



Fall 2009 Early Arrival Policies P² (Pre-Princeton)

Introduction

Over the years, there has been a marked increase in students who are not part of an approved group showing up to campus prior to the official date of return. (Princeton, though it starts the fall term later than many of its peers, has a generous policy of permitting students who are not pre-approved to return to campus the weekend before the Thursday start of classes.)

Most University services that support students during the academic year are not geared up before classes begin. We are an academic-year campus without summer academic course offerings and a distinctly different set of support services during the summer.

The University is not changing its policy, but will begin to institute practices that permit us to better follow current policy while addressing safety, security, sustainability and savings issues.

This fall, students not part of a pre-approved group, may return to campus beginning on Saturday, September 12, five days before the start of classes.

Housing Contract

http://www.princeton.edu/facilities/housing/undergraduate_info/res_guide_draw/-Terms_of_Agreement

"... the University agrees to provide the student with the use of the accommodations for the two terms of the academic year commencing at an approved day prior to the first week of classes and ending the last day of the final examination period for the second term of the academic year ..."

Note:

- All students approved for early arrival will receive an e-mail confirming their approved arrival date.
- Last year, Labor Day was the earliest possible date: September 1, non pre-approved students returned on September 7, and classes began on September 11. This fall, Labor Day will be the latest possible date: September 7, non pre-approved students will return on September 12, and classes will begin on September 17.

Frequently Asked Questions

What will be different this fall?

- We've launched an approval process pilot program called Early Arrival P² (Pre-Princeton) for students who are invited or required to arrive between August 20 and September 11 as part of a varsity athletic team or part of a pre-orientation or orientation program.
- Group/program sponsors requested early arrival for all participants. Individuals requesting consideration for early arrival should complete the online form.
- Students approved for early arrival will receive a confirmation e-mail in late July.
- Students who have been pre-approved for early arrival before September 1, will be housed in concentrated areas, (housed together in a few specific dorms that will be open early) rather than spread throughout campus in their academic-year rooms, for safety and security. This will enable longer access to dorms for renovation and cleaning, and concentrate early returns in an area that enhances safety and security at a time when the University is still on a summer schedule.
- Pre-approved students arriving before September 12 will have an early arrival P² housing contract that will clarify the housing policy and student responsibilities. Program sponsors will also have a contract of responsibility.
- Students who have been pre-approved for early arrival between September 1 and September 11 will have access to their academic-year rooms on the approved date. Students who have lived on campus during the summer will move directly from their summer room to their academic-year room on September 1st.
- Access to dorms will be controlled by activating prox cards, based on the approved early arrival list. Prox cards will not work prior to the approved arrival date.

What will happen to the students who show up before the official date of return and are not approved to move in?

- Students arriving to campus prior to their approved date should find accommodations off campus until their approved date of arrival or September 12. Campus housing will not be available until the approved date of arrival or September 12.

What are the move in logistics?

- See Housing website:
http://www.princeton.edu/facilities/info/audiences/undergraduate/move_in/check_in/

Are there University guidelines for H1N1 (swine) flu that may affect my arrival plans?

The University has established travel and safety guidelines for students who develop flu-like symptoms (i.e. fever greater than 100 degrees with cough and/or sore throat).

- Students experiencing flu-like symptoms within a week before their arrival should instead stay at home until they are no longer contagious. The guideline is to remain isolated for seven days after the onset of illness, or for at least 24 hours after symptoms have resolved. Students should inform their sponsoring department or program if they need to delay their arrival date.
- Upon arriving on campus, students may be asked to complete a brief health check as an effort to identify and reduce the spread of illness. If you develop flu-like symptoms while on campus, you should maintain your distance from others and call University Health Services at (609) 258-3141 for medical advice. Students diagnosed with the flu or flu-like illness should self-isolate in their dorm room (i.e. stay away from others and eat meals in your room) until they are no longer contagious. The guideline is to remain isolated for seven days after the onset of illness, or for at least 24 hours after symptoms have resolved. Early arrival students who live within driving distance of the University will be expected to return home during the duration of their illness.
- Ill students with questions about when they can resume normal activities should consult their family physician and/or University Health Services to discuss their individual symptoms.
- Please note that University Health Services will be operating on summer hours until September 10 (UHS schedule: <http://www.princeton.edu/uhs/news/archive/?id=845>).

What were the concerns with the old system?

- Most University services that support students during the academic year are not geared up before classes begin. We are an academic-year campus without summer academic course offerings and a distinctly different set of support services during the summer.
- Over the years, there has been a marked increase in students who are not part of an approved group showing up to campus prior to the official date of return.
- There was incomplete knowledge of who was on campus. This needed to improve from a safety and security standpoint.
- Previously, the prox system was turned on in mid-August, and there was limited coordination or approval process for students returning early.

- Because of early returnees and their existence throughout dorms on campus, renovations and cleaning were on truncated schedules.
- Because of increased incidents of alcohol and other violations, there is greater concern for student safety and security. These incidents included alcohol violations, transports to the University Medical Center at Princeton (indicating dangerous levels of alcohol), increases in the number of access/entry issues including forced entry and held doors, which affects the security of a dorm.
- We are an academic campus and set up to support students during the academic year.
- Parking permits were for 12 months.

Will anything else during the year be different?

Winter Break

Students who stay on campus during the winter break will need to register through a new website. The University should know who is on campus during winter break to be able to respond specifically to students in the event of an emergency, i.e., a power outage, a weather event, a fire. We need to be responsible to the students who are on campus. Because our term doesn't end before winter break, like most schools, students have access to their rooms -- we want to provide a safe and secure campus and attend to any emergencies.

Who is on the Early Approval Policy Committee?

Representatives from:

- Department of Athletics
- Office of the Dean of the College
- Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students
- Housing Office
- Department of Public Safety
- University Health Services
- Office of the Registrar
- Residential Colleges
- Office of Financial Aid
- Office of the Vice President for Campus Life
- Office of the Vice President for Facilities

What is the charge of the EAPC Committee?

The committee created:

- an approval process
- registration process for early return groups

- registration process for early return individuals
- a process to review exception requests
- information for program sponsors
- an implementation process
- a communication, roll-out process