

# Soaring into Success

Orientation Week 2025



Washington College

*Shirley King*



# Arriving On Campus

## Early Arrival: Friday, August 15

### Fall Athletes

Varsity volleyball, soccer, and field hockey athletes arrive and move in on Friday, August 15 and follow a customized orientation schedule for their team. Check-in on Friday is between 9 a.m. and noon. Parents and family are invited to join their student athlete for a complimentary lunch in Hodson Dining Hall followed by a 1 p.m. meeting just for parents and families in the Hotchkiss Recital Theater on the second floor of the Gibson Center for the Arts.

### International Students

International students arrive and move in on Monday, August 18. The Office of Global Education and Global ambassadors will provide a specialized orientation program on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. International students join the regular orientation schedule from Wednesday afternoon on.

### Washington Scholars

Washington Scholars arrive and move in on Tuesday, August 19, between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. for a program overview and cohort introduction. Families are invited to stay for an information session in the Egg in Hodson Hall and a complimentary dinner in the dining hall on the second floor of Hodson Hall.

| Friday, Aug. 15  | Saturday, Aug. 16  | Sunday, Aug. 17  | Monday, Aug. 18                              | Tuesday, Aug. 19                                  |
|--|--------------------|--|--|---|
| 9 a.m. - noon<br>Fall athletes<br>move-in                        | Athletics Practice | Athletics Practice   | Leadership Training                          | Leadership Training                               |
| 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.<br>Lunch  |                    | Peer Mentors<br>& Global<br>Ambassadors<br>arrive<br>Evening program<br>with RAs | International<br>Students arrive—<br>all day | 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.<br>Washington<br>Scholars move in |
| 1 p.m. Parent/<br>Family Meeting<br>Hotchkiss Recital<br>Theater |                    |  | Athletics Practice                           | Athletics Practice                                |
| Athletics Program  |                    |  |  |   |







## Regular Arrival: Wednesday, August 20

Based on your residence hall or commuter status, report to one of the check-in locations listed below. Residence Life staff will be available at check-in tents to welcome you, give you your room key, student ID, and orientation schedule. From there, you will be escorted to your room. Peer Mentors, student-athletes, student leaders, community volunteers, and members of faculty and staff will be on-site to assist with unloading your vehicle and helping you move in.

When you go to check-in, you'll be notified if there is a hold on your account, which typically means an issue needs to be resolved before a student is permitted to move-in to their Residence Hall. For any Business Office hold, staff from the Business Office will be on hand to meet with students and their parents/guardians in the lobby of Caroline House. For a Health Services hold, staff from Health Services will be on hand to meet with students and their parents/guardians in the Office of Health Services, located between Caroline House and Queen Anne's House. Once your hold is resolved, you can report back to your check-in location to receive your room keys and welcome packet and begin moving in.

## Residence Hall Check-in Information

### Residents of Reid Hall, Queen Anne's House or Caroline House:

Check-in tent located in front of Caroline House.

**Parking:** To allow others to unload easily, please park temporarily in the lot behind Reid Hall to unload. Then re-locate your vehicle to Parking Lot D (lot in front of the Baseball field) or to the parking lot behind the Western Shore dorms (behind the baseball field).

### Residents of Minta Martin Hall:

Check-in tent located at porch of Minta Martin Hall (lower level facing Washington Avenue).

**Parking:** To allow others to unload easily, please park temporarily in the roadway on the south side of Minta (right next to the building) to unload. Then re-locate your vehicle to the parking lot immediately south of Minta Martin.

### Residents of Kent House or Other Residence Halls:

Check-in tent located in front of Kent House (on lawn behind Hodson Hall Commons and Cullen House).

**Parking:** To allow others to unload easily, please park temporarily on the roadway facing Cullen Hall and use the paths to move items over to Kent House. You may not park on Washington Avenue or the Cater Walk to move into Kent House. Once you've finished unloading, please relocate your vehicle to Lot D (in front of the baseball field) or behind the Western Shore dorms (behind the Baseball field).

