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Academic Calendar

Fall Semester 2014

Residence halls open for new students Tues., Aug. 26, 9 a.m.
Orientation begins Tues., Aug. 26
New student academic advising and course registration Wed., Aug. 27 – Fri., Aug. 29
Classes begin Tues., Sept. 2
Fall recess Sat., Oct. 18 – Sun., Oct. 26
Parents Weekend Fri., Nov. 7 – Sun., Nov. 9
Thanksgiving Break Thurs., Nov. 27 – Sun., Nov. 30
Classes end Fri., Dec. 12
Reading period Sat., Dec. 13 – Tues., Dec. 16
*Final examination period Wed., Dec. 17 – Sun., Dec. 21
Fall semester ends Sun., Dec. 21
Residence halls close Mon., Dec. 22, 9 a.m.

Winter Term 2015

Residence halls open for students doing on-campus winter-term projects Sun., Jan. 4, noon
Winter term begins Mon., Jan. 5
Martin Luther King Jr. Day, no classes Mon., Jan. 19
Winter term ends Wed., Jan. 28

Spring Semester 2015

Residence halls open for returning students Sat., Jan. 31, 9 a.m.
Classes begin Mon., Feb. 2
Spring recess Sat., March 21 – Sun., March 29
Classes end Fri., May 8
Reading period Sat., May 9 – Tues., May 12
*Final examination period Wed., May 13 – Sun., May 17
Spring semester ends Sun., May 17
Residence halls close Mon., May 18, 9 a.m.
Commencement exercises Mon., May 25

*Please Note: Travel plans must be arranged to occur after the student’s last exam. The final examination schedule cannot be adjusted to accommodate travel plans.

For a more detailed academic calendar, visit the Oberlin Online Events Calendar.
Welcome from the Vice President and Dean of Students

We know that as summer progresses, your student’s departure for Oberlin is taking on a new reality for your entire family. I am writing to let you know that we are anticipating your arrival, and we look forward to welcoming you to the Oberlin community. We also know this may be your first experience with a student going away to college and hence unfamiliar territory for you and your student alike. Please be assured that staff members in the Division of Student Life and a host of other offices are invested in every student’s success, and for that reason I want to share a few fundamental principles that guide our interactions at Oberlin with parents, families, and students—principles you may find helpful as you embark on this important experience:

• We encourage students to become active learners and to take responsibility for their own college education, both inside and outside the classroom.

• We remind students, parents, and families that communities are built on trust, and that integrity in all matters—academic and personal, public and private—creates the foundation on which trust is built.

• We expect students to take the initiative to explore the resources and services provided by Oberlin. These resources touch every aspect of students’ lives, including academic and personal advising and mentoring, health and wellness services, and career planning.

• We want students, parents, and families to be aware of the range of resources available at Oberlin that can smooth the transition and provide ongoing support.

• We believe it is of utmost importance for students, parents, and families to establish and maintain open lines of communication with each other. Think about creating a mutually agreed upon plan.

• We recommend that parents, families, and students have a clear understanding about their communication with administrators at Oberlin.

This handbook, which is designed to be a quick reference tool, reflects these principles and directs you to more detailed information about Oberlin. We include topics we have found to be of interest to you as parents and families of new Oberlin students as well as an abbreviated list of campus contacts in the Campus Contact Information section.

The education and well-being of every student is the primary focus of our work. Please know that if you have questions or concerns, we will be happy for you to contact us. If you do not know which office should have the information you are seeking, please contact the appropriate class dean, who can help determine how to proceed.

I wish you well as you prepare for your arrival and safe travels to Oberlin. We all look forward to Tuesday, August 26, when we will be able to welcome all of you: parents, family members, transfer students, and members of the Class of 2018!

Sincerely,

Eric Estes, Vice President and Dean of Students
New Student Orientation

AUGUST 26 TO SEPTEMBER 1

The Orientation program is designed to introduce new students and their families to the basic services Oberlin offers and to the fundamental principles that guide our life as a community, as well as to information about academic programs at Oberlin. The full Orientation schedule (Before Arrival, Orientation Week, and Once in Oberlin) is available on the Orientation webpage.

New international students are invited to arrive on campus Saturday, August 23, for a brief international student orientation. The orientation for all new students begins Tuesday, August 26, and ends on Monday, September 1. When students arrive, they should go directly to their residence hall to check in and receive the full, printed Orientation schedule, which contains a campus map. (A small version of this campus map appears on the last page of this handbook.) Residence hall staff members will be available to provide assistance. With the arrival of a large number of first-year students and their families, parking will be challenging, but the Oberlin Police Department officers, college safety and security officers, and other staff members will do their best to be helpful.

