

WHAT TO BRING TO COLLEGE

Countless freshmen arrive at the Residence Hall lugging massive boxes and suitcases only to discover that they brought too much or forgot something. By bringing the right items with you, you'll get a good start on the school year without worrying about buying or returning things. The following are suggested items to bring.

What to Wear

The clothes you bring is important, the following suggestions are based on the average climate for every season in our area. Also think about the activities you like to participate in.

- Comfortable clothes and shoes you can go to class in
- One or two dressy outfits and shoes for more formal affairs
- Work-out clothes and shoes
- Light jacket
- Rainwear
- Heavy coat, gloves, hat and scarf
- Clothes you can layer and remove when it warms up in the spring or summer
- Slippers/flip flops (for hanging out in the residence hall)

Stuff for Your Room

Get a look at a dorm room or call the housing office beforehand and find out how big your room is and what it comes with before you purchase new items. Remember some of the items listed below may not be essential like a stereo or TV. You can save money by bringing items from home or shopping at discount or thrift stores.

- Comforter/bedspread
- Pillow
- Bed linens (ask what size bed you'll have)
- Clothes hangers
- Travel mug/water bottle
- Drinking cups, dishes and silverware for snacks
- Removable picture hanging items for decorations
- Plastic containers with tight lids for storing snacks, detergent, etc.
- Salt and pepper shakers
- Headphones/ear buds (so your music doesn't bother your roommate or neighbors)
- MP3 Player/iPod
- Cell phone and chargers
- Power strip/surge protector approved by the housing office
- Desk lamp or bed lamp
- TV/DVD-Player (there's usually a common area TV if you don't bring one)
- Stereo
- Fan
- Hair dryer
- Alarm clock
- Small refrigerator/microwave (check with college for restrictions)
- Crates or stacking containers
- Paper towels, all purpose cleaner
- Sewing kit, scissors, safety pins
- Message board for your door

Keep It Clean

Keep in mind that you'll be sharing your bathroom and laundry facilities with other students.

- Bathrobe
- Shower shoes

- Towels, washcloths
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Shaving cream and razors
- Small bucket for carrying shower things
- Facial tissues
- Toilet paper
- Laundry basket/bag
- Laundry detergent
- Dryer sheets
- Dishwashing detergent
- Roll of quarters
- Band-Aids
- Cold medicine
- Aspirin
- First-aid kit

Stuff for School

You can get some things once you're on campus, but it can sometimes be cheaper to buy it during the back-to-school sales of off-campus stores.

- Computer/laptop or thumb drive
- Binders, folders
- Paper
- Writing utensils
- Dictionary
- Thesaurus
- Backpack
- Calculator
- Day-planner

Good Things to Have

Think about your daily activities and hobbies and bring what you need with you.

- Access to money (i.e. bank account, bank card, credit card, etc.)
- Umbrella
- Key ring
- Flashlight
- Camera
- Batteries
- Flashlight
- Sports/recreation equipment
- Pre-paid calling card
- Snacks for your room

Don't Bring It

Do **NOT** bring things like these:

- Halogen bulbs and/or lamps
- Hotplates, skillets, toasters, toaster ovens
- Air conditioners
- Extension cords
- Candles
- Pets, waterbeds, nail picture hangers

You might want to contact some students currently attending the college and ask them what to bring. Write up a checklist a few weeks before you begin packing and add to it as you remember things you'll need. Then, when it's time to fill your suitcases, you'll be ready to go to college with everything you need. If you have questions contact the Director of Residence Life at 360-392-4242 or toll free at 866-676-2772.