



### MEMORANDUM

To: All Incoming Students  
From: Randi Teplitz, Assistant Dean of Students  
Date: July 15, 2021  
Re: Orientation 2021

Welcome to Widener Law Commonwealth!

We are looking forward to your arrival on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 and are delighted that you are embarking on your path to becoming an attorney with us. This memorandum gives you information about important dates and times. It also has details about buying textbooks and preparing for classes. Please read this memo in conjunction with the comprehensive orientation schedule.

**Student IDs** – Please upload your photo prior to your arrival on campus. If you are unable to do so, you must visit the Audio/Visual office on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Library Building between 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. on August 10<sup>th</sup>. You must have an ID in order to access our buildings.

**Check-In** – Check-in is at 1:00 – 2:45 p.m. on August 10<sup>th</sup>. Please come to the Main Lobby (the Gallery) of the Administration Building to pick up your Orientation packet. Campus tours led by our Student Ambassadors will be available during this time.

**Orientation Itself** – Orientation begins at 3:00 p.m. on August 10<sup>th</sup>. It will be held in our large moot courtroom in the Administration Building, also known as Room A180. You must attend all Orientation sessions.

- Part 1: Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup>: 3:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.
- Part 2: Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Welcome to the Profession Induction Ceremony** – The Welcome to the Profession Ceremony will be held on Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in Room A180. A reception will follow. Professional attire is required.

**Introduction to Legal Process** – You must attend all Introduction to Legal Process classes. Successful completion of Introduction to Legal Process is a graduation requirement. Introduction to Legal Process will be held on the following dates:

Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-11:15 a.m. – Exam

**Advisor-Advisee Meeting** – Following the Introduction to Legal Process examination on Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, you will meet with your faculty advisor beginning at 11:30 a.m. The location for your meeting will be provided in your Orientation packet when you arrive. This session lasts about 30 minutes.

**Community Building Activities** – We are excited to offer two optional community building activities during Orientation week to help you get to know each other and also to become acclimated with some of the beautiful scenery of central Pennsylvania.

Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>: Professor Waldemar will lead a nature walk at [Wildwood Park](#) beginning at 9:30 a.m. Wildwood Park has beautiful trails and is just a few miles from campus. It is a great place to go when you are feeling stressed to clear your head and enjoy nature. This is an optional Orientation week activity. Advance [sign-up](#) is required. The **deadline to sign-up is Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>**.

Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup>: Dean Moringiello will lead a hike at [Table Rock View](#). The group will meet in our parking lot at 9:30 a.m. and caravan to the site so that no one gets lost. Advance [sign-up](#) is required. The **deadline to sign-up is Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>**.

**Discounted Hershey Park Tickets**—Widener Commonwealth is centrally located and is less than 30 minutes away from [Hershey Park](#)—one of the premier amusement parks in the country. Their chocolate is pretty good too! 😊 We are helping to facilitate the purchase of tickets so that you can secure a group rate of \$40.95 per ticket. This is 45% off of the gate price. The tickets must be used during the [2021 season](#) which ends on January 2, 2022. If you are interested in [buying tickets](#), the **deadline is August 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Please note that Eventbrite charges a non-refundable \$4.12 service fee so the total cost is \$45.07.

20 ticket purchases are required to secure the group rate. If 20 tickets are not purchased by this date, your ticket price will be refunded (minus the non-refundable Eventbrite fees). However, Widener will provide you with a \$5.00 Dunkin' gift card to offset the total costs incurred if refunds are issued.

Refunds will not be available after we purchase the group tickets on August 3rd. Tickets will be distributed during Orientation week.

**School Store** – Do you need Widener Commonwealth merchandise? At Widener Commonwealth, we LOVE to show our school spirit! A pop-up [online school store](#) will be open from July 26-August 13. Orders can be shipped directly to you or delivered to campus. Orders should be fulfilled around mid-September.

**Textbooks** – Your professors expect you to be prepared and ready on the first day of class; there is no first week grace period in law school. As such, I recommend that you order all of your textbooks two weeks or more before classes begin. Here's what you need to do:

- You can find your course schedule on MyWidener using the link on the bottom of the law school's homepage: <http://commonwealthlaw.widener.edu>.
- When you have your schedule, you can find your textbooks and first assignments posted at: <http://commonwealthlaw.widener.edu/current-students/academics/>. Please click on the "Fall 2021 Textbooks and First Assignments" document.
- If you want to buy your textbooks from the university's bookstore, use this link: <https://www.bkstr.com/widenerestore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials>. Use "LAWH" as your department. We do not have a physical bookstore on the Harrisburg campus. The bookstore on the Chester campus fulfills our orders and ships the books to you at your home or school address in the greater Harrisburg area.  
You do not need to buy from the university's bookstore and may buy or rent your textbooks from other retailers. We encourage you to shop around and find the best deals and those that are ready to ship the quickest. Be sure to buy the correct editions of your textbooks.
- Complete the first assignment for each of your courses as set out in the "Fall 2021 Textbooks and First Assignments" document mentioned above.

**Accommodations**—If you are a student in need of accommodations, please contact our [Student Accessibility Services Office](#) as soon as possible. Approved accommodations are implemented by the Registrar and the Office of Student Affairs. In order to protect your

anonymity, you should **not** discuss your accommodations with your professors. Because accommodations are implemented differently in law school, I will be reaching out to all students who have been approved for accommodations to schedule a meeting to discuss the implementation logistics.

**COVID-19 Vaccinations** – In order to protect the health and safety of our campus community, all students (with the exception of those approved for a medical exemption through Student Health Services) are required to obtain the COVID-19 vaccine and [upload](#) a copy of their vaccine card to the University's Student Health Services Office by August 2nd. Students who are not in compliance will unfortunately be removed from their courses. For more information, please review the [COVID-19 FAQs](#) that are posted on our website.

**Tobacco-Free Campus** – We are a tobacco-free campus, which also includes your car if it is parked on university property. You may not smoke, chew, or vape.

I look forward to meeting you on August 10<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions or need additional information, please email me at [rbteplitz@widener.edu](mailto:rbteplitz@widener.edu).

*(Scroll to the next page for a summary of key dates and times)*

**Summary of Key Dates and Times:**

- Tues., Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>
  - 1:00 – 2:45 p.m. Check-In
  - 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Orientation
  - 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Dinner
  - 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Intro. to Legal Process
  
- Wed., Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>
  - 9:30 a.m. Nature Walk led by Prof. Waldemar Wildwood Park (Optional)
  
  - 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. Intro. to Legal Process
  
- Thurs., Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> **(Professional Dress Required)**
  - 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Orientation
  - 5:00 – 5:45 p.m. Welcome to the Profession Ceremony
  - 5:45 – 6:30 p.m. Dinner
  - 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. Intro. To Legal Process
  
- Fri. Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>
  - 9:30 a.m. Table Rock Hike led by Dean Moringiello  
Meet at Widener  
(Optional)
  
- Sat., Aug. 14<sup>th</sup>
  - 9:00 – 11:15 a.m. Intro. to Legal Process Exam
  - 11:30 - 12:00 p.m. Meet Your Faculty Advisor
  
- Wed., Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>
  - 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Orientation, Part II