After check-in, students should go to the second floor of the Carnegie Building, at the corner of North Professor and West Lorain streets (Route 511 West), to enroll and get their registration materials. The Resource Fair, also in the Carnegie Building, offers information about Oberlin services and provides an introduction to many academic and administrative offices and to staff members who will be important resources for students and their families.

We have scheduled most of the first day’s activities to be drop-in because we know students will want to get settled in their rooms. The first time-specific event for students is a residence hall cluster meeting at 3:00 p.m. The President’s Opening Session, held at 4:30 p.m. in Finney Chapel, is where President Marvin Krislov and Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Debra Chermonte will welcome you. The campus picnic for students and families will immediately follow. We will end the day with a Conservatory Orientation Concert at 7:00 p.m. in Finney Chapel. Representatives from local banks will be available to provide information and open accounts for students from 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Wilder Hall.

Students may arrive in Oberlin and realize they forgot to pack something. Oberlin merchants carry many of the items students need, and their stores are within walking distance of campus. We encourage students to become familiar with the local merchants who also look forward to welcoming them. Visit the Oberlin Business Partnership website for more information.
The Oberlin Community

When students arrive on campus, they join a group of people—professors, administrators, staff members, and students from across the country and around the world—who are committed to fostering a sense of community in which students build lasting relationships based on the principles of ethical conduct, an understanding of diversity in all its complexity, respect for self and others, social justice and equity, and a commitment to promoting positive change in the world. Inherent in these values are the promotion and cultivation of the capacity for creativity, skills mastery, and critical thinking; intensive training in the discipline of a chosen area of knowledge; and expanding students’ social awareness, social responsibility, and capacity for moral judgment.

Realizing these aspirations requires an environment that encourages the free and open exchange of information, thought, and opinion; respect for differing views; and commitment to generosity in discourse. Oberlin prizes these values.

FINDING BALANCE

Leaving home for college marks an important milestone for students as well as for their families. Students will be able to make more academic and social choices than ever before, and much of the work of the first year will involve adjusting to the academic rigor at Oberlin and fostering friendships and relationships with groups and individuals.

We often hear from first-year students that time management is a major challenge during their first semester—finding balance among the many demands and opportunities and allocating appropriate amounts of time to academic work, other educational and artistic enterprises, recreation, and developing friendships.

In addition to the extraordinary educational experience students enjoy in the classrooms, studios, laboratories, and libraries, life at Oberlin is rich in the number and variety of opportunities to learn in other venues in the company of scholars who value each other as responsible, informed members of a lively and enlivening community.

This year Oberlin College will again host a number of renowned speakers, artists, and lecturers whose programs and performances will enrich and enhance the academic and cocurricular experience of this community. We encourage students to plan their time to include a wide variety of these events in their scheduled activities. Information about many of these events is now or soon will be available on Oberlin Online’s Calendar.

We encourage students to pursue academic excellence; attend to their own health and wellness; participate in such cocurricular activities as club sports, student organizations, and community-service projects, some of which are connected to academic work; and get involved in civic and political initiatives. Finding the right balance among these opportunities is a life skill that has short- and long-term benefits that will stand students in good stead as they make their way into a career and life beyond Oberlin.
COMMUNITY STANDARDS

We entrust considerable agency and personal freedom to Oberlin students, and we encourage students to develop a sense of independence. However, to help ensure public safety and the orderly functioning of the college, we have developed a set of rules and regulations to which students are held accountable. These policies assume that students are mature, possess personal integrity, and take responsibility for their own actions. The following policies deserve particular attention:

- Students are bound to a set of regulations concerning social conduct. These regulations and other rules for students are included in the Student Regulations, Policies, and Procedures.

- All academic work pursued at Oberlin is done under an honor code that requires students to follow practices that ensure academic integrity. Information about Oberlin’s honor code and system can be found here.

- Oberlin requires students to abide by state and local laws regarding alcohol and illegal drugs. The abuse of alcohol and other drugs is a concern on most college campuses in the United States, and Oberlin College is dedicated to strict adherence to state and local laws. For more information, visit the Office of Student Wellness website.

