plans allow for unlimited meals each day in any of the eight dining units. Takeout, however, is limited to one piece of fruit OR one beverage OR one ice cream. This helps keep our costs in line.

Resident meal plans come with flex passes and/or points. One flex pass = one meal. Flex passes can only be used in the eight residential dining units and to purchase a value meal at the Grab & Go’s. One point = $1. Points are used for purchases in the retail operations: UC Cafes, Café Co-op, Union Street Market Food Court, UC Subs, The Blue Cow, and after 3 p.m. at Chuck & Augie’s Restaurant. They may also be used to purchase items from our UConn bakery. Points are not accepted at Wendy’s and Panda Express in the Student Union Food Court since those restaurants are not run by Dining Services.

If your student thinks he or she may want to supplement meals at the cafés and the Food Court, encourage your student to choose a meal plan with more points. If the dining units seem a better choice for your student, choose a plan with more flex passes. Students may also use flex passes to pay for a friend or relative’s meal. (Note: If they aren’t used up by the end of the semester, your student loses the flex passes and points that come with residential meal plans.)

Custom Meal Plan
If your student is not sure which residential meal plan to choose, encourage him or her to upgrade to the Custom Plan next semester. Students can purchase additional points at any time during the semester if it turns out he or she stops at the cafés or retail operations more than anticipated. Points are purchased for $1 per point. There is no minimum purchase and, unlike points that come with the other meal plans, these points do roll over from semester to semester and can be refunded once your student graduates and/or leaves the University.

You can also purchase Husky Bucks for your student in addition to the student’s resident meal plan. For information about Husky Bucks, see the story on the opposite page, or for more information go to onecard.uconn.edu or call 860-486-3129.

Non-Resident Meal Plans
Meal options for students living off-campus include the three resident meal plans: Ultimate, Value, or Custom. Non-residents can also choose the Community Meal Plan, or Husky Bucks combined with the Community Meal Plan.

Community Meal Plan
Your student may purchase a block of 25 meals. This plan may be used in any of our eight dining units and it carries over from semester to semester. There is no limit to the number of meals that can be used each day and your student may bring a guest(s) by simply debiting a meal(s). Your student may purchase additional blocks of meals or additional points at $1 per point any time. Unused meals are refunded when the student graduates or leaves the University. When students purchase a valid Community Meal Plan (25 meals) for use in the residential dining units and pay for food purchases in retail operations with Husky Bucks, students will receive a five percent discount off each retail purchase. Please note that this discount is applied only to purchases in Union Street Market and any of our five UC Café coffee shops. Off-campus locations are not included in this offer. For more information about Husky Bucks and how to purchase them, see the story on the opposite page or visit onecard.uconn.edu or call 860-486-3129.

Cash Point Account
Also available is the Cash Point Account. This is a declining balance account which stays open year-round. Cash points are purchased at $1 per point at any time and may be used at all eight dining units and most retail operations.
HuskyTech is a free technology support service provided by the University. We can help any UConn student with their technology-related questions and we support their digital life. Technology has become an integral part of the college experience and we understand that it can also be frustrating at times. Our mission is to make the transition as seamless as possible for both parents and students. The first question that may come to a parent’s mind is, “What technology will my student need for their college experience?” UConn does not require a specific computer; however we do have several recommendations.

Students can use either Mac or Windows-based computers. When looking to purchase a computer, a good approach is to find the best warranty offered for a computer that can fit your budget. It is often worth paying a little extra for that extended protection and better specifications so that the computer will last the full four years. The University provides the latest version of Microsoft Office for all students. They are also given a UConn Gmail account with full access to Google Apps. Course-specific software is available through our virtual PC program.

A complete list of additional freeware can be found at huskytech.uconn.edu, including options for required antivirus software.

HuskyTech recommends bringing backup devices for your student’s files. This may be anything from a flash drive (for documents and pictures) to an external hard drive that can back up an entire computer. Too often we see students lose a semester’s worth of work because their system crashed and there was no way to recover the files.

