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SHOCKER FAMILY NEWSLETTER

September 2025

Dear Shocker Parents and Families,

The fall semester is in full swing, and campus is alive with energy and activity! By now, your student is settling into routines, connecting with classmates, and engaging with opportunities across Wichita State. As we enter Week 4 of the semester, many students are beginning to prepare for their first exams—a key milestone in the academic journey.

This is also the time when instructors may begin issuing [Student Early Alerts \(SEA\)](#). These alerts are designed to notify students who may be experiencing challenges such as attendance, participation, missing assignments, or low scores on quizzes and tests. If your student receives a SEAs alert, they will be contacted by email with clear next steps and resources to help them get back on track. Our goal is not to penalize students, but to provide timely support so they can succeed.

In September and October, it's common for students to begin showing signs of homesickness. With the shift in seasons and the added pressures of academics, some students may also experience an increase in feelings of depression or anxiety. If your student is struggling with their mental health or overall well-being, please know they are not alone. Wichita State offers confidential counseling services through [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#), where students can meet with a licensed therapist on campus. Additionally, if you are concerned, you may submit a [CARE Report](#), and our team will reach out to your student directly to provide support and connect them with resources.

Whether your Shocker is a first-year student adjusting to college life or a senior preparing for life after graduation, please know that our team is here to support

them every step of the way. Together, we are committed to ensuring your student has the tools, resources, and encouragement they need to thrive.

Thank you for being an essential part of our Shocker Family. Your support and involvement make a difference in your student's success.

With Shocker Pride,
Alicia Martinez Newell
Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs



Family Weekend October 3-5, 2025

Wichita State University invites you and your family to attend Family Weekend, the annual tradition celebrated by hundreds of Shocker family members. By mid-September your Shocker will have met many new friends, passed a few quizzes, learned their way around campus, and had many new experiences. Attend Family Weekend 2025 and let your Shocker share their newfound love of Shocker Nation!

Family Weekend 2025 takes place October 3-5 at Wichita State University and includes events and activities that family and friends can choose to participate in at their own leisure. Everyone participating in Family Weekend events must be registered.

Registration is now open at wichita.edu/familyweekend.

Register

Getting Settled

Your student has started settling into their new college routine. They've had time to get a feel for how their instructors teach and have reviewed the syllabus from each of their courses. They've also started to figure out what kind of activities they want to get involved in. Your student might also be feeling a little overwhelmed as their first exams will usually be around the fourth week of the semester.



Remember this is a time your student needs to work through independently, with a little support from home. Encourage your student to start asking for help when they need it so that they have enough time to benefit from the assistance they will receive. Many times, if a student waits to ask for help, it's already too late.

How Can Families Help?

- Encourage your student to ask their instructors for assistance if they need it. Tips on talking to instructors can be found [here](#). Students can also visit wichita.edu/tutoring to find academic support resources and sign up for free tutoring.
- Test anxiety is common at this point of the semester. If your student would benefit from tips on exam preparation, have them contact the [Office of Student Success](#) at (316) 978-3209 or by emailing student.success@wichita.edu.
- If your student is considering dropping a course, encourage them to speak with an academic advisor. As students start making changes to their schedule, they need to keep in mind course sequencing for their major, refund rates and financial aid implications. An [academic advisor](#) can help them make the right choice.
- Communicate with your student about how often you expect them to check in with you, and keep an open mind as to why your student may want to change the frequency of communication.

Conversation Starters

- Have you been able to settle into your college routine? What does that routine look like for you?
- Tell me about your instructors and your classes.

Housing and Residence Life



The 2026-27 Academic Year housing application opens October 1st. Students must submit their application through their myWSU Campus Housing portal, along with their \$75 non-refundable application fee and their \$200 prepayment to secure their spot in the virtual queue, for room selection in March.

The dining hall will be open for Brunch and Dinner over Fall Break.

Student Health Services



Are you interested in health insurance for your college student?

