

MOVE IN GUIDE

HOUSING AND DINING SERVICES



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MOVE IN GUIDE

WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTOR!

LET'S GET YOU SETTLED FOR THE YEAR!

WELCOME TO EIU! We are excited to have you living on campus this spring. For our returning students, I'm sure you are eager to reconnect with your friends and community. For new students, you are about to begin one of the most exciting and memorable experiences of your life - welcome!

New students - all of us at EIU realize that you may have never lived away from home and you might be a little anxious about the whole situation, but I want to assure you there's nothing quite like the journey you're about to begin. Your residence hall provides a home away from home and with that comes fond memories that will last a lifetime. Throughout all our on-campus housing there are student and professional staff whose priority is YOU. We are dedicated to emphasizing academic achievement while creating a community that fosters a safe and supportive living environment, as well as promoting diversity and leadership opportunities.

The key to your success is based on decisions you control. There are MANY opportunities for involvement on campus, from Panther L.E.A.D.S (Hall Council) to joining one (or more!) of the 150+ recognized student organizations you will find on campus. I guarantee that all incoming students are nervous about this transition. I can also assure you that with some effort on your part – those concerns of fitting in will melt away.

Returning students – we are so glad you've chosen to return to on-campus housing. Studies show that collectively, students that live on campus for 2 or more years graduate sooner and with a higher GPA than off-campus students! Now that you've got a year or two under your belt please know you play a vital role in helping our incoming students transition to college life – these students will look to you for guidance and support. Thanks for stepping up!

As you finalize your plans for coming to EIU, please take some time to read through this Move-In Guide to better prepare yourself. This guide will cover the following information:

- **THINGS TO DO ONCE YOU GET TO CAMPUS**
- **TRAVEL AND PARKING INFORMATION**
- **REQUIRED MEETINGS AND RECOMMENDED EVENTS**
- **REMINDERS AND UPDATES**

I look forward to having you on-campus! Feel free to contact Housing and Dining Services if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Mark Hudson
Executive Director
University Housing & Dining Services



THINGS TO DO BEFORE MOVE-IN DAY

1. COMPLETE YOUR SHOPPING AND PACKING LIST. We want to make sure you have everything you need for a successful year! If you're renting a Microfridge from Campus Fridges, they will be delivered straight to your room prior to move-in. Students in Pemberton, Ford and McKinney will already have one Microfridge unit in their room at no additional charge. For a complete list of things to bring and not to bring, visit: eiu.edu/housing/list.php

2. PURCHASE A PARKING PERMIT

If you are bringing a car and haven't purchased your parking permit, be sure to do so to avoid parking tickets! We do not enforce the student lots until the 2nd week of school. Parking permits for students (upperclassman and underclassmen) are available on the Parking Services website here: go.eiu.edu/ParkingPermit

3. CONSIDER RENTER INSURANCE OR PERSONAL PROPERTY INSURANCE.

Contact your insurance provider to see if you're already covered. Eastern Illinois University and University Housing & Dining Services assume no responsibility for theft or damage to personal property or loss of money, valuables, or personal effects of any student or guest.

4. MAKE SURE YOU KNOW HOW YOUR MEAL PLAN WORKS. Throughout the school year you can use your meal swipes in any of our Dining Centers (South Quad Dining Center and Stevenson Tower). Swipes reset every Monday morning and do not roll over. You can use one swipe every clock hour. Dining Dollars can be used in places like the Food Court, Java B&B and the Convenience Store. Check out our menu here: eiu.edu/dining

You can increase your plan at any time during the semester. If you want to decrease your Spring 2026 meal plan, you must submit your change request in writing by January 16, 2026. The request must come from the student and include the desired meal plan and the student's name. Email requests to: housing@eiu.edu

MEAL PLANS DEFINED

MEAL SWIPES PER WEEK

are served in South Quad Dining Center and Stevenson Tower. Unused meals do not accumulate nor are they reimbursed. They're reset on Monday mornings.

DINING DOLLARS can be used for a la carte purchases at the Marketplace Convenience Store, Java Beanery & Bakery, and University Food Court. Dining Dollars deplete as they are used and are good for the academic year.

Additional Dining Dollars may be purchased in \$5 increments after each initial purchase of \$25 at our office located in the MLK Jr. University Union at Eastern Illinois University.

ORDER LINENS THROUGH OUR PARTNER!

CAMPUS Comforts



campuscomforts.com/il-eiu/

10 Meals Per Week + \$200 Dining Dollars Per Semester

14 Meals Per Week + \$200 Dining Dollars Per Semester

All-Access + \$200 Dining Dollars Per Semester

GET TO KNOW YOUR MEAL PLAN

CHECK OUT THE MOBILE DINING MENU FOR THE LATEST MENU AND DINING CENTER HOURS:

EIU.EDU/DINING.PHP

BEFORE CLASSES BEGIN, BE SURE TO...

1. LEARN WHAT IS HAPPENING ON CAMPUS.

Follow EIU Housing & Dining, your Residence Hall, Greek Court, or University Court on Facebook and Instagram to stay connected.

2. CONNECT TO THE UNIVERSITY NETWORK.

Your computer must meet the minimum required specifications available in the ITS Student Tech Guide. Your username and password are available at: password.eiu.edu

WIRELESS: Double click on the WiFi icon on your desktop and choose "eiuwifi."

SMART DEVICES: All devices including gaming systems, smart TVs, streaming devices, smart assistants and enabled devices will have to be registered at: go.eiu.edu/devices when already connected to the EIU Network.

ETHERNET: For the best gaming experience, connect your device using an Ethernet cable.

You can also download Microsoft Office 365 software (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint) for free. Anti-virus and other software packages are also available from the ITS Help Desk. For help, call the Gregg Technology Center at **217-581-7633**.

3. PICK UP YOUR TEXTBOOKS. Textbooks can be picked up at the Textbook Rental Service Building.

4. HAVE YOUR PANTHER CARD FOR YOUR MEAL PLANS. If you got your Panther Card at Orientation, your meal plan should have automatically been added. If you got your Panther Card after Orientation, stop by the Housing & Dining Office to active your meal plan. For more information call **217-581-5111**.

5. READ THE ON-CAMPUS HANDBOOK. As part of the EIU residential community, you are responsible for all policies, procedures, and guidelines as outlined in the Housing & Dining On-Campus Handbook located here: eiu.edu/housing/policies.php

6. SIGN UP FOR ALERT EIU: This text messaging system notifies subscribers via their cell phones of emergency situations that require immediate action such as possible threats on EIU's main campus. For more information, including how to sign up for this service go to: eiu.edu/alerteiu

MAKE THE MOST OUT OF YOUR TIME WITH US!

GET INVOLVED

Panther L.E.A.D.S (Hall Council) is a great opportunity for you to learn, grow and make lifelong friends. We also offer a variety of services and programming such as Living Learning Communities to help you achieve your academic goals. **Be sure you connect with your RA to get the exact date, time, and location of these meetings!**

APPLY FOR AN ON-CAMPUS JOB

There are many great job opportunities just steps from your new home. We hire students in our dining centers and residence halls, just to name a few. More information about student employment can be found here: eiu.edu/housing/student_employ.php

SECURE YOUR HOUSING FOR NEXT YEAR

It is never too early to start thinking about Housing for next academic year. Our most popular spots fill up fast, and we don't want you to miss out! You can immediately secure your Housing for next year. Contract renewals can be done through PAWS or go to: go.eiu.edu/LIVEONCAMPUS

