



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** ALL ACCEPTED STUDENTS – FALL 2021

**FROM:** MATTHEW V. KERNS, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF ADMISSIONS

Congratulations on your acceptance to Widener University Commonwealth Law School! Below you will find a plethora of information to assist you in your transition to law school. If you have any questions, please contact the Admissions Office at 717-541-3903 or by email at [admitcwlaw@widener.edu](mailto:admitcwlaw@widener.edu). I look forward to you joining us in Harrisburg in the fall!

Should you decide at any time that you do not plan to enroll at Widener Law Commonwealth, please notify us, in writing, so that your seat can be offered to another deserving applicant.

**Seat Deposit** – All accepted students are required to pay two \$400.00 seat deposits. Your deposit due dates are listed in your acceptance letter. If you enroll in the Law School, the deposits will be credited toward your fall semester tuition, however if you do not enroll the deposits are non-refundable. You may pay the deposit online with a credit card at [www.widener.edu/hblawdeposit](http://www.widener.edu/hblawdeposit) or by calling the Bursar's Office at 717-541-3957.

**Schedule a Visit** – Due to the Coronavirus, the law school is only allowing campus tours scheduled in advance. To schedule a tour please contact the Admissions Office at [admitcwlaw@widener.edu](mailto:admitcwlaw@widener.edu). Until campus visits resume, please take a [virtual campus tour](#), download our [viewbook](#), or visit our [Virtual Accepted Students Day](#).

**Entering Student Facebook Group** – You are encouraged to join our Facebook group for accepted students. You will receive an email invitation with a link to the group in the spring. Information regarding upcoming deadlines, events, activities, and necessary forms will be posted in this group. You should also follow the law school's official accounts on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and other social media outlets.

**Housing Information** – Widener Law Commonwealth does not provide on-campus housing. However, there are numerous affordable housing options available in the Harrisburg area and in close proximity to the law school. More information can be found on our [Housing and Dining Information webpage](#). Questions about housing should be directed to the Admissions Director, Mr. Tom Foley, at 717-541-3903 or [TJFoley@Widener.edu](mailto:TJFoley@Widener.edu).

**Final Official College Transcript** – A final official transcript from the undergraduate degree-granting institution, and if applicable, the graduate degree-granting institution is required. All accepted students are required to have earned, prior to enrolling, a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution. Acceptance to the Law School is conditioned upon the successful completion of your undergraduate degree. Please have an official transcript, with degree award noted, mailed directly to the Admissions Office or to LSAC. Your official transcript must be on file no later than **July 1, 2021**.

**myWidener** - Widener Law Commonwealth's online portal, [myWidener \(https://my.widener.edu/\)](https://my.widener.edu/) provides students with access to their financial aid awards, class schedules, tuition bills, etc. All students are required to create an account in the system. If you have not already done so, use the following steps.

- Log in to [Password Self Service \(https://pss.widener.edu/\)](https://pss.widener.edu/). You will need your Widener ID Number. If you do not have it, please contact the Admissions Office at 717.541.3903. After logging in click “Login ID Lookup”. The “Lookup” process should send your login information to your email account.
- Log in to myWidener using your Widener login that was sent to your email and search for the desired task.
- “Financial Aid Award Letter”, “Class Schedule”, “Student Planning”, “Online Student Account”, and other tasks can be viewed via myWidener as the information becomes available. Financial Aid awards will be posted beginning in mid-March. Your tuition billing information will be available in June. In order to access your online bill, you will need your ID and Pin obtained by searching for “What’s My ID and Pin” in myWidener. Your tuition bill can be accessed by searching for "My Online Student Account" in myWidener.
- If you have difficulty with myWidener, please contact Information Technology Services (ITS) at 717-541-1927.

**Tuition and Fees** –For the 2021-2022 academic year tuition is \$1,666.00 per credit hour. Full time entering students are typically enrolled in 15 credit hours per semester and part-time students are enrolled in 11 credit hours per semester. A first-year full time student will be billed \$49,980.00 for the year while a first-year part-time student will be billed \$36,652.00. In addition to tuition, students are also charged a Student Bar Association Fee of \$60.00 per semester and a \$30.00 per semester exam fee.

**Financial Aid** – All students who will be using federal student loans to pay for all or a portion of law school are advised to complete the FAFSA as soon as possible. The Widener Law Commonwealth code is **E00656**. The FAFSA will be used to determine eligibility for federal student loans. Please contact the Office of Financial Aid regarding any and all other forms required to complete the load process.

**Class Schedules and Registration** – All first year classes are required and entering students do not select their schedule. The Registrar will register all 1L students in mid-July and you will receive your class schedule through your myWidener account.

**Textbooks and First Assignments** – Textbooks and first assignments are posted on the [Academics webpage](#) in late July.

**Orientation** – Orientation is required for all entering students. Orientation is tentatively scheduled for the week of August 9, 2021. In late July, additional information regarding orientation will be emailed to students and posted on the [Orientation webpage](#). Classes for all students is tentatively set to begin on Monday, August 16, 2021.

**Character and Fitness Information Disclosure** – Lawyers are held to very high ethical standards. In addition to a bar examination, there are character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar in every U.S. jurisdiction. Applicants are encouraged to determine the requirements for any jurisdiction in which they intend to seek admission by contacting the jurisdiction. Addresses for all relevant agencies are available through the National Conference of Bar Examiners. at [www.ncbex.org](http://www.ncbex.org).

Law students have a continuing duty to update the information provided in response to the Character and Fitness section of the Law School application. Please notify the Admissions Office of any academic or disciplinary actions occurring after submission of your application. In the event that there have been incidents which would cause you to change your response to the Character and Fitness questions on the Law School application, please provide a revised response, including a detailed explanation of the incident(s). Failure to be candid may result in the offer of acceptance being revoked.

**Computer Compatibility** – While students at Widener Law Commonwealth are not required to have a laptop computer most students do choose to use them in class. For those contemplating the purchase of a new computer or laptop and have questions regarding Widener’s computer systems and compatibility with various computer hardware, please contact the Department of Information Technology Services at 717-541-1979 or at <http://Commonwealthlaw.widener.edu/current-students/information-technology-services-its/>

**Students with Disabilities** – Entering students who have a documented disability should immediately contact the Student Accessibility Office, 610-499-1266, to request any reasonable accommodations needed to support their academic success. Students seeking accommodations will be required to submit comprehensive medical documentation that includes information relating to the disability, the diagnosis, and the requested accommodations.

The University’s Director of Student Accessibility Services will make an independent assessment of all accommodation requests and if granted, the approved accommodations will be shared with the law school’s Dean of Students who will facilitate the use of those accommodations. In the interest of protecting anonymity, students should not discuss their accommodations with their professors unless approved by the Dean of Students. More information about how to obtain accommodations can be found at: <https://sites.widener.edu/sas/student-information/>

Students granted accommodations for law school examinations should be aware that the Board of Law Examiners in each jurisdiction will make an independent determination of the granting of accommodations for the bar exam. The standard for granting accommodations and the documentation required by each jurisdiction may differ from the standards used by Widener Law Commonwealth.

03/29/21