

BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE



Bengal Family Newsletter December 2021

Opening Statement from the Dean of Students



I am so proud of our Bengal family and grateful for those who thrived during the fall semester and supported their fellow Bengals. As we continue navigating challenging times, I encourage you to keep showing up for our community in this way. With the start of winter break, I encourage you and your students to relax and reconnect. This is a time to slow down and rest or focus on other areas. Hopefully, our students are able to use this time to do things that they enjoy, and that they might not have time for during the semester. Maybe that's doing crafts, getting outside for snowshoeing or skiing, catching up on TV shows, or reading for fun. Whatever you and your students choose to do, I encourage you to make the most of your break. Perhaps you and your students can take some time to reflect on their fall semester. Ask what went well for them, and what was challenging? What lessons did they take away from the fall semester, and what resources may they use heading into the spring semester? I urge you to remind your students that when reflecting on the past few months, it can be easy to focus on areas of improvement, but to also remember to reflect on all that they accomplished. There are so many reasons for students to be proud of themselves, and I encourage you to help them remember that as they're planning for the spring. I am looking forward to seeing our Bengals back on campus in the spring! Please remember we are here during break for you and your students if you need anything.

Winter Weather Attendance Reminders for Students

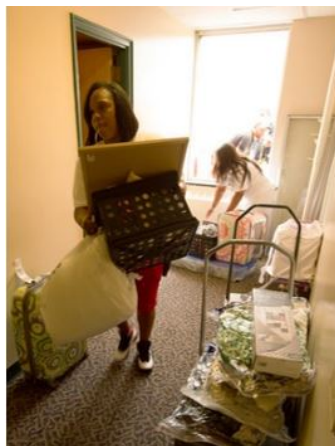


In Western New York, the weather can vary greatly within just a few miles. Each winter there are times when the weather conditions on campus are favorable for classes to be held as scheduled, but some students, faculty, and staff may experience difficulty traveling to campus. In those situations, students must communicate with their instructors and faculty must communicate with their students if they cannot travel to campus safely.

Students will not be penalized if they cannot attend in-person or hybrid classes because of severe weather, but they are responsible for consulting with faculty and promptly making up any assignments, quizzes, exams, or any alternative assignments. If an absence situation between a student and instructor cannot be resolved, an appeal should be made to the department chair, and then to the Dean or Provost if necessary.

Students are encouraged to [review Buffalo State's emergency closings policy](#) to learn more about the procedures during severe weather. Students should also [sign up or update their information in the Buff State Alert system](#) to receive emergency alert notifications from the college.

Residence Life Tips for Fall 2021 Semester Move Out and Spring 2022 Semester Move In



If Your Student is Returning for the Spring 2022 Semester

Please make sure your student packs everything they need for winter break, such as medications and identification, and leave what they don't need in their room. Once your student is ready to head home, they will need to clean their room, remove all trash, unplug all belongings including microfridges, turn off the lights, close the windows, and lock the doors. Students should place towels in their microfridge when they unplug it, so it soaks up any water. The Residence Life Office will also post checklists on students' doors to

remind them what to do. We will see students again on Saturday, January 29, 2022, after 8:00 a.m. for the start of the spring 2022 semester!

If Your Student is Not Returning for the Spring 2022 Semester

Please make sure your student **submits a request for housing termination form**. Once your student is ready to head home, they will need to empty their room and common areas of all belongings, clean their room, and turn in their keys. To properly turn in their keys, students should visit the front desk of their residence hall to fill out an express checkout envelope, place their keys or fobs inside, seal it, take their receipt, and place the envelope where indicated by their residence hall office. It is critical that students take their part of the envelope in case there are any follow up questions regarding their check out. For questions or concerns, please contact the Residence Life Office by email at reslife@buffalostate.edu.

