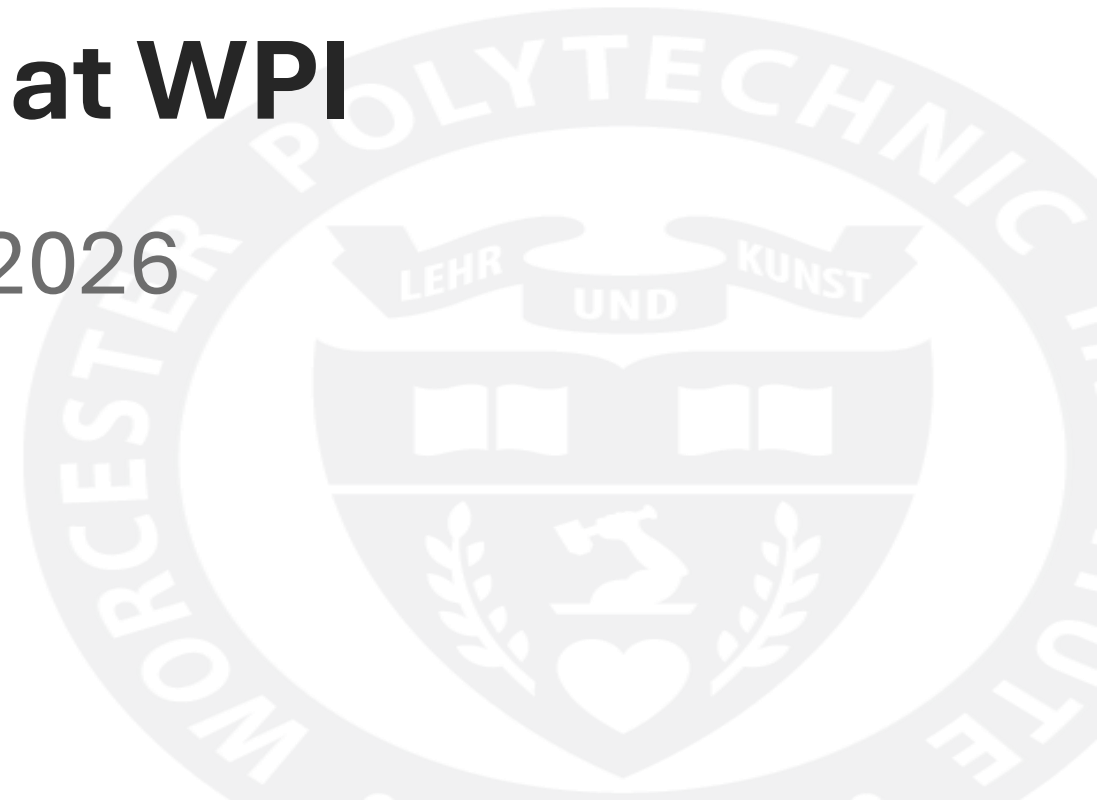


# WPI

## Supporting Your Student at WPI

First Year Welcome Experience 2026



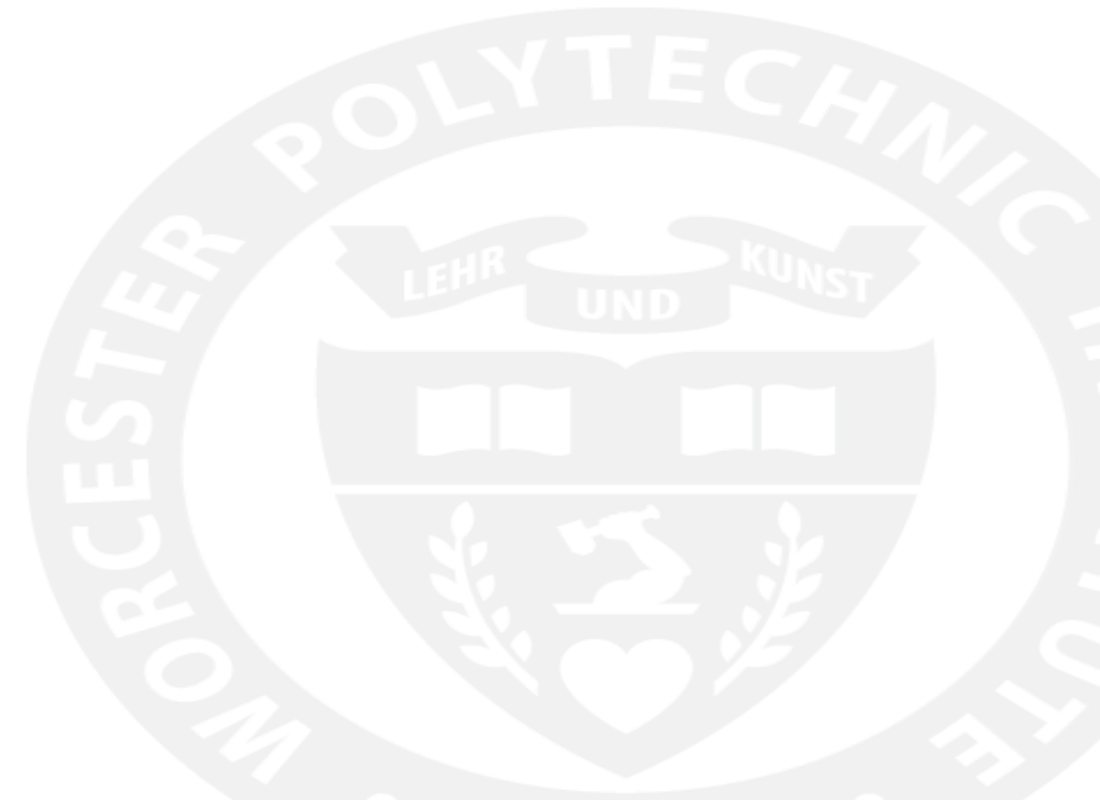
# Agenda

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- Resources for Parents
- A Few Office Introductions
- Transitioning to College
- Due Dates and Reminders
- Questions

# Resources for Parents

- Parent/guardian resources
- What do I do if I am worried?
- How WPI works with parents
- Student's support network
- Third party proxy access to Workday
- Power of Attorney



# WPI Parents & Guardians Information

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- Parents & Guardians Webpage
  - [Parents & Guardians | Worcester Polytechnic Institute \(wpi.edu\)](#)
- Getting Information
  - Herd Highlights email
  - Official WPI Parents FB page
  - WPI Mobile app – Parents & Friends persona
  - Follow official WPI social media pages
- University Advancement Parent Ambassadors
- WPI has an expansive and detailed website – it's easy to use search feature

# Guiding your student to support

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- Supports available for your student
  - [Student Resources & Support | Worcester Polytechnic Institute](#)
- Your student has a support network specific to them
  - Insight Team (Fall)
  - Academic support advisor
  - Community Director
  - Faculty advisor (assigned Spring of first year after declaring major officially)
  - OAS support (if applicable)
  - Additional faculty (if applicable)

# Student's Support Network Instructions/Visual

- Instructions:
  - Open Workday
  - Views all Apps (menu)
  - Choose Academics
  - View "Important Contacts Support Network" for advisors

