The New School
Parent Orientation Newsletter

Fall 2013 / www.newschool.edu

Welcome to The New School Community

While this is an exciting time for your family, we understand that the process may seem daunting—particularly if this is the first time you are sending a son or daughter to college.

The information provided in this packet is designed to answer many of your questions, ease your concerns, and give you important contact names and telephone numbers.

We in Student Services are here to support you, as well as your son or daughter, as he or she embarks on a unique educational journey at The New School.

Feel free to contact us at 212.229.5350 or via email at stuserv@newschool.edu. Your thoughts and suggestions are important.

Best wishes,

Linda Abrams Reimer
Senior Vice President for Student Services

Students Face Big Adjustments

- doing laundry
- sharing a room
- balancing a checkbook
- planning meals
- scheduling health appointments
- managing prescriptions
- navigating New York City
- working with university staff

Students Must Balance

- academics
- social life
- work
- spiritual life
- exercise/leisure

Students Will Be Challenged

- making responsible decisions about drugs and alcohol
- learning to accept and embrace those from different cultures
- managing time and planning ahead
- seeking support when going it alone isn't working

Parents Should Remind Students

- you have our love and support
- we're here for you
- we trust you
- utilize the resources on campus

Academic Calendar

2013

August
Classes begin ..... August 26

September
Labor Day: no classes ..... August 31–September 2

Rosh Hashanah: no classes..... September *4–5

Yom Kippur: no classes ..... September *13–14

Student Health Insurance:
online waiver due ..... September *24

November
Spring 2013 registration..... November 4–29

Thanksgiving: no classes .....November 27–December 1

December
Classes and exams end..... December 16

Winter break ..... December 17–January 24

*Classes scheduled to start 3:50 p.m. or later do not meet on September 4 and 13. No classes meet on September 5 and 14.

2014

January
M.L. King Jr. Day: no classes.....January 20

Classes begin.....January 27

February
Presidents' Day: no classes ..... February 17

Student Health Insurance:
online waiver due (spring admits only)..... February 24

March
Spring Break:

Parsons, Lang and Jazz ..... March 24–30

Mannes ..... March 2–9

April
Fall 2013 registration .....March 31–April 25

May
Classes and exams end.....May 19

Helping Make a Healthy Transition to College

As a parent or guardian, you play a vital role in helping your daughter or son make a healthy transition to college. Below are some topics for you to consider and discuss.

Student Health Services

The New School's Student Health Services (SHS) is a great resource for students. SHS offers the following:

– Medical Services
– Counseling Services
– Wellness and Health Promotion
– Health Insurance

Visits to counseling and medical services are free to those who have paid the Student Health Services fee. All medical and counseling services are confidential.

To look up hours and location or learn more about specific services, visit www.newschool.edu/studentservices/health.

Healthy Decisions

Part of being a young adult in college is learning to make healthy decisions, being responsible for your actions, and accepting consequences. We encourage parents to initiate conversations about alcohol, tobacco, and drug use; nutrition; budgeting; stress management; sleep habits; exercise; sexual behavior and consent; and basic hygiene.

Find out how your daughter or son feels about these issues and ask her/him to develop a plan for responding to dangerous or uncomfortable situations. These conversations may not be easy at first, but they can help you build a stronger, relationship with your son or daughter.

Personal Health History

Help your daughter/son understand her/his health conditions. If she/he has been treated for a major medical or mental health condition, you might want to obtain a letter documenting the history of the condition from your daughter's/son's physician or therapist.

Encourage your daughter/son to share this documentation with Student Health Services during her/his first visit. Discuss any chronic conditions that run in your family, including diabetes, heart disease, mental illness, and alcoholism. Knowing your family's health history will help your daughter/son seek information and treatment should she/he develop any symptoms of these conditions.

Health Supplies and Medication

Work with your daughter/son to create a self-care kit with basic healthcare items. Think about the items that your daughter/son uses at home when she/he is sick or injured, and be sure she/he has these supplies at college.

Be sure your daughter/son brings all prescription medications as well as written prescriptions to ensure there will be no interruption in treatment.

If transferring prescriptions, please note that some prescriptions cannot be transferred between states. Under New York state law, those that are transferred will only be allowed one refill.

In many instances, providers are able to provide ongoing medical prescriptions for students. In the event an outside provider is needed, Student Health Services staff can refer students to an appropriate specialist.

Keeping in Touch

The transition to college life is an opportunity for you to redefine your relationship with each other.

Encourage your daughter/son to maintain communication with you during the first few weeks of school, particularly if health concerns arise. Convey that you want to know how she/he is doing and that you will listen in a non-judgmental manner.

Provide contact information of friends or family members in the New York City area and near your home so that, in the event of an emergency, your daughter/son may contact them if you cannot be reached.

Insurance

All undergraduate students enrolled in 6+ credits are required to show proof of health insurance. (Undergraduate students enrolled in less than 6 credits and all graduate students only need to show proof of insurance if they are enrolled in SHS.) The Student Health Insurance Plan offered by the university covers the costs of care rendered inside (e.g., lab tests) and outside of SHS.

