

BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE



Bengal Family Newsletter August 2021

Welcome from the Dean of Students



Welcome Bengal friends and families to fall 2021! I am Sarah Young, Dean of Students at Buffalo State. The Dean of Students area is here to assist our students and campus community during their time at Buffalo State. This year, I am looking forward to communicating with you through this new online monthly newsletter. As stated in our [updated COVID-19 safety guidance](#), we are expecting a full return to in-person operations for the 2021-22 academic year. As we prepare an exciting fall semester for our students, we know what a crucial role you play in supporting your student in their transition and success at Buffalo State. The goal of this newsletter is to keep you updated on important dates, upcoming events, and

department opportunities that could help you and your student during the year. To keep up to date on student information throughout the month, follow the Dean of Students [Instagram](#) account.

Student COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement

[As Governor Cuomo announced in May 2021](#), all students planning to attend in-person classes at SUNY campuses this fall must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. This mandate will be implemented by SUNY and Buffalo State College once the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) fully approves one of the three COVID-19 vaccines currently available under Emergency Use Authorization. The timing of full FDA approval remains to be determined. In the meantime, Buffalo State will require all resident students living on campus, athletes, and those participating in recreational sports or using the fitness center this fall to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, with limited medical or religious exemptions. Any students who are not yet vaccinated should expect some limited experiences on campus this fall, including mandatory mask wearing in nearly all settings (including in classrooms), as well as possible restrictions on the use of facilities, attendance at select student events, and in-person dining options. Buffalo State urges any student who has not yet received a COVID-19 vaccine to do so immediately. [Schedule a vaccine appointment at a location near you.](#)



Residence Life Top 5 Tips for Living with a Roommate

1. Keep an Open Mind While Getting to Know Each Other

You may find that you and your roommate have common interests and beliefs. Also remember that other people come from different backgrounds and were raised differently, which can help save you a lot of frustration in the long run.

2. Maintain Open Lines of Communication

Talk to each other openly and respectfully when there is an issue.

3. Set Boundaries

Everyone has their own set of personal boundaries. Discuss whether you are comfortable sharing things like food or appliances.

4. Share Responsibilities

This could involve creating a chore chart to decide who is taking out the trash or vacuuming each week. What's most important is ensuring that you and your roommate are both sharing duties to keep your space clean and organized.



5. Be Friendly

Even if you and your roommate don't become best friends, you should still always be friendly toward each other!

Career Development for Students

The Career Development Center (CDC) is working hard to inform students of job opportunities on and around campus as they return this fall. We have two great ways students can interact with employers and find job opportunities.



First, students can view all current job and internship openings on the college's online job board [BengalLink](#). BengalLink includes local and national full-time, part-time, summer, volunteer, internship, and work-study vacancies. New students will receive a BengalLink "Welcome Message" during the week of August 23. Returning students have access to BengalLink and can log in with their existing credentials.

Second, we encourage students to attend our annual Part-Time Job Luau this fall! This fun, casual job fair is for students to connect with employers hiring for part-time jobs and paid internships. The Part-Time Job Luau will be held on Tuesday, September 14 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. in the Student Union Plaza. Students can learn more about the Part-Time Job Luau and view the list of participating employers on [BengalLink](#).



To keep up to date on student career events during the month, follow the Career Development Center on [Facebook](#).

Student Leadership and Engagement



Student Leadership and Engagement is excited to welcome new and returning students to campus for the start of the fall 2021 semester! To kick off the fall semester we're hosting Weeks of Welcome, a series of programs held by student organizations and the campus community. Go to the [Weeks of Welcome website](#) to view the event schedule!

Another great way for students to get involved at the start of the fall semester is to find campus clubs and organizations on [Bengal Connect](#). Students can learn about and join clubs and organizations and register for events on campus!

Student Leader Highlights - Meet the B.E.A.T. Team Members

Each month we will highlight various student leader opportunities around campus and students who currently hold those positions. This month we are highlighting our B.E.A.T. (Bengal Experience and Transition) Team. The B.E.A.T. Team is a group of currently enrolled student leaders on campus who work with Student Leadership and Engagement to assist incoming students with their transition to Buffalo State. The B.E.A.T. Team members facilitate virtual incoming student orientation sessions, provide [one-on-one post orientation support](#) to students and families, and engage with incoming students via social media or group chat in an effort to welcome them to the Bengal family before the semester begins.

The B.E.A.T. Team members major in different areas of academic study and come from different hometowns, lived experiences and cultural practices, but they all share a common passion for helping, welcoming, and supporting new students and their families during their transition to Buffalo State. Meet some of the B.E.A.T. Team members who are here to support you!



“My name is Saharatu Abdallah. I am currently a junior majoring in Health and Wellness. I minor in Spanish as well as Gerontology. My hobbies include literally anything as I am a very adventurous and open person. I joined the B.E.A.T. Team to assist students in their transition. Being new somewhere can be scary, but with support it seems possible.”



“My name is Christopher Jackson, and I am a Psychology major. One of the reasons why I joined the Buffalo State B.E.A.T. Team is because I transferred to Buffalo State in my junior year and there was so much I did not know about. One of the goals I hope to achieve is that I want to ensure that incoming new and transfer students are aware of the wide variety of services and activities Buffalo State has to offer. On top of that, they must know about the sense of family that is always present on and off the campus. Joining the Buffalo State B.E.A.T. Team is something I am honored to be a part of, and I cannot wait to meet everyone in the fall!”

Upcoming Events

Buffalo State’s 150th Anniversary



This year we are thrilled to be celebrating Buffalo State’s 150th year of educating students. Throughout the year there will be various opportunities for students and our campus community to participate in our full year of sesquicentennial anniversary events! [Learn more about the 150th anniversary events.](#)

Homecoming and Family Weekend



This year’s Homecoming theme, “Let the Good Times Roar...150 Years at Buffalo State College,” embraces the amazing 150-year milestone in the college’s history, and celebrates our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends who have been and continue to be a part of our campus community. Join us during Homecoming Week from September 27 to October 2 as we reflect on our past and look toward our future and keep the good times roaring. For questions about Homecoming and Family Weekend, please contact Student Leadership and Engagement at sle@buffalostate.edu.

Visit Buffalo State

If you are planning to visit our campus in the fall, [view the academic calendar](#) and [learn more about Buffalo State and the surrounding community](#).

Follow Us on Social Media!

To keep up to date on student information throughout the month, follow the Life at Buff State social media accounts on [Instagram](#), [Snapchat](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#).

For more general information about the college, follow the Buffalo State social media accounts on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

Related Reading

View related reading for additional information and resources about college students:

- [10 Conversations Parents and Students Should Have Before the First Year of College](#)
 - [Sending Your First-Year Student Off to College? Parents Share Experience and Advice for Move-In Day](#)
 - [Are You Emotionally Prepared for College Drop-Off?](#)
 - [The 10 Things You Need to Say to Your Teen at College Move-In Day](#)
 - [Steps Parents and Students Can Take to be Ready for an On-Campus Crisis](#)
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Other Questions or Need Help? Contact Us!

If you have questions, need help, or are looking for more or different information from this newsletter, please contact us:

Dean of Students:

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