



MEMORANDUM

To: All Incoming Students
From: Randi Teplitz, Assistant Dean of Students
Date: July 15, 2022
Re: Orientation 2022

Welcome to Widener Law Commonwealth!

We are looking forward to your arrival on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 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 2nd floor of the Library Building between 12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. on August 9th. 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 9th. 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 9th. It will be held in our large moot courtroom in the Administration Building, also known as Room A180. You must attend all Orientation sessions. Attendance will be taken during both the in-person and Zoom sessions. You must contact me in advance if you cannot attend an Orientation session so that alternate arrangements can be made.

- Part 1: Tuesday, August 9th: 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (IN-PERSON)
- Wednesday, August 10th: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. (ZOOM)

Thursday, August 11th: 3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. (IN-PERSON)
4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (IN-PERSON)

Friday, August 12th: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. (ZOOM)

○ Part 2: Wednesday, September 28th: 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. (IN-PERSON)

Welcome to the Profession Induction Ceremony – The Welcome to the Profession Ceremony will be held on Thursday, August 11^h at 4:30 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 9th, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 10th, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 11th, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 13^h, 9:30-11:45 a.m. – Exam

Advisor-Advisee Meeting – You will be assigned an academic advisor who can serve as a resource for you throughout your program. Your advisor will be in touch with you during the first two weeks of classes to schedule a meeting.

Community Building Activities – We are excited to offer 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 10th: Paint and Pizza. Join me in creating an 8 x 10 canvas that we will display in the Pit in our new amateur art gallery. No artistic skill is required (especially because I have no artistic skills). Advance [sign-up](#) is required. The **deadline to sign-up is Tuesday, August 9th**. Registration is limited to 12 people.

Thursday, August 11th: Dean Moringiello and Professors Collazo Vos and Yeagain will lead a hike at [Table Rock View](#). The group will meet in our parking lot in front of the Library Building

at 9:00 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 10th**. Registration is limited to 20 people.

Friday, August 12th: Professor Waldemar will lead a nature walk at [Wildwood Park](#) beginning at 9:00 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 Wednesday, August 10th**. Registration is limited to 15 people.

School Store – Do you need Widener Commonwealth merchandise? At Widener Commonwealth, we LOVE to show our school spirit! A pop-up [online school store](#) is open for you to place orders until August 14. 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 2022 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 2022 Textbooks and First Assignments” document mentioned above.

- If you are dependent on using your financial aid to purchase your textbooks, please contact Allura Alonso, Financial Aid Director, to determine whether you are eligible for a book voucher (which is essentially an advance on your financial aid).

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 booster and [upload](#) a copy of their vaccine card to the University’s Student Health Services Office by August 5th. 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 9th. If you have any questions or need additional information, please email me at rbteplitz@widener.edu.