### Commuters

If you plan to commute to campus for the fall semester, check-in between 12 - 1 p.m. in the Hodson Hall Commons lobby to receive your welcome packet. Please join us for lunch in the second floor dining hall before the rest of the orientation activities get underway in the afternoon, which includes specific programming for commuter students.





# Move-In Day Tips

**Parking to unload your belongings will be at a premium at move-in locations.** Be prepared to unload all of your belongings at once. Student leaders and athletes will be on hand to help you unload quickly. Once you're unloaded, have someone immediately move your vehicle while you begin to move your belongings into your dorm room. Refer to the move-in day instructions to find where to relocate your vehicle after you unload.

**It will be hot.** Eastern Shore summers are notoriously warm and muggy, so wear comfortable clothes and shoes, and drink plenty of water.

**Pack smart.** Keep things organized and packed in way that you can easily grab items to unload.

Be sure to **confirm with your roommate(s) who is bringing any special items** (TVs, refrigerator, microwaves, etc.).

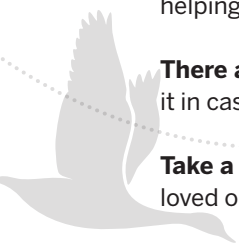
**Remove and dispose of packaging for certain items BEFORE you come to campus** (i.e. bulky boxes with lots of cardboard, Styrofoam or plastic wrap). This will help you save space in your car and save you time when you're settling in. You're also already doing your part to help the College reduce waste.

**Bring cleaning supplies just in case.** They're always good to have on hand for any unexpected messes on move-in day and they come in handy throughout the semester to keep your room clean.

**Label what you can with your name, dorm, and room number in case things get mixed up.** It also allows students helping with move in to easily identify where items belong.

**There are limited dollies and carts available to assist with move in.** If you have your own at home, feel free to bring it in case you have a short walk to your dorm room.

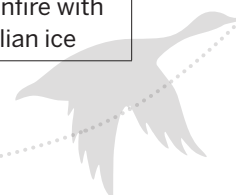
**Take a moment to breathe and soak it all in.** Moving into college is a big day. Enjoy the time you have with family or loved ones during the day and get ready to start your new adventure at Washington College.



# Orientation Week Schedule

**Wednesday, August 20**

| Time             | Session                           | Location                 | Description  |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 8 - 12 p.m.      | Student Check-in                  | Residence Halls          | Check-in based on your housing assignment. See the Move-In Guide for details.  |
| 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Open House and Meet & Greet       | Various Locations        | Stop by the Intercultural Center (located in Minta), Hillel House (adjacent to Minta), the Johnson Fitness Center, and the Miller Library to meet staff and learn about campus resources |
| 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Lunch                             | Hodson Dining Hall       | Complimentary lunch available.   |
| 12 - 12:45 p.m.  | First-Generation Families Connect | Hodson Dining Hall       | Informal lunch and conversation for first-generation students and their families   |
| 12 - 1 p.m.      | Commuter Student Check-in         | Hodson Hall Commons      | Commuters check in and join us for lunch before orientation programming  |
| 12 - 12:45 p.m.  | Athlete Family Meeting            | Hotchkiss                | For winter and spring varsity sport athletes and their families  |
| 1 - 1:45 p.m.    | Washington Welcome                | Cain Gymnasium           | A welcome address from college leaders and local dignitaries   |
| 1:45 p.m.        | Class Photo                       | Cain Gymnasium           | Capture your first official class photo  |
| 2 - 3:30 p.m.    | Peer Mentor Groups                | Cain Gymnasium           | Meet your Peer Mentor and fellow group members   |
| 2 - 2:45 p.m.    | Ready to Launch: Parent & Family  | Decker Auditorium        | A special session for families presented by the Deans of Student Affairs   |
| 2:45 - 3:30 p.m. | Parent & Family Mixer             | Underwood Lobby          | Time for parents and families to connect and build community   |
| 3:30 - 4 p.m.    | Goodbye Time                      | Martha Washington Square | Time for heartfelt goodbyes  |
| 4 - 6 p.m.       | Settle into Residence Halls       | Assigned Halls           | Unwind and settle into your new home   |
| 4 p.m.           | Commuter Student Info Session     | Meet in Hodson Commons   | Orientation details and campus resources for commuter students   |
| 4:15 p.m.        | Hall Meetings with Your RA        | Assigned Halls           | Get to know your RA and residence community  |
| 6 p.m.           | Dinner                            | Hodson Dining Hall       | Enjoy dinner with your RA, roommates, and hall mates   |
| 7 p.m.           | PlayFair!                         | Meet at Miller Terrace   | A high-energy campus tradition filled with games and bonding   |
| 8 - 10 p.m.      | Fire & Ice                        | Fire pit                 | Celebrate your first day! Bonfire with s'mores, glow swag, and Italian ice   |





