New Student Orientation

New student orientation is held in August for all new students entering Fall 1 and in January for all new students entering Spring 1. All new freshman students are required to attend orientation to ensure a successful transition to Webster University. All new transfer students are strongly encouraged to attend. The first class sessions of the First Year Seminars are held during the August New Student Orientation. Information on the orientation programs will be sent to the student after registration. Call the Director of First-Year Experience at 314-246-7966 or visit www.webster.edu/orientation for additional information.

Extended Orientation Course for Freshmen

EDUC 1500 – Webster 101. Prerequisite: first time freshman status. Webster101 is designed as an introduction to college life and is intended for first year students. This course will help the first year student make the most of their career at Webster University. Using various assessments and exercises, each student will develop a deeper understanding of themselves and use that understanding to learn adaptation strategies, such as goal setting, values clarification, time management, money management, and stress management skills that will work for each student in and out of the classroom. Each student will also learn how to use the many resources Webster provides to support students in meeting both academic and social challenges. All freshmen are invited, but not required, to enroll.

Housing

University Housing

Student housing on-campus includes 725 beds in modern, fully furnished, air-conditioned, suite-style residence halls and apartments. From their bedrooms, all residents have direct Internet connectivity and can watch television on their computers. The residence halls also have wireless Internet access. Residents may apply for a particular type of hall or apartment; however, if a first choice is not available, staff will make the best arrangements based on resident requests and space availability.

Options for First-Time Freshmen

For the 2017-2018 academic year, housing options for first-time freshmen include West Hall and Maria Hall. Completely remodeled in 2008, Maria Hall houses a total of 108 students in double room one-bath suites. West Hall, which opened in 2006, houses 231 students in similar room configurations as Maria Hall. Each floor in West and Maria Halls includes a social lounge, kitchenette area, and a study lounge. A full laundry room, mail room, and check-in desk are located on the ground floor of each building. Meal plans are required of all resident freshmen. Marletto’s Marketplace is located directly beneath Maria Hall.

Options for Sophomores and Beyond

Students in their sophomore year and beyond (including graduate students) can choose to live in East Hall or in the Webster Village Apartments (WVA).

East Hall rooms are available in four-person or six-person suite configurations, with each suite containing two full bathrooms. Floors in East Hall also include a social lounge, kitchenette area, and a study lounge. A full laundry room, mail room, and check-in desk are located on the ground floor. Meal plans are required for East Hall residents.

The WVA offers fully furnished apartments in 2-bed/2bath, 4-bed/2 bath and efficiency/1 bath configurations. The WVA complex also includes a clubhouse area with large-screen TV and an outdoor pool and hot tub, as well as onsite parking (as available). Housing contracts may be extended in the WVA for summer months, which will include a summer rate. Students beyond the freshman year who reside in the apartments are not required to take a meal plan, although they may elect to do so.

Residency Requirements

New Freshmen

All new freshman flat-fee students (those taking 13-18 credit hours) enrolling in classes at the Webster Groves campus will be required to live on-campus for the duration of their first two years, unless they plan to commute from the home of their parents or legal guardian, providing that this home is within a commutable distance (approximately 35 miles). After the completion of the second year of studies at the Webster Groves campus, they may choose to move off-campus.

New International Students

All new undergraduate international students enrolling in classes at the Webster Groves campus will be required to live on campus for the duration of their first year. New freshmen have a two-year on campus living requirement. After the completion of the first year of studies at the Webster Groves campus, students other than new freshmen may choose to move off campus. An exception to the live-on requirement is granted for international graduate students, unless they are coming as part of the World Traveler program, as described below.

World Traveler Students

All World Traveler participants, both undergraduate and graduate, enrolling in classes at the Webster Groves campus will be required to live on campus for the duration of their study abroad experience. If they choose to permanently transfer to the Webster Groves campus, they may choose to move off campus after the completion of their first year of studies at the Webster Groves campus.

Contracts and Leases

All housing contracts include utilities (local phone, electricity, cable TV / IPTV). Laundry facilities (washers and dryers) are available free of charge for all residence hall and apartment residents. All housing and meal plan contracts are for the full academic year, or if the student assumes residence during the year, for the remainder of the academic year. A deposit of $175 must accompany the housing request for space. This includes a $150 security deposit and a $25 nonrefundable application fee.

All housing charges are based on the 16-week undergraduate class schedule. The Department of Housing and Residential Life may approve additional weeks at a per-week rate. Residence halls open with new student orientation and close on the Friday of Finals Week. The residence halls are closed during the break between semesters, and meals are not served on campus during that time. The WVA remains open during all breaks. The residence halls remain open during Fall Break and Spring Break. The housing charges for the residence halls do not cover vacation periods.

Health Insurance

All international students on F-1 or J-1 visa attending Webster University in the United States are required to enroll in the Webster University Student Health Insurance plan.

- Upon registration for classes, international students on F-1 and J-1 visas are enrolled in the Student Health Insurance plan with health insurance coverage dates that coincides with the dates of the academic term in which they are enrolled.
Student Affairs

The charge for the insurance is applied to the student account.

- Students are required to complete the health insurance registration process by submitting a health insurance enrollment form for each academic term.

- International students that are sponsored by their government or by a corporation are exempt from enrollment in the student health insurance plan. This exemption is determined by the International Services Director at Webster University. Students must contact the International Services department to obtain a waiver from the student health insurance requirement.

- Students that are exempt from enrollment in the student health insurance plan must submit to the Student Health Services Department a copy of their current health insurance card which includes a copy of both the front and back of the card.

