

New Eph Update: First-Year Essentials

Williams
College

MAY 16, 2023, EDITION 1



WELCOME TO WILLIAMS

Welcome to Williams!

We are thrilled that you have chosen to join us here in the Purple Valley and become an Eph! The Dean's Office is here to ensure that entering the Williams community will be as smooth and straightforward as possible. With that goal in mind, let's begin by sharing some important information with you.

Priority #1: Set up your new Williams email address.

This is the last email you'll receive at this personal email address! From now on, we'll only be contacting you via your new Williams email address. To set up your official Williams email, [follow these instructions](#). You also should have received an email from Okta on Friday, May 12. This must be completed by Thursday, May 18. If you miss this deadline, please refer to the instruction link above for additional steps.

Priority #2: Schedule a doctor's appointment.

A physical is required for all students within 12 months prior to July 1, 2023. You can learn more about those requirements and upload your medical forms to the [portal here](#).

Mark your calendar...

Move-in for first-year students and the beginning of our First Days programming will take place on **Thursday, August 31**. If you are a [Williams First](#) (the first in their families to go to college, the first in their communities to travel away after high school, the first in their high schools to attend a college like Williams, and more), or [International student](#), take a close look at the information behind those links and plan to arrive **Monday, August 28**. You will hear more about our pre-orientation programs in June.

...and be on the lookout for more info from us.

Beginning June 6, the Dean's Office will be in regular communication with you through our weekly newsletter called **New Eph Update**. Most of our important "to-dos" and important information will be delivered via email weekly each Tuesday throughout the summer. This weekly message will provide you with dates, reminders, and steps you'll need to take, as well as introduce you to various Williams departments and resources to get you ready for your transition to life as a Williams student.

In **early August**, the Registrar will send you information about pre-registration for fall courses, and you'll be matched with a faculty advisor who can introduce you to academic life at Williams, help you explore the benefits of a liberal arts education, and guide you in making decisions about your fall course selections.

In the coming months, you will receive information about the first-year housing system. You'll be able to apply for your housing assignment in late July. All incoming students will be assigned to an entry and a set of Junior Advisors (JAs). The first-year entry defines a physical space—a set of dorm rooms and common spaces occupied by a group of 25-40 first-year students and their JAs—and also represents a community of students who are learning to live and work together. It serves as a home base for exploring Williams at-large. Entry-mates and JAs provide an important source of camaraderie, support, and stability as you begin your Williams journey. So much of what makes Williams amazing involves the connections you make with the people who are part of your entry community.

Rest assured, the Dean's Office will be in touch by email throughout the summer. And if you get stuck at any point, just email us at first-year@williams.edu or call 413-597-4171. We are excited to work with you as you transition to becoming an Eph and beginning a journey that will change your life!

Best wishes,
Christina Walsh, Ph.D.
Pronouns: she/they
Associate Dean of Students/Dean of First-Year Students

FIRST-YEAR LANDING PAD

MEET THE DEAN OF STUDENTS TEAM

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU NEED HELP WITH!

PAST EDITIONS

FOR ALL NEW EPHS — first-year@williams.edu /413-597-4171

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