



## First-Year Student Move-In Day: Tuesday, August 29, 2017

### Information for Parents and Families

Move-In Day will be one of the most memorable moments of your family's Amherst experience. You and your student will probably feel the excitement of beginning a journey, joy in meeting new friends, faculty and staff, and some nerves or anxiety about the transition for your family as your student becomes increasingly independent.

We look forward to welcoming your family to campus on August 29, 2017. We have structured the day so as to make your time on campus as informative, fun and low-stress as possible. A more detailed schedule of student and family programming during Move-In Day will be sent to you and your student, separately, in August.

#### MOVE-IN DAY AND ORIENTATION

Move-In Day is the first day of a week-long Orientation for all first-year students. Orientation welcomes students to our dynamic, diverse and supportive community, and prepares them to thrive intellectually and personally. Faculty, staff and students collaborate to empower students to take intellectual risks and to shape the future of Amherst College. During Orientation, we will:

1. **Build** community among students, faculty and staff.
2. **Empower** students to take an active role in developing their own academic trajectories and stretching their intellectual boundaries.
3. **Give** students the tools to manage their own physical and mental health in our academically rigorous environment.
4. **Educate** students about their rights and responsibilities as contributing members of the Amherst community.
5. **Encourage** students to challenge preconceptions and engage with diversity and social justice.



#### ARRIVAL ON CAMPUS

As you make your travel plans for coming to Amherst, please be aware of the following scheduled move-in times based on your student's room assignment, which will be sent to your student from the Office of Residential Life in early August.

8:30-9:30 a.m.: Fourth Floors of all dorms and Ground Floor of Charles Pratt (030-046)

9:30-10:30 a.m.: Third Floors

10:30-11:30 a.m.: Second Floors

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: First Floors and Late Arrivals

Students and staff will be on hand to help your family unload your vehicle. Please clearly label all belongings with your student's name, building and room number. After unloading, you will be directed to a designated parking lot, where a shuttle can then take you back to central campus. **No parking is allowed on the quad at any time on Move-In Day.**

Breakfast is available for free at Valentine Hall from 7:30-11:00 a.m., and starting at 9 a.m., tours are available at the Mead Art Museum, Beneski Museum of Natural History and the Emily Dickinson Museum.

If you need overnight lodging, you may be interested in information at [amherst.edu/visiting](http://amherst.edu/visiting).

## **PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES**

During Move-In Day, students and their families participate in some programmed activities together and other activities separately. There is also free time for you to help your student unpack, do a supply run, explore campus or get to know other students and families.

Parents and family members are invited to attend three important sessions in the afternoon. One is a welcome from President Biddy Martin to all incoming students and their families. Immediately following, there is an informal reception with President Martin as well as a Resource Fair, where you will find representatives from various offices across campus available to answer questions. The last program of the day is a Parent-to-Parent Panel which features several of your peers who already have students attending Amherst. This is your opportunity to ask other parents about their experience, tips, advice and perspective on your most burning questions—from where to eat in town to helping your student handle academic, social or personal stress.

Parents and families are asked to say their farewells to students and depart campus no later than 9:30 p.m. Students will be busy with a full evening of activities after families depart.

**You will receive a detailed schedule for Move-In Day by email in early August.** In the meantime, please email [contactorientation@amherst.edu](mailto:contactorientation@amherst.edu) or [parents@amherst.edu](mailto:parents@amherst.edu) with any questions. More information will also be posted online at [amherst.edu/go/newstudents](http://amherst.edu/go/newstudents) and [amherst.edu/parents](http://amherst.edu/parents).