- The regulations include Oberlin’s policy on sexual misconduct, which provides a means to protect all people on campus from unwanted sexual advances.

Preventing and Responding to Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination and Harassment

Oberlin College seeks to ensure an equitable and inclusive campus free of all forms of violence, harassment, and discrimination. The college affirms its commitment to these principles and describes the process used to resolve reports of sexual misconduct and/or discrimination and harassment in the Sexual Misconduct Policy and the Policy on Discrimination and Harassment. The Office of Equity Concerns provides support, resources, and assistance in resolving reports of discrimination and harassment.

The Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits sexual and/or gender-based harassment, discrimination and violence, including sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence, in any college program or activity, including the academic, employment, or residential setting. The Policy on Discrimination and Harassment prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, sex, marital status, religion, creed, national origin, disability, age, military or veteran status, sexual orientation, family relationship to an employee of Oberlin College, and gender identity and expression. The full policies can be reviewed at new.oberlin.edu/students/policies/.

As is the case with the Judicial System and the Honor System, the efficacy of these policies depends upon the members of the community to embrace the concepts of inclusion, consent, and respect outlined in the policies. The college's ability to promote an educational and work environment free of sexual misconduct, discrimination, and harassment also depends upon the commitment of individuals to report behaviors
that appear to constitute violations of these policies. The central goal of reporting is to ensure support for affected individuals and to protect campus safety.

A student who experiences or witnesses a suspected incidence of sexual misconduct and/or discrimination and harassment should report it directly to Meredith Raimondo, the Title IX coordinator. The college will provide appropriate support to parties involved in an internal college process. Members of the community who are found responsible for sexual misconduct and/or discrimination and harassment through an internal college process are subject to appropriate college adjudication processes and, if found responsible, disciplinary action in addition to any action that may be taken by civil or criminal governmental authorities. A student may also choose to report sexual misconduct to the confidential advocate. Disclosures to the confidential advocate will not trigger a college investigation if the individual reporting the misconduct does not want to pursue a college process.

For further information on or support for issues related to sexual misconduct, discrimination, or harassment, please contact:

Meredith Raimondo, Special Assistant to the President for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and Title IX Coordinator, (440) 775-8410
Monique Burgdorf, Title IX Prevention Coordinator, and Confidential Student Advocate Peters Hall Room 118, (440) 775-5203 (direct line)
Kimberly Jackson Davidson, Section 504/ADA Compliance Coordinator, (440) 775-8462

Students are responsible for knowing these policies, as well as the other regulations contained in the Student Policies, Regulations, and Procedures.

Advising at Oberlin

Advising at Oberlin is holistic. We provide a range of resources to help students develop meaningful educational plans and goals, make the most of their educational choices, reflect on and synthesize their Oberlin experiences, and grow intellectually, artistically, and personally.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Academic (educational) advising is coordinated by the Office of the Dean of Studies for students in the College of Arts and Sciences, and by the Office of Conservatory Associate Deans for students in the conservatory. Both offices support advising of double-degree students. Collaborating with other offices on campus, these two offices work together to help students succeed in their Oberlin College careers and complete their degree programs in a timely way.

The offices oversee the academic standing of students in their respective divisions, and they work together to advise double-degree students. The offices offer information and advice about individual majors, academic policy issues, study-away opportunities, leaves of absence, and winter term. The Office of the Dean of Studies also coordinates services for international students and the English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) program and supervises other offices and programs on campus that help students.
Academic advising is offered by faculty members and members of the administrative and professional staff. After the declaration of a major, students must choose an advisor from the department or program of the major. Double-degree students have two academic advisors—one in the College of Arts and Sciences and one in the Conservatory of Music.

ADVISING DURING ORIENTATION

Each new student is assigned an academic advisor. Students in the College of Arts and Sciences will learn who their academic advisor is and the time of their first advising appointment when they enroll on August 26, the first day of Orientation. Conservatory students will receive their advisor/private teacher assignments during the summer. During Orientation, students attend several advising sessions, including one or more with their academic advisors, both before and after they complete the course registration process.

College of Arts and Sciences and double-degree students who completed summer course registration requests have already been registered in one or two classes during the summer. At the preregistration advising meeting, advisors will review students’ choices and academic plans and help students choose additional courses. For most students, registering for their first-semester schedule of courses is a very high priority. While a student’s initial registration session during Orientation may not produce an ideal schedule, please keep in mind that during the add/drop period (the first eight days of classes), students have many opportunities to adjust their schedules, and many people to ask for assistance, including from their academic advisors, deans in the Office of the Dean of Studies, and Student Academic Ambassadors.