The screenshot displays the WPI Academics dashboard. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the WPI logo, a search bar, and utility icons. Below this is a blue header with 'Academics' and a back arrow. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Registration Reminders:** A card with a megaphone icon and text: "Before Registration: When building Saved Schedules, don't use the Add Course button. View More".
- Helpful Links:** A card with a red WPI logo and links: "planner.wpi.edu" and "courselistings.wpi.edu. View More".
- Registration Requirements:** A section with three cards: "Actions To Do" (0), "Holds" (0), and "Actions Completed" (0).
- Important Contacts Support Network:** A table with columns: Role, Photo, Person, and Public. It lists two advisors: Michael Elmes (Primary Advisor) and Paul Reilly (Academic Support Advisor). This table is circled in black.
- Registered Classes:** A table with columns: Academic Period, Course Section Definition, Instructional Format, and Meeting Pt. It lists three classes for the 2024 Fall Semester.
- Planning & Registration:** A sidebar menu with options: Find Course Sections, View My Saved Schedules, View My Courses, and More (4).
- Academic Advising & Grades:** A sidebar menu with options: View My Grades, View My Support Network, View My Academic Progress, and View My Academic Record.
- Request Transcript:** A sidebar menu with options: Request My Unofficial Transcript and Request Official Transcript.
- All or Historical Courses:** A sidebar menu option at the bottom.

# What should I do if I am worried?

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Emergencies and Immediate Safety  
Campus Police 24/7/365  
508-831-5555

General Concerns:

Submit an “I’m Concerned About a Student” form

Call the Dean of Students office: 508-831-5201

Email the Dean of Students office:  
dean-of-students@wpi.edu

# How WPI works with parents

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- Case by case for the student/situation
- FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
  - U.S. federal law that protects the privacy of student educational records
  - Will seek permission/acknowledgement from student before fully engaging with you
  - The importance of transparency
  - Want to partner with you AND give autonomy to your student
- Ensure Workday is updated with emergency contact, cell phone numbers, and local address (if applicable)
- Encourage you to reach out to one source / touch point

# Third Party Proxy Access + Power of Attorney

- Third Party Proxy Access:

- Student needs to give you permission
- Not all or nothing – student is able to decide

Students provide **third-party proxy users** access to:

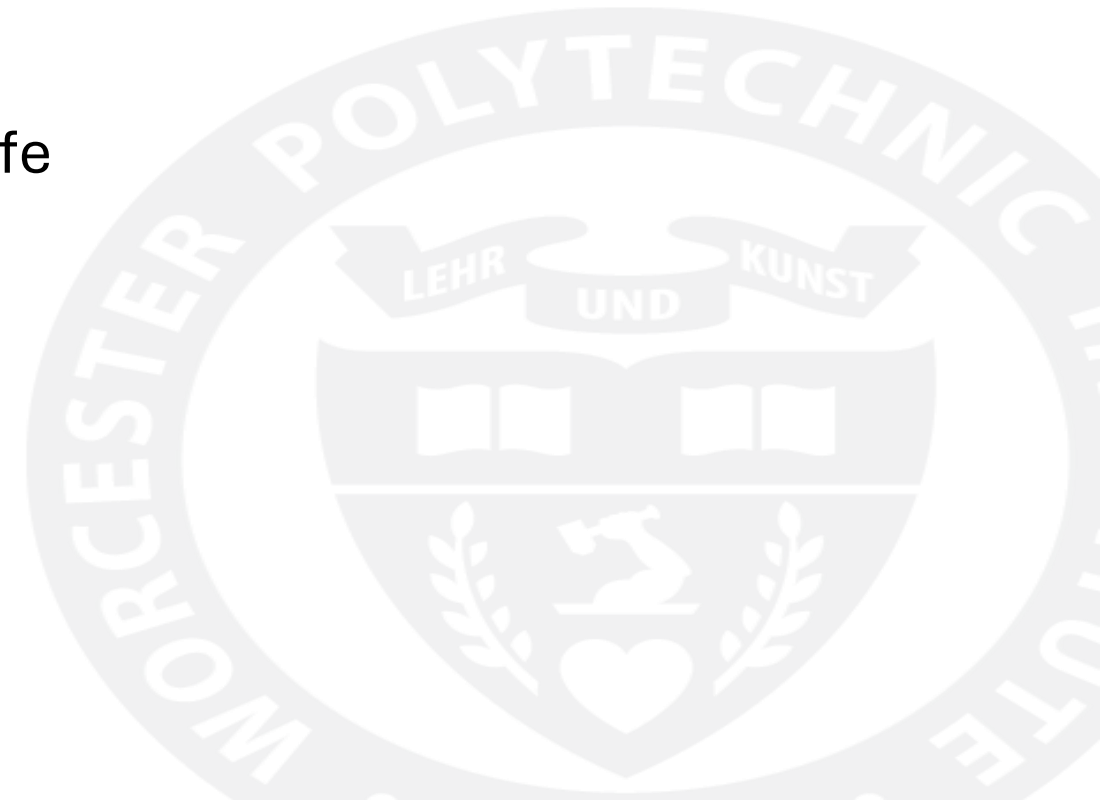
- make a payment
- view account activity
- view student statement
- view current classes
- view student grades