Student COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement for Spring 2022 Semester



In accordance with Buffalo State College's immunization policy, all students with an on-campus presence for spring 2022 classes are **required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19**, or must have received an approved **COVID-19 vaccine exemption**. Students must complete their COVID-19 vaccination regimen by January 17, 2022, two weeks prior to the start of the spring 2022 semester. Full vaccination status is considered to be effective two weeks after receiving the second dose of a two-dose vaccine, or two weeks after receiving a single-dose vaccine. **Find and schedule a COVID-19 vaccine appointment at a location near you**. If your student receives their COVID-19 vaccination in New York State, the Weigel Health Center will have their vaccination information on file. If your student receives their COVID-19 vaccination outside of New York State, please have your student submit their vaccination information to the Weigel Health Center by email at weigel@buffalostate.edu.

Tips to Help Students Prepare for the Spring 2022 Semester

Looking ahead to the spring 2022 semester, you can support your student and help them prepare by using the following tips:

1. Reflect on the Fall Semester

Consider what went well and what could have been improved.

2. Set S.M.A.R.T. Goals

Try using the S.M.A.R.T. Goal method to set one realistic goal for the spring semester. The S.M.A.R.T. acronym outlines goals that are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound.

3. Check the CAPS Scholarship Portal

Review the Campus Application Portal for Scholarships (CAPS) to find scholarships for the spring semester. Scholarship applications are currently open, and students may apply until January 12, 2022. [Learn more about scholarships for new and current students.](#)

4. Review the Academic Calendar

[View the academic calendar](#) and note important dates and deadlines for the spring semester.

PREPARATION promotes performance

What can family do to support a student?

- Ask them how the semester went
- Ask them if there is anything they wish they had done differently

Top 4 Tips for Spring 2022

- 1) Reflect on your fall semester. What went well? Where could you improve?
- 2) Try setting 1 realistic goal for your spring semester. Try using the S.M.A.R.T. Goal method.
- 3) Check out the C.A.P.S portal, spring scholarships are now posted and most deadlines are in January.
- 4) Check the academic calendar & make note of important spring deadlines, like add drop

Reminders

- Register for Spring 2022
- Contact financial aid or your completion coach if you have a HOLD

Tune in to the Latest Episode of the 'Bow Tie Chronicles' Podcast with Vice President Gordon



Catch up on the latest episode of the 'Bow Tie Chronicles' podcast with Dr. Tim Gordon, Vice President for Student Affairs. In the newest episode, Dr. Gordon and two student guests reflect on the fall semester and discuss how to make the most of winter break. [Learn more about the Bow Tie Chronicles podcast](#) and listen to the podcast on [Spotify](#).

Student Leader Highlight

Each month we will highlight various student leaders on campus. Meet the following student leader who stood out in December!

Jimmy Speaker, President of United Students Government



Jimmy Speaker is a senior majoring in English and minoring in Business Economics and he is the President of the United Students Government at Buffalo State. Jimmy's favorite place on campus is Starbucks in the Butler Library, and his favorite class was Macroeconomics with Dr. Joelle Leclaire.

Upcoming Events

Visit Burchfield Penney Art Center



Visit the Burchfield Penney Art Center on campus to explore the art and artists of the Western New York region. From art exhibition tours to hands-on workshops, there's always something new to discover. [Learn more about visiting the Burchfield Penney Art Center.](#)

Athletics Games



Attend Buffalo State Athletics games and events to cheer on our Bengals! [View the Athletics calendar for upcoming game schedules.](#)

Celebrating Buffalo State's 150th Anniversary



This year, we are celebrating Buffalo State College's 150th anniversary! [Learn more about our 150th anniversary events](#) and look for opportunities to participate throughout the year.

Visit Buffalo State

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

Related Reading

View related reading links to find things to do in Buffalo this winter!

- [Find events on Step Out Buffalo](#) that highlight the best of Buffalo and Western New York.
 - [Learn about visiting the Buffalo Niagara region](#) and find things to do during winter.
 - [Learn about and visit Buffalo's historic parks](#).
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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](#).

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:

 **Call: 716-878-4618**

 **Email: deanofstudents@buffalostate.edu**

 **Web: deanofstudents.buffalostate.edu**



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