The “Getting to Know PRESTO” sessions held during Orientation will help students understand the registration system.

STUDENT ACADEMIC AMBASSADORS

Student Academic Ambassadors are juniors and seniors selected by faculty and administrators to provide new students with a peer’s eye view of course registration, student life, and the culture of the college. For more information, visit the Student Academic Ambassador’s webpage.

CLASS DEANS

The Office of the Dean of Students administers the class dean system. The class dean is the point person who can offer holistic support services for students and their families in a variety of situations, helping them navigate Oberlin’s administrative systems, solve personal problems, find appropriate resources on campus, and facilitate communication, as appropriate, with professors and administrative offices. There are seven class deans. A class dean is associated with an incoming class as the class matriculates.
The class deans for the academic year 2014-15 are:

- Shozo Kawaguchi, Class of 2018
- Matthew Hayden, Class of 2017
- First- and Second-Year Class Dean, Amy Salim (starts August 25)
- Kimberly Jackson Davidson, Class of 2016
- Monique Burgdorf, Class Dean for Transfer Students
- Brenda Grier-Miller, Class of 2015
- Chris Donaldson, Fifth-Year Students

Incoming first-year students may contact one of the first-year class deans. All class deans have years of experience and a wealth of expertise in working with college students, and all are qualified to help with any number of issues. Contact information for each class dean appears in the Campus Contact Information section of this handbook. For more information, visit the Dean of Students’ website.

**FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE**

Under the leadership of Adrian Bautista, associate dean and director of the first year experience, a widely representative group of faculty and staff continues to develop a robust first year experience. This enterprise encompasses academic, residential, and social elements and provides a variety of programming that supports a smooth transition to living and learning at Oberlin.

**STUDENT ACADEMIC SERVICES**

The Office of Student Academic Services, also part of the Division of Student Life, offers services to all students enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences and the Conservatory of Music. More focused services are provided for Pell Grant students, students who are the first in their families to attend college, students with disabilities, and students from groups that are typically underrepresented in higher education. For more information, visit the student academic services website.

Academic services include workshops and credit-bearing courses for students who wish to improve their proficiency in reading, mathematics, and study skills. For more information, visit the Learning Assistance Program entry in the College of Arts and Sciences section of the 2014-15 Course Catalog. Tutorial services are provided at no charge in nearly all introductory courses in the college and the conservatory.

Professional staff members provide advising and guidance services and can accommodate both scheduled and walk-in appointments. In addition, the Peer Mentor Program provides mentoring by upper-class students for first-year students who qualify.
Office of Disability Services

Oberlin College has a long and rich history of recognizing and supporting diversity, including provision of services for students with disabilities. The college actively continues support for students with disabilities through the Office of Disability Service, college staff, and college faculty.

The mission of the Office of Disability Services (ODS) is to facilitate access to all programs, services, and activities that are provided at Oberlin College while encouraging and helping students to develop student self-advocacy. We not only are interested in assisting students while they are students at Oberlin College, but we also hope to help students develop self-advocacy skills that they can use in their future.

Typical First Semester Issues:

- Students may find self-advocacy difficult. Students are accustomed to having parents find help for them. In college, we expect students to provide an accommodation letter to faculty and discuss specifics with them. However, students may ask ODS for assistance in this process.

- Time management is often a challenge for first-year students, particularly for students with executive functioning problems. Without a set schedule and with large blocks of time, some students may have difficulty managing their time. Encourage your student to use a planner and stick to it. Help is always available upon request at the ODS office.

- Parents were primary players in solving problems, and sometimes due to FERPA (Family Education Right and Privacy Act) regulations, the adjustment can be difficult for students and for parents. Of course, Disability Services welcomes students and families to contact us with questions about our services and the accommodations process. In order to discuss specifics related to the student, we need a written release from the student.

- Significant differences exist between secondary and post-secondary laws, responsibilities, and expectations for the school, students, and parents. We encourage students and families to visit the Parents section of our website where we provide further information about these differences.

Under the For Parents link on the ODS website, parents will find Letters Written By Parents To Parents (including an invitation to Oberlin Students on the Spectrum), Differences Between High School and College, Useful Links, and Other Resources.