## Thursday, August 21

| Time                | Session                            | Location               | Description   |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 7 - 8:30 a.m.       | Breakfast                          | Hodson Dining Hall     | Start your day with your Peer Mentor Group  |
| 8:30 - 9:15 a.m.    | Keynote                            | Decker Auditorium      | Welcome and inspiration to kick off Orientation Day 2   |
| 9:15 - 9:45 a.m.    | The Washington College Honor Code  | Decker Auditorium      | Learn about the College's community standards and academic integrity                                      |
| 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.   | Peer Mentor Meetings               | Peer Mentor Classrooms | Sign your Honor Code and prep for the Resource Fair   |
| 11 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. | Resource Fair & Spotlight Sessions | Hodson Commons         | Meet departments and attend spotlight sessions tailored to your interests                                 |
| 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.    | Lunch                              | Hodson Dining Hall     | Grab lunch with your Peer Mentor group  |
| 12 - 12:30 p.m.     | Pre-Professional Lunch Meetings    | Hodson Dining Hall     | Join faculty/staff at reserved tables for students interested in Education, Medicine, Law, or Engineering |
| 2 - 3:30 p.m.       | So You're in College Now...        | Peer Mentor Classrooms | A dialogue on personal agency, free expression, and college life  |
| 4 - 5:30 p.m.       | Consent                            | Decker Auditorium      | Interactive and educational session on consent and healthy relationships                                  |
| 6 p.m.              | Dinner                             | Hodson Dining Hall     | Join your Peer Mentor Group for dinner  |
| 7 p.m.              | Explore! Meet-Up                   | Miller Terrace         | Meet your fellow Explorers and review your Explore! itinerary   |
| 7:30 p.m.           | Making the Transition              | Decker Auditorium      | Peer Mentors dramatize college life in a series of hilarious skits  |
| 8:15 - 10 p.m.      | Thursday Night Lights              | Kibler Field, Stadium  | Field games with Rec Center and Public Safety (snow cones too!)   |
| 8:15 - 10 p.m.      | Movie Night                        | Goose Nest             | Movie, with snacks, board games, and more   |

## Friday, August 22

| Time             | Session                       | Location                   | Description  |
|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 7 - 9 a.m.       | Breakfast                     | Hodson Dining Hall         | Enjoy breakfast with your Peer Mentor Group                                |
| 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Academic Resources Tour       | Various Locations          | Visit academic support offices, meet staff, and learn how to thrive at WAC |
| 12 - 2 p.m.      | Lunch, Get Ready for Explore! | Hodson & Various Locations | Relax and fuel up for the afternoon ahead                                  |
| 2 - 10 p.m.      | Orientation Explore! Day One  | Various Locations          | Engage in hands-on small group activities in your chosen interest area     |





## Saturday, August 23

| Time             | Session                      | Location                   | Description                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. | Orientation Explore! Day Two | Various Locations          | Continue your immersive Explore! program |
| 8 - 12 p.m.      | Golden Goose Pub Night       | Golden Goose - Hodson Hall |  |

