



Dear Parents and Families of the Class of 2028,

As director of the Providence College Parent & Family Program I am delighted to welcome you to Providence College and to the beginning of your journey as you and your student become the newest members of our Friar community. By parents and families, we mean moms, dads, guardians, grandparents, siblings---anyone who loves and cares for your student. I look forward to meeting many of you during our First Day in Friartown Program in June. I am also excited about the opportunity during the summer months to share with you information about the many resources we have in place for families.

Whether this is your first child to attend college, or your fourth, you and your family will experience amazing transitions in the coming year, as you take on the role of a parent of a first -year college student. Parenting a new student can be a unique emotional experience. It can be exciting, rewarding, frustrating, all within the same 24-hour period!

Over the years, parents have often asked me, “How much should I be involved in my student’s life at college?” In a sense, working to find that balance of wanting to hold students close, while also giving them freedom to move on to a new stage in life. Of course, there is no one size fits all to this question. Our experience tells us that—**Different students need various levels of support, at various times.**

Most often it is you that your students first reach out to because you know them, and they know you, far better than anyone else. Clearly, the more information you have the better equipped you will be to support your students as they navigate their new campus landscape. That is where our Parent & Family Program comes in—to arm you with information about the college experience and to take that information to gently guide your student to make good and wise decisions. Basically, **WE WANT TO HELP PARENTS TO HELP STUDENTS TO HELP THEMSELVES!**

To help you to assist your students as they get ready to begin their first semester at Providence College, I wish to bring the following information to your attention:

***New Student Checklist**

Please remind your students to review the New Student Checklist for the Class of 2028, which can be found at: <https://orientation-transitions-leadership.providence.edu/new-student-checklist/> . Some tasks need to be completed prior to students attending First Day in Friartown in June, while other tasks need to be addressed in July and August before Fall Orientation, when classes begin. As students click on each task, it will indicate the date that the item becomes available and the deadline to complete the item.

***Student Health**

Sometime after June 1, 2024, every incoming student is required to go into their patient portal and fill out their health history, enter the dates (month, day, year) of the immunizations required by the College and Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH), upload a copy of their most recent physical/immunizations, and answer the questions on the TB questionnaire. This is to be done no later than July 15, 2024.

More information regarding health records can be viewed in the New Student Checklist. For questions, please email the Director of Health Services, Catherine M. Kelleher at: ckellehe@providence.edu

***Introduction to Providence College (SAS 178) – Registration during First Day in Friartown.**

Help your students to get a jump- start on college! Encourage them to consider registering for-- “Introduction to Providence College,” a one-credit course with enormous benefits! SAS 178 is designed to promote early student success and adjustment to college life. First-year students will get to know the campus, the curricular offerings, the professors, the extracurriculars, and the city of Providence. The course meets once a week for an hour and helps students survey the opportunities and encounter the people who will shape their future at PC and beyond. This course serves both undeclared and declared students and has limited seats. Undeclared students can explore majors in a low-pressure way. Declared students can learn more about academic options and connect with important resources beyond their home department.

Here’s what one student had to say about her involvement with the course: *“In terms of academic advising, as well as advising for all of the adjustment to college life, some of my friends had struggled picking classes, knowing how to register, and being aware of all of the resources available here (i.e. the career center). I, on the other hand, did not struggle quite as much with this because of my enrollment in “Intro to PC” as an undeclared major my freshman year.”* Kaitlyn A. Hladik, Providence College Class of 2025

At Providence College we are committed to viewing parents and families as our partners in promoting student success. During the next four years, I look forward to our on-going partnership as we work together to support and encourage our students to become all they are called to be. Welcome to the Friar family!

God Bless.

Jackie

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