Off-Campus Study

Oberlin supports and encourages students to study away from campus; one-semester, year-long, summer, and winter-term educational programs are available and are coordinated by the Office of the Dean of Studies. Taking advantage of these opportunities involves advance planning, and we encourage students to make use of campus resources including the Office of Study Away/Study Away Library in the Office of the Dean of Studies, the annual Study Away Fair, information sessions offered
throughout the year, and individual advising appointments with study-away advisors in the Office of the Dean of Studies.

CAREER, INTERNSHIP, AND FELLOWSHIP ADVISING

Oberlin College’s Career Center helps students and recent alumni in the College of Arts and Sciences and the Conservatory of Music identify and achieve meaningful career objectives that build upon their Oberlin education and experiences. Career Center staff members offer group and individual counseling as well as experiential opportunities that complement all students’ learning and experiences during their time at Oberlin. The Career Center supports the career development process through services that:

- Enhance self-awareness of interests, values and talents
- Encourage exploration of future paths
- Provide opportunities to acquire knowledge and experience
- Develop skills for effective self-presentation

We encourage all students to visit the Career Center early in their time at Oberlin to learn about the many ways in which staff members support students.

The Fellowships and Awards office works with Oberlin College students and alumni interested in applying for nationally competitive programs in a broad range of fields. From physical science to music performance, we provide information about programs of interest to most. Some fellowships are only available to first- and second-year students. Many are available to alumni—three, five, or more years postgraduation.

OTHER SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Students and their parents should always feel free to contact the Office of the Dean of Students with questions or concerns. When the office is closed, and if the matter cannot wait until business hours, Office of Safety and Security staff members are on duty around the clock and are able to communicate with professional staff members. In case of extreme emergencies, security personnel can also put parents through to a dean.

Student Safety and Security

Like you, we are concerned about students’ safety and security, and we work to provide a safe, secure environment.

PROPERTY

Oberlin is a small town and relatively safe. City police officers patrol the town, and college safety and security officers walk the campus regularly. Students should nonetheless practice safe living habits by, for example, exercising good judgment in whom they invite into their living space, locking the door of their residence-hall rooms, locking their bikes, securing their belongings in public spaces (e.g., the libraries and conservatory practice rooms), and paying attention to their surroundings.
Oberlin does not endorse any individual property insurance agency, but we do encourage parents and students to make sure they have adequate protection for student property. Insurance may cover lost, stolen, or damaged property. We suggest that you ask what the coverage limit is and what the deductibles are for property away from your principal residence, and that you secure in writing a statement that describes coverage of electronics and any other such items you would like to have included in your coverage. Many agents recommend separate coverage with low deductibles. If you want to supplement your coverage, College Student Insurance (www.CollegeStudentInsurance.com, phone: 888-411-4911) is an insurance company that provides this kind of coverage. Please note that this company is neither affiliated with nor endorsed by Oberlin College. It is only one company that provides this service.

PERSONAL SAFETY

For the safety of all members of this residential community, students should exercise judgment in inviting others into their living spaces. Doors to residence halls should remain locked at all times, and students should take advantage of services provided by the college to help increase their safety. Blue-light emergency phones are located in various places on campus, and those phones connect directly to the college’s Office of Safety and Security. The safety and security office provides services, both walking and by vehicle, for students traveling around the campus after nightfall.

It may seem strange to remind college-age students how to cross the street safely, but this is an issue in this small town. Since Oberlin is a very small town, students are not always mindful of the fact that two state highways intersect on this campus and that caution needs to be exercised here just as in a metropolis. Students (and residents) who jaywalk put themselves and drivers in danger and pose a serious problem. We encourage students to use crosswalks and attend to traffic as if they were in a city. We urge all bikers to respect cycling laws, to practice safety (e.g., wearing helmets and equipping bikes with lights and reflective tape) and courtesy (e.g., announcing passing) while biking, and to lock bicycles to bike racks.

The campus and the town do have occasional incidents that require interventions by the college’s safety and security office and the city’s police department. The Office of Safety and Security publishes crime statistics in compliance with the federal Clery Act. For more information, visit the safety and security webpage.