## Sunday, August 24

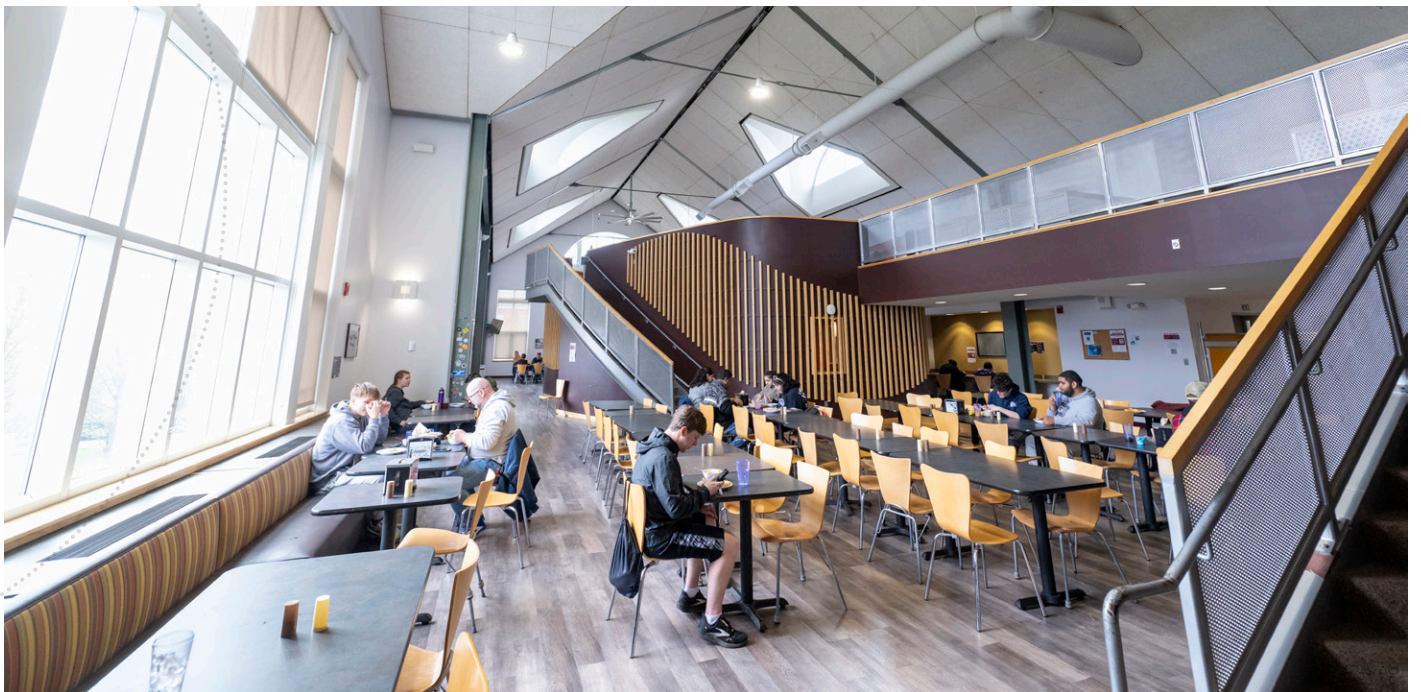
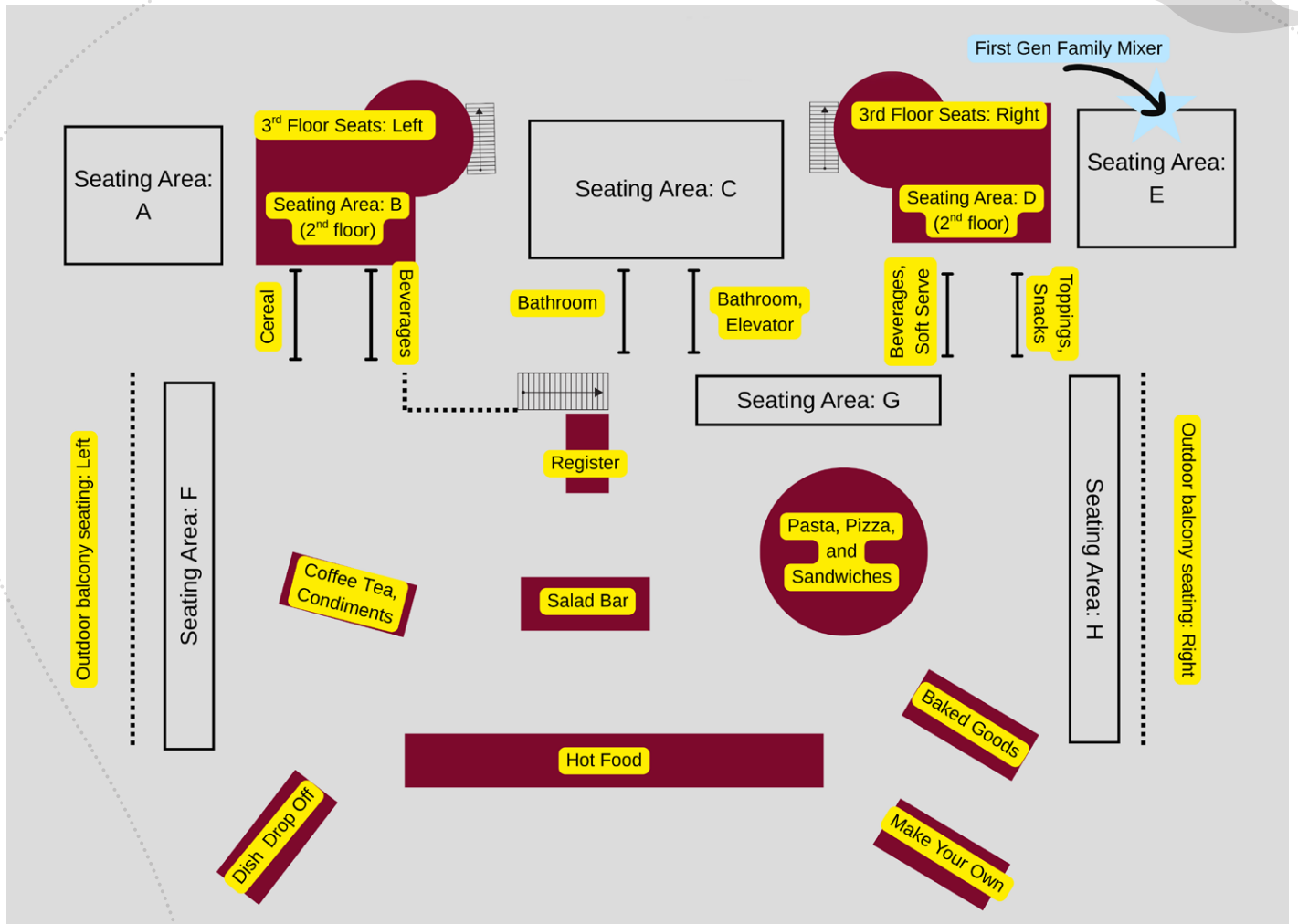
| Time             | Session             | Location               | Description   |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| All Day          | Self Care Sunday    | Various Locations      | Sleep in, explore campus, walk your schedule—focus on you   |
| 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Swim Tests          | Casey Swim Center      | Complete your swim test to enjoy waterfront privileges  |
| 12 - 4 p.m.      | Waterfront Open     | WAC Waterfront         | Kayaks, canoes, paddle-boards—available with a completed swim test                                  |
| 4 p.m.           | Peer Mentor Wrap-Up | Peer Mentor Classrooms | Reflect on your orientation, write your “Letter to Self,” and wrap up Orientation Week              |
| 5 - 7:30 p.m.    | Welcome Back Dinner | Hodson Dining Hall     | Close Orientation Week with a celebratory dinner—meet new and old friends as the school year begins |