If you choose to use a different health insurance plan, be sure it provides adequate coverage in the New York City area. Be sure your daughter/son knows which healthcare providers are covered by your plan, as well as its coverage for lab tests, prescriptions, hospitalizations, etc.

Your daughter/son should have her/his health insurance card on hand at all times. She/he should also make a back-up copy of the health insurance card and related documentation in case her/his wallet, purse, or backpack is lost or stolen.

To learn more about the student health insurance plan and Student Health Services, please visit the website at www.newschool.edu/studentservices/health.

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Supporting Our Students

Problems do occur. Sometimes students can handle them independently. Sometimes they need support. The offices listed below can help. Students should be encouraged to make the initial contact by themselves. Parents should make the contact only when necessary.

Ombuds Office

79 Fifth Avenue, 5th floor
www.newschool.edu/studentservices/intercultural/ombuds
Email: ois@newschool.edu
212.229.8996
Students should contact the Ombuds Office when other approaches to problem solving have not worked. The ombuds will listen, help evaluate the situation, answer questions, explain university policy, and help develop options leading to resolution.

Counseling Services

80 Fifth Avenue, 3rd floor
www.newschool.edu/studentservices/health
Email: shs@newschool.edu
212.229.1671, option 1
The licensed professionals who make up the counseling staff are dedicated to working with students who are experiencing difficulties of any kind. Services include short-term therapy, crisis intervention, support groups, information, and referrals.

Medical Services

80 Fifth Avenue, 3rd floor
Email: shs@newschool.edu
212.229.1671, option 2
The licensed professionals who make up the medical services staff provide primary medical care to students. Services include medical consultation and treatment, gynecologic care, prescriptions, and referrals to medical or surgical specialists.

Wellness and Health Promotion

80 Fifth Avenue, 3rd floor
www.newschool.edu/health
Email: wellness@newschool.edu
212.229.1671, option 4
The wellness and health promotion program supports the student body through programming and individual consultations on many topics including time and stress management, cooking and nutrition, exercise, body image and eating disorders, smoking cessation, meditation, auricular acupressure and acupuncture, sexual health, sexual assault, personal safety, harm reduction, financial health, conflict mediation, sleeping well, and emotional well-being. The Peer Health Advocacy program offers interested students the opportunity to be actively involved in improving their health and that of their peers.

Disability Services

80 Fifth Avenue, 3rd floor
www.newschool.edu/studentservices/disability
Email: studentdisability@newschool.edu
212.229.5626
Students with physical, mental, or learning disabilities are encouraged to contact this office to discuss any disability-related needs. Staff will assist students who want accommodations, seek information, or believe they have been discriminated against based on disability status.

Rights and Responsibilities

79 Fifth Avenue, 5th floor
www.newschool.edu/studentservices/rights
Email: srr@newschool.edu
212.229.5349
Committed to fostering and promoting an environment of good citizenship, this office offers educational programs and administers the Student Code of Conduct. Students should contact this office to file a formal complaint, raise concerns, or seek clarification on policy.

International Student Services

79 Fifth Avenue, 5th floor
www.newschool.edu/studentservices/international
Email: iss@newschool.edu
212.229.5592
International Student Services seeks to encourage international students to become active participants in classes, extracurricular activities, dorms, and life in New York City. From the point students are accepted to completion of their studies, International Student Services provides comprehensive support and advising services, as well as cultural, social, and co-curricular programming.

Registrar's Office

72 Fifth Avenue, lower level
www.newschool.edu/studentservices/registrar
Email: reghelp@newschool.edu
212.229.5620

Registration and Records at Mannes

150 West 85th Street
www.newschool.edu/studentservices/registrar
212.580.0210 x4834

Student Financial Services

72 Fifth Avenue, lower level
www.newschool.edu/studentservices/financialaid
Email: sfs@newschool.edu
212.229.8930

Supporting Our Students

Helpful New School Phone Numbers

Campus Security
212.229.5101

Medical Services
212.229.1671, option 2

Counselling Services
212.229.1671, option 1

Wellness and Health Promotion
212.229.1671, option 4

Health Insurance
212.229.1671, option 3

Switchboard
212.229.5600

Incase of emergency,
call 911.

Academic Advising

Students are advised by staff in the academic division in which they are enrolled.

Parsons The New School for Design
Office of Advising
2 West 13th Street, 5th floor
212.229.5855

Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts
Office of Academic Advising
64 West 11th Street, 1st floor
212.229.5100

Mannes College
The New School for Music
Office of Academic Affairs
150 West 85th Street
212.580.0210

The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music
Office of Academic Advising
55 West 13th Street, 5th floor
212.229.5896

The New School for Social Research
Office of Academic Affairs
6 East 16th Street, 10th floor
212.229.5712

The New School for Public Engagement
Office of Academic Services
66 West 12th Street, 3rd floor
212.229.5615

The New School for Drama
Office of Academic Affairs
151 Bank Street
212.229.5859

Housing and Residence Life

Most issues can be resolved by contacting the residence hall director of the building in which your student is living. For general questions or concerns contact:

Student Housing
79 Fifth Avenue, 5th floor
newschool.edu/studentservices/housing
Email: myhome@newschool.edu
212.229.5459