There is an option that is perfect for your WSU-enrolled student taking one credit hour or more. United Healthcare Student Resources is a plan offered by the Kansas Board of Regents university system. Because it is a college student plan, Student Health Services in the Steve Clark YMCA and Student Wellness Center would be the primary care provider of choice for the plan.

This preventative plan meets ACA guidelines and has excellent coverage for office visits and small copays for laboratory, radiology and medication services. For more information:

<https://www.wichita.edu/services/studenthealth/HealthInsuranceDomestic.php>

Campus Events

The Fall Semester is off to an exciting start, and campus is buzzing with activities! Encourage your student to take advantage of the many events and

opportunities happening this semester—it's a great way to get connected, make new friends, and feel at home at WSU.

[View The Full List of Events](#)



SEB Open House

Encourage your Shocker to stop by the Student Engagement & Belonging (SEB) Open House! This event is the perfect opportunity for students to learn about all the ways they can get involved at WSU—from joining student organizations to attending campus events and discovering leadership opportunities. Getting connected early helps students build community, find their passions, and make the most of their college experience. Learn more at wichita.edu/seb

Shockers After Dark

Shockers After Dark

An out-of-this-world night of fun! Students will enjoy free food, bowling & billiards at SSGL, karaoke, BINGO, interactive inflatables, and so much more.



JCPenney Suit-Up Event

Join us at JCPenney at Town East Square on September 14 for up to 45% off select career wear, shoes, and accessories with an extra 30% off coupon (WSU ID required). Shop in-person or online!

3 - 6 p.m.

September 14

Towne East Square, 7700 E Kellogg Dr, Wichita, KS

Text **SHOCKS** to 67292 for 30% off online shopping!



WSU Pumpkin Run 5K and 1K

Pumpkin Run 5k or the Little Pumpkin Run 1k on October 18.

Fun for the whole family!

Kids 10 and under can run the 1k and get a medal + t-shirt!

Adults can run in-person or virtually
All runners get a shirt + medal

Register before September 1 to save:
<https://runsignup.com/Race/KS/Wichita/WSUPumpkinRun>



Grad Fair at the Shocker Store

Graduating Shockers, visit the Shocker Store for their Grad Fair! Swing by the RSC store from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on **October 28 & 29** to purchase regalia, order class rings and announcements, enjoy snacks and prize giveaways and more!

Get Ready for Graduation—Shop Regalia and More at the [Shocker Store](#)!

Important Academic Dates

September 15 - Check Email for Spring advising

Oct. 1 - Spring schedule available online

Students planning to graduate in December must have their Application for Degree on file to be listed in the commencement program.

Oct. 6-10 - Midterms

Oct. 11-14- NO CLASSES - Fall Break (Offices open Oct. 13-14)

Oct. 28 - Last day to officially withdraw from a full-semester class with a "W"

Shocker Must Haves for your Student

Blackboard
[Blackboard.wichita.edu](https://blackboard.wichita.edu)

Navigate 360
wichita.edu/navigate360

myWSU
mywsu.wichita.edu

ShockerSync
[Shockersync.wichita.edu](https://shockersync.wichita.edu)

Shocker Alert
wichita.edu/shockeralert

Shocker Central
wichita.edu/shockercentral

myStop

Nov. 10 - Spring registration begins

Nov. 26-30 - NO CLASSES -
Thanksgiving Break (Offices closed Nov.
23-26 and re-open Nov. 27)

Dec. 4 - Last Day of Classes

Dec 5 - STUDY DAY

Dec 6-11 - Final Examinations

Dec 14 - Fall Commencement

wichita.edu/shuttle

Help Desk

wichita.edu/helpdesk

Report It

wichita.edu/reportit

Full Academic Calendar

Campus News



Forward Together

Update from President Muma.

Newsletter

Podcast

University News

Connect with Us

Shocker Family Network Group

Connect with other Shocker Families [@ShockerFamilyNetwork](https://myemail.constantcontact.com/One-Shocker-Family-Network-September-2025.html?oid=1139174151633&aid=yKhZNRswiMs) for a member-led discussion group to get connected and get your questions answered by other Shocker Family members!



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