# Orientation Schedule At-A-Glance

| Wednesday<br>August 20  | Thursday<br>August 21  | Friday<br>August 22  | Saturday<br>August 23   | Sunday<br>August 24  |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <b>8 a.m. - 12 p.m.</b><br><b>Move In</b><br>Check-in at Caroline, Kent,<br>Minta Martin                                  | <b>7 - 8:15 a.m.</b><br><b>Breakfast w/Peer Mentor</b><br>Hodson Dining Hall   | <b>7 - 9 a.m.</b><br><b>Breakfast</b><br>Hodson Dining Hall                  | <b>Orientation Explore!</b>   | <b>Self-Care Sunday</b>  |
| <b>10 a.m. - 1 p.m.</b><br><b>Open Houses</b><br>Hillel House, Intercultural Center,<br>Fitness Center, Miller Library    | <b>8:30 - 9:45 a.m.</b><br><b>Welcome/Kick-off,<br/>The Washington College<br/>Honor Code</b><br>Decker Theater,<br>Gibson Center for the Arts | <b>9 a.m. - 12 p.m.</b><br><b>Academic Resources Tour<br/>w/Peer Mentors</b> |   |  |
| <b>12 - 1 p.m.</b><br><b>Commuter Check-in</b><br>Hodson Hall Lobby   | <b>9:45 - 10:45 a.m.</b><br><b>Peer Mentor Meetings</b><br>Peer Mentor Classrooms  | <b>12 - 2 p.m.</b><br><b>Lunch-Relax-Get Ready<br/>for Explore!</b>          |   | <b>Brunch</b><br>Hodson Dining Hall  |
| <b>11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</b><br><b>Lunch</b><br>Hodson Dining Hall   | <b>11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</b><br><b>Lunch</b><br>Hodson Dining Hall  | <b>Orientation Explore!</b>  |   | <b>10 a.m. - 2 p.m.</b><br><b>Swim Tests</b><br>Casey Swim Center            |
| <b>12 p.m.</b><br><b>Athletes Meeting</b><br>Hotchkiss Theater, Gibson<br>Center for the Arts                             | <b>11 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.</b><br><b>Resource Fair</b><br>Hodson Commons   |  |   |  |
| <b>1 p.m.</b><br><b>Washington Welcomes All</b><br>Cain Gym   | <b>12 - 12:30 p.m.</b><br><b>Pre-Professional<br/>Meetings</b><br>Hodson Dining Hall   |  |   | <b>12 - 4 p.m.</b><br><b>Waterfront<br/>Open</b>                             |
| <b>1:45 - 3:30 p.m.</b><br><b>Students: Photo &amp; Peer<br/>Mentor Meetings</b><br>Cain Gym                              | <b>2 - 3:30 p.m.</b><br><b>So You're in College Now</b><br>Peer Mentor Classrooms  |  |   | <b>4 p.m.</b><br><b>Peer Mentor<br/>Wrap-up</b><br>Peer Mentor<br>Classrooms |
| <b>2 - 3:30 p.m.</b><br><b>Parents/Family Mixer:<br/>Ready to Launch</b><br>Decker Theater,<br>Gibson Center for the Arts | <b>4 - 5:30 p.m.</b><br><b>Consent &amp; Title IX</b><br>Decker Theater,<br>Gibson Center for the Arts   |  |   | <b>5 - 7 p.m.</b><br><b>Welcome Back<br/>Dinner</b><br>Hodson Dining Hall    |
| <b>3:30 - 4 p.m.</b><br><b>Goodbye Time</b>   | <b>6 - 7 p.m.</b><br><b>Dinner w/Peer Mentor</b><br>Hodson Dining Hall   |  |   |  |
| <b>4 - 7 p.m.</b><br><b>Commuter Info Session<br/>Dinner w/Peer Mentor</b><br>Hodson Commons                              | <b>7 - 7:30 p.m.</b><br><b>Explore Meet-Up</b><br>Miller Library Terrace   |  |   |  |
| <b>4 - 7 p.m.</b><br><b>Res Hall Meetings/<br/>Dinner with RA</b><br>Assigned Halls                                       | <b>7:30 - 8 p.m.</b><br><b>Making the Transition</b><br>Decker Theater,<br>Gibson Center for the Arts  |  |   |  |
| <b>7 p.m.</b><br><b>Playfair!</b><br>Miller Library Terrace   | <b>8:15 - 10 p.m.</b><br><b>Thursday Night Lights</b><br>Kibler Field  |  |   |  |
| <b>8 p.m.</b><br><b>Fire &amp; Ice Social</b><br>Fire Pit   | <b>8:15 - 10 p.m.</b><br><b>Movie Night</b><br>Goose Nest, Hodson Hall   |  | <b>8 p.m. - 12 a.m.</b><br><b>Pub Night</b><br>Welcome to the<br>Golden Goose |  |