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

In the event of a community emergency, Oberlin’s Emergency Alert System, ConnectEd, provides an instant alert to individual members of the entire campus community. In addition to posting an alert on the Oberlin website, the system calls domestic telephone numbers and sends e-mail alerts. ConnectEd can contact up to six phone numbers in the United States and Canada and two e-mail addresses. New students’ Oberlin e-mail addresses are automatically entered into the system, but students must enter phone numbers and additional e-mail addresses into the system themselves. We ask students and parents to confer with each other about what information should be entered in the Emergency Alert System.
EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In the event of a student’s personal emergency, the college will use the parent or guardian emergency contact number that you record with the Office of the Registrar. If that number or your home address changes, the student must notify the registrar’s office in writing (Office of the Registrar, Carnegie Building 124, 52 W. Lorain St., Oberlin OH 44074).

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

Oberlin’s Office of Student Health Services is staffed by a physician, nurse practitioners, and registered nurses; the physician is available by appointment two days a week. The staff is experienced in treating common medical problems seen on college campuses, providing primary care, initial diagnosis, treatment of illnesses and injuries, and follow-up care. The office provides pharmaceutical services on a limited number of prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications; two full pharmacies are located within a half mile of campus. All students, no matter what health insurance coverage they have, are welcome to utilize Student Health Services. While there is a charge for some specialized services, appointments at Student Health Services are free. Students do not need the student health insurance plan in order to be seen at Student Health Services. For more information, visit the Student Health Services website.

COUNSELING CENTER

The Counseling Center staff provides assessment, short-term counseling, and psychiatric care for students experiencing many of the issues related to being away from home during these significant developmental years. There is no cost to the student for counseling services. Referrals are sometimes made, often at the students request, to private practitioners in the Oberlin community for conditions indicating a need for ongoing support and psychotherapy. The costs for these services are the responsibility of the student, and frequently are supported by health insurance plans, including the student plan. For more information, visit the Counseling Center’s website.

In order to create a readily available support system and facilitate a smooth transition to college, students who have been in continuing therapy before coming to Oberlin should make arrangements to continue in therapy here with a local therapist. The Counseling Center website lists local therapists, and center staff will be able to advise callers about how to proceed when the center opens on or after August 15.

Likewise, students who have been prescribed medications for physical or psychological conditions should plan to continue those medications and to consult with Student Health Services and/or the Counseling Center about how to manage continuity of care. We recommend that the student bring an adequate (90-day) supply of regularly prescribed medications from home.
STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE

In early July, you received information with your term bill about Academic HealthPlans (AHP), Oberlin’s student health insurance plan. We strongly recommend that parents and guardians of Oberlin students review and purchase this insurance; international students are required to do so. We have found that many health plans that work perfectly well for families in their home state or country often do not apply to students in this area. Negotiating with an insurance company long distance is challenging for students, staff, and families, and doing so when a student is ill or in an emergency situation is especially difficult. Academic Health Plan works seamlessly in Oberlin and throughout the world. It is a 12-month program offering coverage worldwide. With a referral from the college’s student health services or sports medicine staffs, it pays 100 percent of covered costs at Oberlin’s Mercy Allen Hospital, which is adjacent to the college campus. Prescription drug coverage is included with a small co-pay and no deductible.

The plan now meets ACA compliance for student coverage and preventative care including immunizations, and preventative exams are now paid at 100 percent. Students do not need the student health insurance plan in order to be seen at Student Health Services. No matter what health insurance plan students have, they are welcome to utilize all services available at Student Health.

If you decide to buy this plan as a supplement to insurance you already carry, the student health plan pays on a primary basis. Please call 888-308-7320 for any questions on the policy or log on to https://oberlin.myahpcare.com/

CONTINGENCY PLANS

Oberlin College health care providers and administrators have worked with local and regional agencies to ensure good communication and preparedness for health emergencies that might have broad impact on the college community, such as H1N1. In this as in other arenas, we want to strike the right balance between being calm and being prepared. We think it is always advisable to have thought about what arrangements might need to be made if a student must go home at a time that was not previously scheduled. For that reason, we encourage you to have a contingency plan should such a need arise. We will take every necessary measure to encourage good hygiene and practices that promote health and wellness with the intent that we need not effect such plans, but we believe that having a plan in place can be helpful.

Transportation and Environmental Sustainability

There is no need for a car to travel in Oberlin. Our small campus is easily walkable and bikable. Moreover, the college espouses environmentally sustainable practices and is committed to reducing its carbon footprint. Having fewer cars on campus reduces carbon dioxide emissions, eliminates the need to pave green space for additional parking, and reduces the need to use fossil fuels. Although Oberlin does not forbid first-year students to bring cars to campus, we strongly discourage students from bringing cars unless there is a justifiable need. Students who live in Robert Kahn Hall must sign a
pledge not to have a car on campus while they are assigned to that hall.

