WELCOME to the University of Chicago! In this newsletter you will find information regarding Opening Day of the residence halls, shipment of personal belongings, and other important information. Please read the following material carefully to ensure that your arrival on campus and your transition to UChicago proceed as smoothly as possible.

OPENING DAY ~ RESIDENCE HALLS OPEN FOR NEW STUDENTS AT 9:00AM ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2013

You may move into your room anytime after 9:00AM on Sunday. If you are planning to arrive in Chicago prior to September 22, please make arrangements for off-campus accommodations in advance.

When you check-in at your residence hall, you will receive wristbands for lunch. After you move in, feel free to eat lunch in your assigned location between 10AM-2PM. Class Day Activities begin at 1:00PM in the Reynolds Club where you will check in for Orientation and receive your Orientation Week schedule (including course registration information).

Beginning at 5:00PM students will eat dinner with their House and at 8:00PM attend their first House meeting. Parents/families should enjoy dinner in the neighborhood or city!

ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Your room and board assignment for the 2013-2014 academic year is on the http://my.uchicago.edu website. You will need your CNet ID and password to log in. Go to the Services tab, the Housing portlet. The details include your assigned hall, House and room number, as well as the room type (e.g. triple, double, single, apartment). If applicable, the name and address of your roommate(s)/suitmate(s) also appear. We encourage you to contact them so that you might begin to develop your relationship and also determine which items that are typically shared (e.g. tv, refrigerator) will be brought to the room and by whom.

We hope you will be pleased with your assignment! While not everyone received their first or second choice of residence, every effort was made to accommodate your preferences. If you did not get one of your three preferences for residence halls, it means that those halls no longer had vacancies when it was time to assign you to a room. Our goal for roommate assignments is to create groups that share similar day/night and quiet/noise preferences, and which are slightly distinct in terms of geographical location, hobbies, or academic interests. We also try to represent a cross-section of University students in each House. Assignments are made without regard to race, religion, sexual orientation, age, disabilities or other factors irrelevant to participation in University of Chicago programs. The residence halls contain an amazing variety of room types. For this reason, we are unable to provide information about specific rooms (e.g. square footage of closet).

Room changes are not possible prior to the beginning of the academic year. Your Resident Head(s) can provide you with specific information about the room change process after your arrival. Should you desire to make a change in your room assignment, you may request to be placed on the General Waitlist beginning Orientation Week for a possible room change later in the quarter/year.

No room changes are permitted during the first three (3) weeks of the Autumn Quarter.

Please go to our website for additional information on your particular Hall and House: http://housing.uchicago.edu

We understand that some students have chronic conditions such as asthma or allergies. Due to the process that we use to make room assignments (that of using the date of payment of the enrollment deposit), it is not possible for us to ensure a request to live in a particular residence hall for a health reason such as these, even if provided a physician’s note. If, however, you have a disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act and have requested and received accommodation by Student Disability Services, we will have been notified of your needs so that we could assign accessible housing for you. All residence halls and student rooms are non-smoking.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

If you ship your belongings in advance of your arrival...

Address all shipments to yourself at your Residence Hall address, and mark them “HOLD FOR ARRIVAL SEPTEMBER 22”. Belongings that are shipped in advance may not arrive prior to 8:00AM on September 16. Any deliveries received prior to that date will be returned to sender. Postage on all shipped items must be prepaid.

Insuring your belongings

The University of Chicago does not insure the personal belongings of its residents, and will not compensate for losses due to theft, fire, water damage, etc. You are urged to review the coverage of your family’s existing homeowners’ policy to see what coverage is, or may be, available to you while living in the residence halls. CSI Insurance Agency is a private company not affiliated with the University which provides personal property protection. For information please call 1-888-411-4911 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. EST, or go to their website, www.collegestudentinsurance.com.

Please read the residential dining program e-pamphlet by clicking the link on the page where you found your housing assignment.
Storing your belongings
A reasonable amount of personal property may be kept in the storage areas of each residence hall. The University will not assume liability for personal property placed in the storage areas, and discourages the storage of electronics or other valuables. Please note that the University limits the amount of stored items to five boxes. All items must be boxed and labeled. Large pieces of furniture cannot be accommodated.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What should I bring?
All students should bring the following basic items:
bed linens1 (extra long twin - 36”x80”) ** blankets ** pillows ** toiletries ** towels.

Students in the following halls need to bring their own kitchen supplies (ie; cookware, dishes, utensils): Blackstone and Stony Island.

Students with private bathrooms have to supply their own bathroom tissue and non-abrasive cleaning supplies.

1 Residence Hall Linens is a company that works with the University Bookstore to offer linens to students. For more information, call 1-800-957-4338 or go to their website, www.rhl.org.

What will the University provide?
All rooms are furnished with the following: bed, dresser, desk, chair, telephone, book shelving, and window treatments. All halls are equipped with coin and card-operated washers and dryers and vacuum cleaners. Rooms in the following halls are carpeted: Blackstone, Broadview, Maclean, Max Palevsky, New Graduate Residence Hall, Pierce, Snell-Hitchcock, South Campus and Stony Island.

Is there anything I’m not allowed to bring?
The following items are not allowed in the residence halls: electric coffee makers ** electric grills (ie; George Foreman) ** gas/charcoal grills ** hot plates ** microwaves (unless part of a combo microwave/refrigerator unit like a Microfridge) ** toasters/toaster ovens ** refrigerators over 4.0 cubic feet ** halogen floor lamps ** portable heating systems ** weapons (including bow and arrow, fencing and decorative swords, paintball guns) ** air conditioners (unless advance permission is granted for medical reasons; not permitted in Burton-Judson, I-House, Max Palevsky, New Grad, South Campus or Stony Island) ** amplified musical instruments may not be played in student rooms. For student and fire safety reasons, loft kits and the lofting of beds is not permitted.

When does my meal plan begin?
Your Orientation Week dining plan begins with lunch on Sunday, September 22 covering meals throughout that week. Your academic year meal plan officially begins with dinner on Friday, September 27th. Please refer to the residential dining information link on the portal for more details about your meal plan and House Table location.

How can I watch TV in my room?
The University has migrated to Internet Protocol Television (IPTV), ie. television over the internet. This kind of program viewing requires a computer and a hard-wired connection to the Ethernet in one’s bedroom; a TV set is not used. While some buildings still provide the option for students to subscribe for cable with the local cable company, there are two residence halls that do not have cable TV capability: the Broadview and South Campus Residence Hall.

I have heard that my UChicago ID card is also a key to my building. How does that work?
You will tap your UChicago ID card, or wave it, in front of the proximity reader next to the front door. The door will unlock when it recognizes you as a resident of the building. Accommodations for students who have special needs relative to electronic door controls will be made upon request.

Who do I talk to if I have any questions or concerns about my housing?
Prior to your arrival, please contact College Housing. Once you move in, please contact your Resident Head(s). They live in the Houses with the students to provide support and leadership to the House. They can be a great resource for you and are here to help!