# Hodson Dining Hall



# Resource Fair

Connect with the resources you need

| To learn more about ...   | Visit                                |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Your bills and payment options  | Business Office                      |
| Academic records privacy and class registration FERPA +                       | Registrar                            |
| Getting a job on campus   | Student Employment                   |
| Financial supports, scholarships, & on campus jobs                            | Student Financial Aid                |
| Mental health support   | Counseling                           |
| Academic and personal accommodations  | Disability Access                    |
| Physical well-being   | Health Services                      |
| Tech support on campus  | Help Desk                            |
| Personal and community safety   | Public Safety                        |
| Study abroad opportunities  | Global Education Office              |
| Law - Engineering - Education - Health  | Pre- Professional Tracks             |
| Internships, externships and career prep that starts now                      | Career Development                   |
| Environmental opportunities   | Center for Environment and Society   |
| Hands-on history and dynamic internships                                      | Starr Center                         |
| Literary opportunities  | Literary House                       |
| Club Sports, Intermurals, & eSports   | Campus Recreation                    |
| Fun at Washington College   | Student Events Board & Campus Groups |
| Shared governance and student advocacy  | Student Government Association       |
| How to check out kayaks, stand-up paddleboards and participate in watersports | Waterfront & Boathouse               |
| Specialized orientation programs  | Explore!                             |
| Belonging & Community   | Intercultural Affairs                |
| Library and Academic Technology   | Miller Library                       |
| Safe Ride and Transportation Options  | Safe Ride                            |
| Drama Productions   | Theatre                              |





## **Tips for the Week**

**The more you put into orientation, the more prepared you will be for the year ahead.**

**Ask Questions!**

**Lean on your Peer Mentor to help you pace yourself through the busy schedule.**

**Take care of yourself and each other—everyone is working hard to navigate a new environment with new people.**

**Strong relationships lead to success and happiness. Make an effort to build relationships with your Peer Mentor group, Res. Life neighbors, Explore! mates, and college professionals.**

**We All Belong!**  
**You are an important part of our caring community**



# Washington College



- Western Shore Residence Halls**
- 5 - Montgomery House
  - 6 - Howard House
  - 7 - Carroll House
  - 8 - Frederick House
  - 9 - Allegany House
  - 10 - Garrett House
  - 11 - Anne Arundel House
  - 12 - Calvert House
  - 13 - St. Mary's House
  - 14 - Charles House
  - 15 - Prince George's House

- Miller Library**
- Archives
  - Office of Academic Skills, MakerSpace, Quantitative Skills Center, Owings Library Terrace
- Minta Martin Hall**
- Office of Intercultural Affairs
- Rebecca Corbin Loree Center**
- Center for Career Development
- William Smith Hall**
- HelpDesk, Norman James Theatre

- Gibson Center for the Arts**
- 1 - Decker Theatre
  - 2 - Hotchkiss Recital Hall
  - 3 - Kohl Gallery
  - 4 - Tawes Theatre
- Goldstein Hall**
- Writing Center
- Hodson Hall Commons**
- Goose Nest, Java George, Office of Student Affairs, Office of Student Engagement, The Egg, Dining Hall

- Casey Academic Center**
- Bookstore, Central Services, Registrar, Student Accounts, Financial Aid, Visitors Center, Office of Admissions
- East Hall**
- Marketing & Communications
- Foster House**
- Global Education Office

- Bunting Hall**
- Business Office, Campus Events, Office of the Provost & Dean, President's Office
- Caroline House**
- Residential Life
- Cullen Hall**
- Public Safety