Many students, faculty, and staff members use bicycles for on-campus and in-town travel. Bike rentals and maintenance classes are available through the Bike Co-op, an Oberlin College student organization. A full-service bike store is located less than five miles from campus.

Several options are available for traveling out of Oberlin. Information about these options and service to and from the airport at the time of fall orientation, spring and fall breaks, and the end of each semester can be found on the transportation webpage.

Information and Communication among Students, Parents, and the College

Oberlin’s parents webpage offers answers to practical questions and links to relevant information. Parents and guardians can, for example, find the dates when residence halls open in the fall and when exams are over at the end of each semester, find schedules for such events as Parents and Family Weekend and Commencement, or learn how to get to Oberlin. The webpage offers myriad ways to stay in touch with your daughter or son—from sending an e-postcard to sending cookies at exam time—and to keep abreast of happenings on campus by subscribing to the Oberlin Online e-newsletter. The site will also help direct you when you need to talk to someone at Oberlin. For more information, visit the parents webpage.

COMMUNICATION

Student success at Oberlin is of primary importance to us, as it is to you, and we can work together to ensure that success. We have found that it is most beneficial for parents, families, and students to establish and maintain open lines of communication with each other and to be clear about when and how parents and families will communicate with their Oberlin student and with administrators at Oberlin. We understand that this is a balancing act, and we know that it is not always easy to determine when to intervene and how to be most helpful.

Faculty and administrators send messages to students’ oberlin.edu e-mail accounts and to the Oberlin College Mail Room mailboxes to inform them of academic and advising deadlines, academic standing and progress, and announcements related to housing, dining, and other important issues. Students are expected to monitor their assigned e-mail accounts and mailboxes, and they are expected to respond in a timely way to communications from faculty and staff. Students must be accountable to the individuals and systems that provide the support and direction that will lead to their success.

A good body of research indicates that college students have a better chance of succeeding academically and socially when they themselves discover and initiate contact with the campus offices and departments that offer services and resources for students. We also know that the problem-solving skills and resiliency students develop during the formative years at Oberlin are an important part of their education.
For these reasons, we encourage students to take the initiative and seek available on-campus resources; we also urge parents and families to familiarize themselves with the same services. Please know that if you have questions or concerns, we will be happy for you to contact us. Many parents express concern that they will be viewed as what is popularly termed “helicopter parents.” Please be assured that we understand and sympathize with the challenge that you face in determining when to let the student solve the problem and when to intervene. It is often a hard call to make, and we trust that both parents and administrators will work with each other in good faith to decide when and how much intervention is appropriate. Books on these issues abound and attempt to address this problem from many angles. Two books that we have found particularly helpful are _Letting Go, A Parents’ Guide to Understanding the College Years_ by Karen Levin Coburn and Madge Lawrence Treeger and _The Parents We Mean to Be_ by Richard Weissbourd. _Letting Go_ is a classic that has been recommended to parents with good reason for many years. _The Parents We Mean to Be_ is a relatively new book that begins with the premise that we all aspire to be the best parents we can be, an approach that we find refreshing and one that creates a good platform for dialogue. This is not assigned reading, but it may be helpful.

**STUDENTS’ RIGHT TO PRIVACY**

As you may know, federal laws such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) may prohibit the college from sharing students’ academic, personal, and medical information with their parents without the individual student’s consent. Hence, it is of the utmost importance that students and families share an understanding of how to remain in good and clear communication about these and other issues.
Directions to Campus and Accommodations

The college is close to Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, an Amtrak station, a Greyhound bus terminal, and several interstate highways, including I-80 (the Ohio Turnpike), I-480, and I-90. Oberlin is located at the junction of Ohio Routes 58 and 511.

Convenient accommodations are available in Oberlin and the surrounding area. These include the Oberlin Inn (440-775-1111) and the Ivy Tree Inn (440-774-4510) in Oberlin; Motel 6 (440-988-3266) and Holiday Inn (440-324-5411) in nearby Amherst and Elyria; and Hampton Inn (440-734-4477) and Marriott Courtyard (440-716-9977) closer to Cleveland and the airport.*

During Orientation, the Oberlin Heritage Center sponsors a bed and breakfast program for parents and families who wish to stay in private homes in Oberlin. The program raises funds for the organization. Costs range from $70 to $90 per night, breakfast included. For more information, send an e-mail to OHCBnB@gmail or call (440) 774-1700.

