



The Center for Student Success Staff

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"Parents can only give good advice or put them on the right paths, but the final forming of a person's character lies in their own hands." --Anne Frank

Spring 2012

It's Spring-time on the Hilltop and by this time your student should be thoroughly engaged in coursework. Hopefully the academic goals and objectives your student set for the past fall semester were met. If not, this semester is an opportunity to regroup and refocus. In order to help you promote your student's success, we have included *Important Dates & Deadlines*, *What Parents Should Know & Discuss with their Student*. We have also added the *NEW* link for the "PARENTPOWER Inquiry Form."

Important Dates & Deadlines...

WLU Priority Deadline for the 2012-2013 FAFSA. Visit www.fafsa.ed.gov for important details on filing for student aid.....**March 1**

WLU Midterm Grades Issued.....**March 9**

WLU Spring Break.....**March 12-16**

Last Day to Add 2nd Half Classes.....**March 23**

Pre-Registration for summer and fall terms.....**April 2-20**

Last Day to Withdraw with a grade of "W".....**April 6**

Spring Holiday NO CLASSES, Last Day to Drop a Class.....**May 4**

Final Examinations.....**May 7-11**

Student Services

Housing & Residence Life.....304.336.8343

Financial Aid.....304.336.8016

Business Office.....304.336.8944

Registrar.....304.336.8007

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What Parents Should Know & Discuss with their Student...

Continued Financial Aid Eligibility

As we addressed in the last issue of PARENTPOWER, financial eligibility is not "static." Just because you filed your FAFSA on time doesn't mean your 2012-2013 financial aid award will be the same as this year's. Consider any changes in your family's income and discuss with your student any changes in their academic standing, i.e. grade point average, credit hours completed, that might impact their award eligibility. **Remember, students who fail to complete 70% of credit hours attempted may lose financial aid eligibility.**

The Midterm Message

As you will note under Important Dates & Deadlines, midterm is March 9. Midterm grades are issued as a cautionary measure to alert students whose course grade is currently a "D" or "F" to take action! Appropriate actions include: meeting with the instructor to determine a strategy for improving grade, signing up for a peer tutor in the Center for Student Success, dropping the course by April 6 to receive a grade of "W." **Remember, even if a student decides to drop a class after April 6, the instructor has the discretion to issue a grade of "WP" (withdrew passing, doesn't adversely effect GPA) or "WF" (withdrew failing, which has the same effect as a grade of "F" on GPA).**

Why We're "Pro" Pre-Registration & Academic Advising

Your student should not miss the opportunity to sit down with his/her advisor to develop a pre-registration schedule for the Fall and in some cases the Summer 2012 term(s). Some students attempt to develop their schedules independent of their advisor's guidance. However, this can be problematic as advisors have information readily available to them about course offering changes, schedule sequences and pre-requisites about which students may not be clear. Additionally, pre-registering for the fall term increases the chances of students getting into the classes they want on the days and times they want. **Remember, pre-registration dates are April 2-20. Students will be notified via email/Hilltopper Headlines of which dates they should register.**

Summer School: To Get Ahead or To Catch Up

Summer School offers your student the opportunity to get ahead or to catch up. Your student may take classes at West Liberty or at another institution closer to home.



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During your student's pre-registration meeting, he/she can register for Summer School classes on campus. However, if your student wishes to take a class on another campus, he/she must complete the WLU Transient Application (click here to access and print the form): <http://www.westliberty.edu/registrar/students/transient-application/>

West Liberty University Summer Schedule

Summer Term I (No classes on May 28).....May 14-June 1
Summer Term II.....June 4-22
Summer Term III (No classes on July 4).....June 25-July 13
Summer Term IV.....July 16-Aug 3

To peruse summer term offerings click here:

<http://www.westliberty.edu/registrar/files/2011/01/Summer-2012-Schedule1.pdf>

Declaring a Major!

Freshmen who have not figured out what they'd like to major in by the end of the spring term risk not graduating on schedule. If your student is still indecisive about a major, encourage him/her to stop by the Center for Student Success to complete The Self-Directed Search interest inventory. This effective tool uses your student's self-reported interests, skills and abilities to direct him/her toward a best-suited major. For more information about the self-directed search visit: <http://www.self-directed-search.com>
The Center for Student Success covers the cost of the inventory.

Physical & Mental Health

As a proactive measure, WLU Health Services provides an online newsletter, Student Health 101 which is designed to promote student health in all areas. To view this month's edition, click here: <http://readsh101.com/westliberty.html> Some students may encounter more pressing problems that interfere with their ability to meet their academic objectives. You or your student should contact the campus counselor, Lisa Witzberger at 304.336.8215, or lwitzberger@westliberty.edu if your student is exhibiting any of the following warning signs...

- Feelings of hopelessness, worthlessness, guilt, depression
- Withdrawal from family, friends, interests,
- Exhaustion, difficulty focusing, making decisions



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- Irritable, agitated, angry, vengeful
- Unsafe, impulsive behaviors
- Persisting physical symptoms (headaches, poor digestion, chronic pain)

Have Questions? Complete the "PARENTPOWER Inquiry Form"

The *PARENTPOWER Inquiry Form* provides an opportunity for you to ask questions you may have about West Liberty University in general or your student's situation in particular. While FERPA laws prevent West Liberty University and its staff from discussing certain types of information about your student with you, it does not prevent us from answering those questions we can and providing appropriate advice and direction on questions or concerns we cannot address directly. To access this online form click here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dE9ENUZwN25lcEoyN0xkNC0xcctkcGc6MQ>