- Power of attorney:

- Having a power of attorney does not allow you to have access to your students protected healthcare or academic information on campus.
- POA allows you to make medical decisions if your student cannot.
- Encourage you to still have one, but WPI does not hold those.

# Transitioning to College

- Transitioning from high school to college
- Preparing to parent in a different stage of life



# Transitioning from high school to college

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- Find the full chart on the Parents & Guardians page for more
- Triangle Framework

High school	College
Time is structured by others.	Students structure their own time.
Students are told what to do and if behavior is out of line.	Students are responsible for their own choices/decisions and consequences.
Teachers take attendance	Professors may not take attendance.
Student may be woken up for school to get there on time by someone.	Students are responsible for getting to class on time.
May get help with scheduling and self-care activities.	Student's manager their own scheduling and self-care (healthcare, laundry, daily hygiene, etc.)

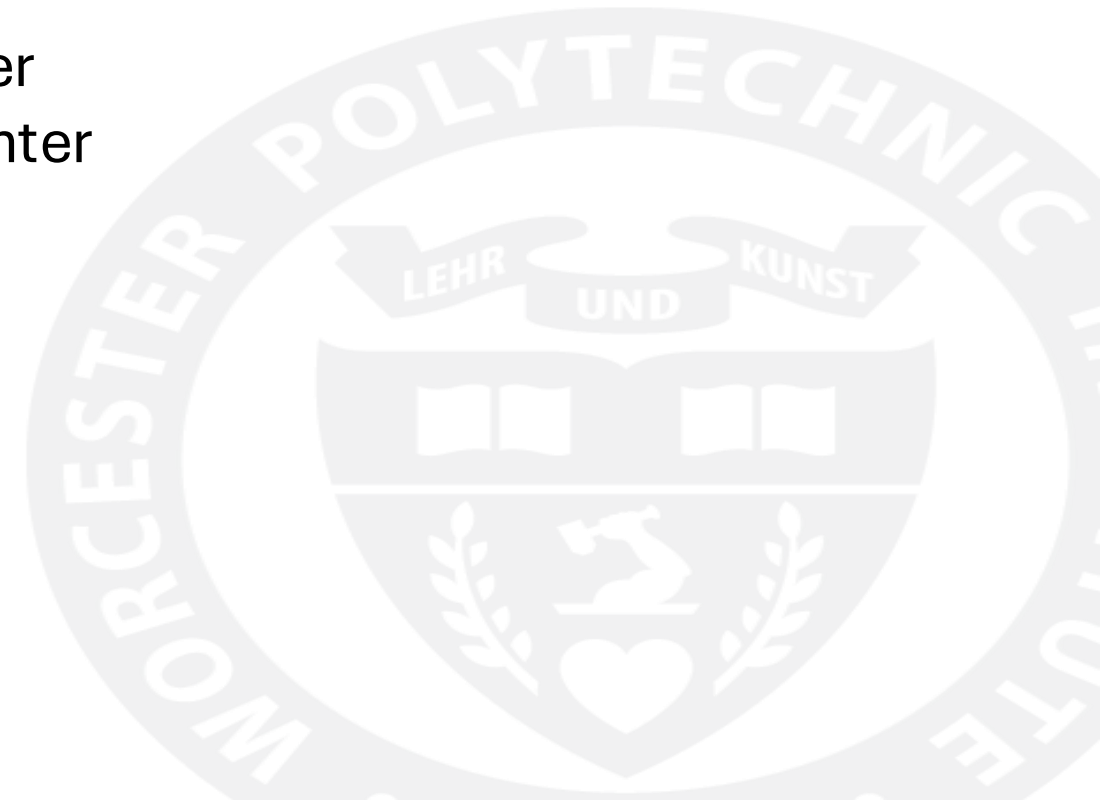
# Parenting in a Different Stage of Life