Secure wired and wireless networking is available to students using personal computers, smart phones, tablets, and gaming consoles. Networks can be found in all residence halls and academic buildings. Wireless printing is available in the library and other select locations. Before connecting to the network at UConn, students should ensure their computers are up-to-date and protected with antivirus software. All computers go through a registration process that includes installing policy software and agreeing to network regulations.

We understand that this process may be daunting; however we are here to help. Visit huskytech.uconn.edu to find contact information, the latest updates, technology guides, FAQs, and info for troubleshooting. We will also be available in most residence halls during move-in weekend assisting all incoming students.

Visit huskytech.uconn.edu for all technology-related questions.
Welcome from the Office of Student Services and Advocacy

Karen Bresciano, Associate Director, Office of Student Services and Advocacy

Welcome to our community! We are proud to serve UConn and its students, and look forward to meeting our incoming class.

We serve as the primary advocates for students, and assist students and their families in navigating UConn. We serve as the central place that assists you in a variety of ways:

- referring or assisting with academic or health support;
- helping with off-campus living issues;
- assisting with challenging University business issues (Bursars, Financial Aid, etc.);
- facilitating withdrawing or canceling attendance at UConn;
- readmitting to UConn after an absence;
- assisting with short-term loans in some personal financial emergencies; and
- rescheduling final exams.

Final Exams

Isn’t it a bit early to be thinking about final exams? Not necessarily. The Division of Student Affairs Office for Student Services and Advocacy may grant permission to reschedule a final exam if a student is ill, dealing with a serious crisis, or some other unavoidable circumstance.

The final exam period is very stressful for most students. Frequently, students come to our office stressed because their families have scheduled a party, a family reunion, travel, or a vacation during exam time and expect the student to attend. Unfortunately, these are not reasons that we can reschedule a final exam. A student who does not take a final and has been denied permission to reschedule will most likely fail the class. This fall 2013 semester, exam week is from Monday, December 9 through Sunday, December 15. The exam period for any semester is posted in advance on the University website. Please be aware of the dates of your student’s exam week so that you can help avoid putting your student in the stressful position of trying to choose between fulfilling family obligations and successfully completing classes.

Should there be a closing for the day, due to snow or other emergency, the finals for the day of the closing may be postponed until Monday, December 16. This situation did occur recently. Hundreds of students had to take rescheduled exams, so faculty and students are advised to not make travel plans prior to Monday, December 16. Each year, many exams have been given on the last day of exams, so it is likely that your student will have an exam that day.

Our desire is to help students manage their stress as much as possible, and your assistance in this matter will be very helpful. We are pleased to have an opportunity to work with you on this and any other issue.
Surprise Your Student for a Special Occasion

Office of Orientation Services

If you need a gift to celebrate your student’s birthday, accomplishment, or other special occasion try ordering it from local merchants on or around the Storrs campus. All vendors listed here are located on the UConn Storrs campus.

UConn Dairy Bar
A UConn Dairy Bar custom ice cream cake would make a great gift. You can see sample photos of custom cake creations if you visit dairybar.uconn.edu/customCakes. To place an order for a custom cake, call 860-486-2634 or 860-486-1021 at least 48 hours in advance. Please note that the UConn Dairy Bar does not accept emailed orders. Cakes are available for pick-up only.

UConn Dining Services
The Department of Dining Services operates an in-house bakery called “Not Just Desserts.” Birthday cakes and 10-inch chocolate chip cookies can be decorated with a special message of your choice. Orders will be sent to the dining hall of convenience and students will receive a call notifying them that there is an item to be picked up. Orders should be placed at least one week in advance. For details, prices, and payment options, visit the bakery website at dining.uconn.edu/bakery. To place a cake order (pick-up only), call 860-486-3128.

UConn Blooms
To order a UConn Blooms floral arrangement, call 860-486-6000 or visit uconnblooms.uconn.edu. Flower arrangements are available for pick-up only.