Loeb Hall
135 East 12th Street
Security 646.414.2825
Residence Life Office 646.414.0717

Stuyvesant Park Residence
318 East 15th Street
Security 646.414.6447
Residence Life Office 646.414.6102

Thirteenth Street
118 West 13th Street
Security 646.414.2699
Residence Life Office 646.414.2671

Twentieth Street.....
300 West 20th Street
Security 646.414.6051
Residence Life Office 646.414.6050

Kerrey Hall
65 Fifth Avenue
Security 646.414.0211
Residence Life Office: to be announced

Parents' Most Frequently Asked Questions

▲ I understand that I will have limited access to my son/daughter's college records. Why is this so, especially since I am paying the bills?
Under FERPA (the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act), parents and legal guardians do not have access rights once a student has turned 18 or is attending any post-secondary educational institution. Students can request the release of specific information to their parents by giving a signed authorization to the appropriate office. Information is usually mailed or given in person once identification has been verified.

▲ What records does FERPA cover?
The privacy protection FERPA gives to students is very broad. With limited exceptions, these regulations give privacy protection to all students' "educational records." Go to www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpco/ferpa/parents.html for more information. FERPA is enforced by the U.S. Department of Education.

▲ How can I find out my son/daughter's grades?
My.newSchool.edu is our online information system where a student can register, pay bills, see account information, access financial aid awards, update address information, and see grades. The best way for you to obtain grade information is to ask your son/daughter for this information.

▲ Will university-related bills be sent to me?
The New School now issues electronic invoices for registered students. Students will receive a notification to their New School (@newschool.edu) email account when an invoice is ready to be viewed. Students also have the option of designating an authorized user (parent, relative, guardian, employer, etc.) to view their account and make payments on their behalf.

▲ Will I know if my son/daughter has been placed on academic probation?
No. As with grades, academic standing is provided directly to students. You should ask your son/daughter to keep you informed about his/her academic performance.

▲ Will I know if my son/daughter has been treated at Student Health Services for medical or counseling services?
State and federal laws as well as professional ethical codes preclude the university from sharing student medical or counseling records with third parties, including parents, without the student's written consent. Our professional staff routinely encourages students who are ill to let parents know the situation and/or to let the provider contact the parent. Confidentiality of this sort assures students that they can speak candidly and openly without fear that their conversations will be reported to others. Confidentiality is not absolute, and if we determine that a student poses an imminent danger to self or to others we will notify appropriate persons, including parents.

▲ How will I know if my son/daughter is hurt or in danger?
If your son/daughter lives in the residence hall, we have staff on call 24 hours a day/7 days a week. Our policy regarding notification of parents depends on the severity of the issue, the age of the student, and the wishes of the student. Hospitals and police agencies will follow their own policies. If your son/daughter lives off campus, we will only become aware of a situation if the student contacts us. Our Security Office is staffed 24 hours a day/7 days a week and we encourage students who live off campus to contact Security if they have been involved in any kind of incident.

▲ FERPA allows universities to notify parents when a student violates drug or alcohol laws. Do you notify parents routinely when this happens?
Generally, we do not notify parents when a student is found violating these laws as a first offense. We may notify parents, however, should we feel that a student is in danger or if the situation is serious enough to warrant notification. Our approach is educational and we attempt to work with students to help them understand when they have made bad decisions and provide support for them as they strive to make better ones.

Safety and Preparedness at The New School

Resources and response plans are in place for disruptions or emergencies of all magnitudes including personal emergencies, campus disturbances, and events or conditions affecting New York City or the nation. Our policies and procedures are reviewed, revised, and enhanced on a regular basis.

Features of our response plan include:

– A university Emergency Response Team that is in frequent contact with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to gather and implement the most up-to-date information, advice, and protocol on emergency management

– Highly trained campus security, residence life, and health services personnel

– The protection and service of New York City's police, fire, and emergency medical teams—the finest and fastest in the nation

– A Student Services Crisis Response Team with clear guidelines and protocols for responding to a variety of crises involving students

– The New School Alert system that sends messages (text and voice) to cell phones, landlines, and email addresses during a crisis or emergency at The New School. The system may be used to alert The New School community about weather-related closings or dangerous situations on campus. To register or update your contact information, login to my.newschool.edu and click on The New School Alert tab.

– A centrally located building with a back-up generator and a standby bank of telephone landlines for emergency purposes

– Residence halls stocked with essential emergency supplies

– A strictly enforced guest policy in the residence halls that allows us to know the identity of every non-resident entering the building

– Frequent fire drills in every university building including residence halls

– A 24/7 on-call staff schedule in the residence halls

– A 24/7 central security desk (212.229.5165)

– An automated 24-hour campus alert phone number (212.229.7008) and a university advisory and status Web page that can be updated remotely; both provide current information concerning any situation that could cause a disruption or change in university routine

Ultimately, safety is a collaborative effort. Specific information about emergency preparation and response for all members of the university community is available on the university's website at newschool.edu/safety.

We expect every member of the university community to become familiar with the information on the website so that they will know what to do, who to call, where to go, and what to expect in the event of an emergency at The New School.