Detailed directions and a lengthier list of accommodations are available on the Visiting Oberlin webpage.

*A listing here and on Oberlin College’s website does not constitute an endorsement of these accommodations by Oberlin College.

North Central Ohio
Campus Contact Information

Center for Information Technology
440-775-8700
cit@oberlin.edu

Career Center
440-775-8140

City of Oberlin

Class Deans
Dean of the Class of 2018
Shozo Kawaguchi
440-775-8462
Shozo.Kawaguchi@oberlin.edu

Dean of the Class of 2017
Matthew Hayden
440-775-8462
Matthew.Hayden@oberlin.edu

First- & Second-Year Class Dean
Amy Salim (starts Aug. 25)
440-775-8462
Amy.Salim@oberlin.edu

Class Dean for Transfer Students
Monique Burgdorf
440-775-8464
Monique.Burgdorf@oberlin.edu

Dean of the Class of 2016
Kimberly Jackson Davidson
440-775-8462
Kimberly.Jackson.Davidson@oberlin.edu

Dean of the Class of 2015
Brenda Grier-Miller
440-775-8464
Brenda.Grier-Miller@oberlin.edu

Dean of the Fifth Year Class
Chris Donaldson
440-775-8464
Chris.Donaldson@oberlin.edu

Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
440-775-8410

Dean of the Conservatory of Music
440-775-8200

Conservatory Associate Deans
440-775-8293
condeans@oberlin.edu

Counseling Center
440-77-8470

Dean of Students
440-775-8462
dean.of.students@oberlin.edu
first.year.dean@oberlin.edu

Dean of Studies
440-775-8540
dean.of.studies@oberlin.edu
first.year.advice@oberlin.edu

Disability Services
440-775-5588
disabilities.coordinator@oberlin.edu

Financial Aid
440-775-8142
financial.aid@oberlin.edu

International Students
440-775-8540
international.students@oberlin.edu

Multicultural Resource Center
440-775-8802
mrc@oberlin.edu

Registrar
440-775-8450
registrar@oberlin.edu

Religious and Spiritual Life
440-775-8103
religious.spiritual.life@oberlin.edu

Residential Education and Dining Services
440-775-8472
resed@oberlin.edu
Shipments of student belongings will be accepted after August 1.

NOTE: If an academic department or administrative office is not listed here, you can locate pertinent information by going to Oberlin Online, www.oberlin.edu, and clicking on the appropriate links or using the search button.
Map Key

F3  Allencroft (*Russian House*)
C6  Art Museum & Art Building
D5  Apollo Theatre
B4  Asia House (*Quadrangle*)
A3  Bailey (*French House*)
E3  Baldwin Cottage
B3  Barnard House
B2  Barrows Hall
D4  Bookstore
C4  Bosworth Hall
A2  Burton Hall
B4  Carnegie Building
D4  Conservatory of Music
D4  Conservatory Admissions
C3  Cox Admin. Building
C1  Creative Writing
D2  Dascomb Hall
C1  Daub House (*Bonner Center*)
A3  East Hall
E3  Fairchild House
C3  Finney Chapel
B1  Hales (*Bowling, Cat/Cream*)
C6  Hall Annex
C6  Hall Auditorium
D2  Harkness House
F2  Harvey (*Spanish House*)
A4  International House

F3  Kade (*German House*)
A3  Robert L. Kahn Hall
B5  Keep Cottage
D3  King Building
E4  Bertram & Judith Kohl Bldg.
A2  Langston Hall (*North*)
E2  AJ Lewis Center & Annex (*Environmental Studies*)
E2  Lewis House (*Ombuds*)
E2  Lewis Center (*for Women and Transgender people*)
F2  Lord-Saunders (*Afrikan Heritage House*)
C1  Mudd Center (*Main Library*)
A2  Noah Hall
D5  Oberlin Inn
C3  Peters Hall
A1  Philips Phys. Ed. Center
F1  President’s House
F2  Price (*Third World House*)
D2  Rice Hall
C1  Safety & Security
B2  Science Center
B3  Severance Hall
E2  South Hall
B4  Stevenson Dining Hall
D3  Talcott Hall
A2  Union Street Housing
D6  Ward Alumni Center
C2  Warner Center
C2  Wilder Hall (*Student Union*)
B3  Wright Lab of Physics
A2  Zechiel House