Residential domestic students living on the Webster University main campus in St. Louis Missouri and all Nurse Anesthesia students must submit to the Student Health Services Department proof of current health insurance. This is an annual requirement.

Residential domestic students are required to send to the Health Services Department a copy of the student’s current health insurance card by sending an email to stuhealthins@webster.edu.

Dining Services

The University’s largest dining facility, Marletto’s Marketplace, located in Maria Hall, offers food service for three meals a day, Monday through Friday, and two meals a day on weekends. Marletto’s was completely renovated in summer 2017. The meal plan for resident students is a declining balance, or all points, program. This plan offers students the ultimate in flexibility and spending options at our Campus Dining Services locations. This plan allows students to get whatever they want at any time when Dining Services is open. Points not used during the fall semester carry over to the spring semester. Points not used by the end of the academic year are forfeited. Points on this meal plan cannot be used at off-campus restaurants.

Buy-Up Option – After a full meal plan is purchased, there is a 2-for-1 buy-up option available for students who would like to add more points to their meal plan. For every $100 in additional points purchased, students will get 200 points. This buy-up option can be purchased at the Campus Dining Services offices in Maria Hall.

All residents of campus housing (with the exception of non-freshman apartment residents) are required to have this meal plan.

The University Center Crossroads food court, including a Wow Café and Wingery, Freshëns Crepes and Smoothies, and Far East Fusion, is open Monday through Friday and offers a variety of wings, tenders, quesadillas, wraps, fajitas, crepes, smoothies, rice and noodle bowls and sushi, burgers, tenders, chopped salads, shrimp, sides, and beverages.

New for 2017-18, all flat-fee undergraduates will automatically have a commuter meal plan, providing $100 to spend at the campus dining locations each semester. There is no additional fee for this commuter meal plan.

A Gorlok Bucks declining balance plan, offering cashless convenience, access to off-campus restaurants, and a 10% discount on campus, is also available to students.

The Library Café featuring Kaldi’s, offering upscale coffee, smoothies, sandwiches, and pastries, is open Monday through Friday in the Emerson Library. A Simply-To-Go Unit is open weekdays during lunch and evenings on the second floor of East Academic Hall.

University Bookstore

The University Bookstore, located in the Garden Park Plaza, stocks textbooks and supplies used in courses, as well as a variety of University clothing and accessories.

Financial Services

The Business Office provides a check-cashing service for students. Short-term emergency loans are available to degree-seeking students on a “funds available” basis. The Office of Student Affairs administers these emergency loan funds. There is a maximum of $300 per student available each year. The Money for Textbooks program is also available to St. Louis and online students with financial aid who meet certain criteria. This program provides an advance on an expected refund so that students can purchase their textbooks in a timely fashion. The application for Money for Textbooks, which must be submitted on line, can be found at: http://www.webster.edu/campus-life/student-services/money_for_textbooks-non_online.html.

Student Activities and Organizations

A current list of approximately 60 clubs and organizations sanctioned by the Student Government Association, as well as other activities, may be found at involved.webster.edu/organizations.

If a student’s particular interest is not represented, the staff in the Office of Student Engagement will help the student in forming a specific group.

Student Media

The Journal is Webster’s award-winning student newspaper. All students are encouraged to participate in production of The Journal. The Publications Board, composed of students, staff and faculty, oversees the publication of the newspaper, hires managerial staff, develops policy, and addresses any issues related to the newspaper.

The Ampersand is the student-produced magazine of Webster University. What began in 2002 as an effort to revive the Webster College Non-Yearbook evolved into The Ampersand. Webster University’s student-produced magazine. The first issue debuted in the spring of 2003, and the staff continues to produce an issue a semester. One thousand issues of The Ampersand are printed each semester and distributed free to students, faculty and staff at Webster. In addition to work produced by The Ampersand staff, the magazine contains original work by Webster students to provide an outlet for sharing creativity and success on campus. The magazine serves as a reminder of each semester and a published memory as students leave Webster.

The Galaxy radio is the School of Communication’s student run, Internet, radio station. Students receive hands on experience in radio broadcasting and can expand their skills in marketing, promotion, advertising, public relations, sports broadcasting, audio production and radio show presentation. From on air to management positions, the Galaxy offers an opportunity to work in a fun, creative environment while expanding communication skills. Students from all disciplines are welcome and training is provided. The Galaxy radio can be listed to at www.thegalaxyradio.com.

Intercollegiate Athletics Program

The Webster University award-winning intercollegiate athletics program is a competitive NCAA Division III program that sponsors
the following varsity-level sports: women's cross country, track and field, soccer, volleyball, basketball, tennis, and softball; and men's cross country, track and field, soccer, basketball, baseball, tennis, and golf. These teams participate against other NCAA Division III institutions and also compete in St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SLIAC) championships. Webster University has won the SLIAC All-Sports Trophy in 15 of the last 16 years as the top overall competitor in the conference. Participation is encouraged from full-time undergraduate students or graduate students who meet the eligibility requirements of the NCAA and Webster University. The athletics department also sponsors a competitive cheerleading program.

Other Programs
The following services, programs, and facilities are available to Webster University students. A more detailed description can be found in the Student Handbook and Calendar or online:

- Career Planning and Development Center
- Dean of Students Office
- Student Health Services
- Information Center in the University Center
- Multicultural Center and International Student Affairs
- Student Government
- WebsterLEADS: Student Leadership Development Program
- University Center
- Office of Student Engagement
- Counseling and Life Development
- Alcohol/Drug Education and Prevention
- Campus Ministry