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- Set up a time to talk weekly (or another cadence)
- Balance of letting them try and supporting them
- What you hear is likely not the full context
- Point your student to the resources on-campus
- Ask them open ended questions
  - Venting vs problem solving
- Transparency around communication to WPI and how it circles back
- Encourage them to be honest, even if it's not great news
- They are in control of change

# A Few Office Introductions

- Housing and Residential Experience Center
- Student Development and Counseling Center
- Heebner Career Development Center



# HOUSING & RESIDENTIAL EXPERIENCE CENTER (HREC)

## FIRST YEAR HOUSING BREAKDOWN

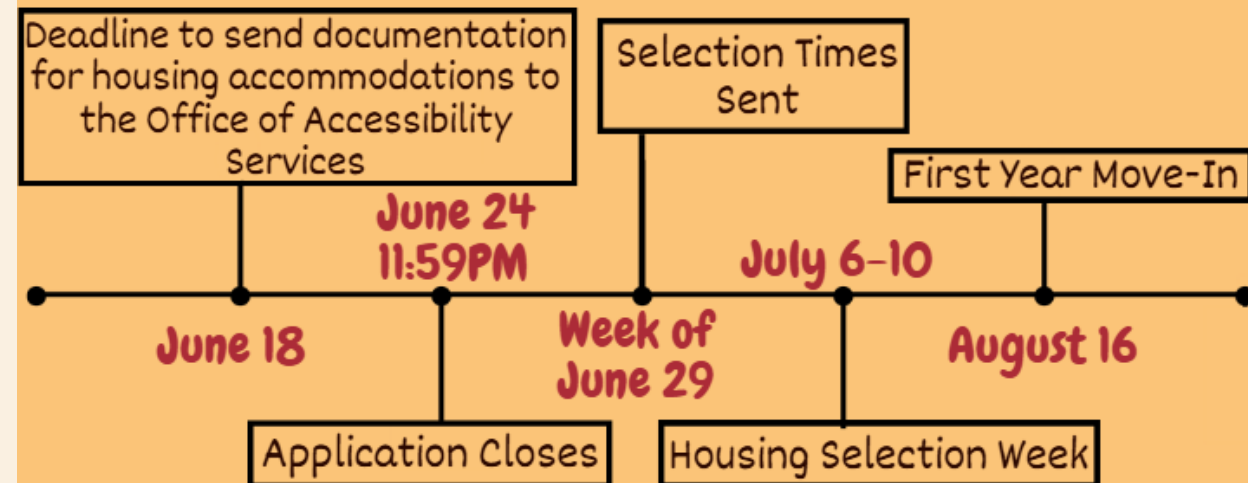
- **THE MAJORITY OF FIRST-YEAR HOUSING WILL BE IN TRIPLE OCCUPANCY ROOMS**
  - Students who choose to form a group of one are NOT guaranteed a single room.
- **GENDER-INCLUSIVE HOUSING**
  - Students who opt-in to Gender-Inclusive Housing will be able to be assigned to the same bedroom and shared restrooms with students of any gender.
  - Students that opt-in will only be able to join groups that have also opted-in.
  - Any open beds in gender-inclusive locations will be able to be filled by students of any gender-identity or expression.
- **FIRST YEAR RESIDENCE HALLS**
  - Daniels Hall
  - Founders Hall
  - Messenger Hall
  - Morgan Hall
  - Sanford Riley Hall
  - Stoddard Complex
  - Wachusett House

### CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

The WPI First-Year Students webpage has:

- Virtual tours of dorms
- How-to videos
- Policies & Contracts
- Roommate Meet & Greet sessions

### HOUSING SELECTION TIMELINE





# STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & COUNSELING CENTER (SDCC)



## SERVICES WE PROVIDE:

- FREE, CONFIDENTIAL COUNSELING FOR WPI STUDENTS
- GROUP THERAPY OPTIONS
- REFERRAL SUPPORT TO LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS
- PSYCHIATRIC CONSULTATION
- CONSULTATION FOR STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF, FAMILY
- TRAININGS & PREVENTION OUTREACH ACROSS CAMPUS

**Walk-In Hours: Monday-Thursday 1pm-4pm**

**After-Hours Crisis Support: Call 508-831-5540 , press "0"**

LOCATION: 12&16 EINHORN RD.

PHONE: 508-831-5540

EMAIL: SDCC@WPI.EDU

HOURS: M-F 8AM-4:30PM

Appointment Request Form →





Unity Hall, 5th Floor

(508) 831- 5260

cdc@wpi.edu

### Hours:

Mon - Fri ~ 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

### Drop In Hours:

Mon - Fri ~ 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

### Who We Serve:

Undergraduates, Graduates  
& Alumni for Life

### Appointments

Drop ins

One on One Advising by appointment

### Events

Talent Tabling

Networking Opportunities

Career Fairs

### Workshops

Interviewing

Job search

Salary Negotiation.... And more

### Resources

Career Exploration

Application Materials

Interview Practice .... And more

# Other Offices Attending the Resource Fair

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- Student Health Services (SHS)
- Center for Well-Being (CWB)
- Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Multi-cultural Education (ODIME)
- Student Activities Office (SAO)
- Global Experience Office (GEO)
- Office of Accessibility Services (OAS)
- Financial Aid / Bursar
- Office of Academic Advising
- Dean of Students
- PEAK Program

# Due Dates and Reminders

- Summer due dates and tasks
- Student Health Services
- WPI Safe



# WPI On-Boarding Hub

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- [The First-Year Experience | Worcester Polytechnic Institute](#)
  - Click “I am a... incoming first year student or transfer student”
- Will have all due dates, tasks, modules, and considerations to be fully prepared for move-in!

**Get Connected**

**Academics**

**Financial**

**Health Services**

**Compliance Training**

**Additional Information**

**Housing & Dining**

# Miscellaneous

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- Important notes from **Student Health Services**:
  - Health forms are due by July 6th. Students should upload them to the Student Health Portal.
  - Starting July 8th, students will need to either enroll in or waive the WPI health insurance plan.
    - Students have received an email with all the details.
  - Questions about immunizations, insurance, or anything health-related, SHS will be at the Resource Fair
- **WPI Safe** – Safety App
  - Mobile safety app to supplement the existing WPI Alert system and blue light emergency phones.
  - Offers features like: quick access to emergency contacts, real-time safety alerts, tools such as Friend Walk, and more.

# Miscellaneous

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- Important dates for the academic year
  - [Academic Calendars | Worcester Polytechnic Institute](#)
- Book Recommendations
  - How to Thrive At College by: Mathilde Ross, MD
    - For students and families
  - How to Raise an Adult – Break Free of the Overparenting Trap and Prepare Your Kid for Success by: Julie Lythcott-Haims
    - For parents

# Presentation Location

HOME → PARENTS & GUARDIANS → EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES & WEBINARS

## Educational Opportunities & Webinars

From helping your student navigate the job search process and prepare for Academic Advising Day to recognizing signs of struggle in your student—WPI offers webinars throughout the year to help you better help your student.

First Year Welcome Experience 2025 – [Family Resources Presentation](#)

← Parents

| Educational Opportunities & Webinars



# Questions

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