

A photograph of four diverse college students walking along a paved path on a university campus. From left to right: a young man in a black t-shirt with 'SCARLET GRAY AND SOBER' and khaki pants holding a football; a young woman in a white t-shirt with 'THE 5K SCARLET SPRINT' and denim shorts holding a soccer ball; a young woman in a black t-shirt with 'UNDISPUTED CHAMP' and dark shorts holding books; and a young man in a gray t-shirt with 'COLUMBUS' and light shorts holding a skateboard. Red squiggly lines are drawn around each student. The background features lush green trees and a statue on a pedestal.

Commuting 101



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE

Welcome to the Commuter Guide

So you're a commuter student? This is going to be an exciting chapter for you! What's next? This guide will show you the ins and outs of how to successfully navigate through college as a commuter student. Student Life's Willie J. Young, Sr. Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement is here to help support you so you can engage, learn and thrive!



KEEP A LOOK OUT
THROUGHOUT THE GUIDE
TO FIND MORE BUCKEYE
TRADITIONS AND TIPS!

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A group of four students are sitting around a wooden picnic table outdoors. A woman with curly hair is looking at a laptop. A man in a red 'OHIO STATE' t-shirt is laughing. Another man is looking at the laptop. A woman is looking towards the camera. There are coffee cups and a backpack on the table. Red wavy lines are drawn around the students. The text 'Resources For You' is overlaid in the bottom left.

Resources For You

VISIT WILLIE J. YOUNG, SR. OFF-CAMPUS AND COMMUTER STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Willie J. Young, Sr. Off-Campus and
Commuter Student Engagement
3106 Ohio Union, 1739 N. High Street,
Columbus, OH 43210

Available Monday–Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. for walk-ins,
or by phone, in-person and virtual appointments.

Whether you are looking for ways to connect with other
students or want to get involved at The Ohio State University,
we have everything you need to make your time at Ohio
State successful.

COMPLEMENTARY SERVICES

Access to the commuter hub (including a lounge, lockers and
a kitchen just for you!), safety devices, off-campus housing
consultations, commuter meet-ups, Off-Campus Housing
Network Housing Search and so much more!

CONTACT

Phone: 614-292-0100

Email: offcampus@osu.edu

Website: offcampus.osu.edu ←

 [@offcampus_osu](https://www.instagram.com/offcampus_osu)

Commuter Preview Day

Monday, August 18

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Ohio Union, Archie M. Griffin Ballroom

A half-day event specifically designed for first-year and first-time
commuter students to learn more about the Ohio State experience.

Free Lunch

Huge Resource Fair

Practice Using Campus Area Bus System (CABS)

Meet Fellow Commuters

Be Prepared for the First Day of Classes



Sign up today!

go.osu.edu/commuterpreviewday



Access Your Commuter Hub in the Ohio Union

- Commuter Lockers, with semester long access, are available on a first come, first served basis on the first day of classes
- Commuter Kitchen with fridges and microwaves if you decide to pack a meal
- Commuter Lounge to take a peaceful break if you have a long day on campus or a great place to hang out with your friends

Visit 3106 Ohio Union to gain access to the Commuter Kitchen and/or Commuter Lockers and learn how to engage, learn and thrive at The Ohio State University.

BUCKEYE TIP

5 Be sure to stop by the D-Tix counter at the Information Desk on the first floor of the Ohio Union to pick-up discounted tickets for exciting events happening around Columbus! Keep up with **D-Tix** to learn more!



Study Spots

KEITH B. KEY CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Cozy area with access to the resource room

CONNECTING GROUNDS

Your go-to coffee shop and convenience store on North Campus

ORTON HALL

Geological museum that is home to a life-size dinosaur skeleton replica

KNOWLTON HALL, GARDEN ROOFTOP

Private outdoor area in the architectural school with a view of North Campus

COMMUTER LOUNGE

(SIGMA PHI EPSILON LOUNGE)

Peaceful location in the Ohio Union, great for studying

THOMPSON LIBRARY, 11TH FLOOR

Quiet location with a great view overlooking The Oval

BUCKEYE TIP

Ohio Staters, Inc. proudly offers tours of Orton Hall, including the bell tower. Guests have the opportunity to learn more about the historical building, go up into the bell tower and even play the chimes.



Buckeye Traditions

The Ohio State University is full of rich traditions and bucket list items to complete before graduation. From singing Carmen Ohio and watching the band perform Script Ohio to rubbing the Thompson statue head in the library and spending time with friends on the Oval, there are plenty of traditions to fulfill!

BUCKEYE TIP

5 Ohio State makes custom apps with your experience in mind. From your first days on campus to your lifelong Buckeye connection, these apps put Ohio State in your pocket. Easily access tools to get around, get business done and get connected to communities across campus and beyond.



Getting Around Campus



Getting Around Campus

BICYCLE

- Prevent theft and be sure to Bug Your Bike. Info at: columbus.gov/bugyourbike
- Perform regular maintenance on your bike/vehicle
- Use a U- or O- shaped bike lock to keep your bike secure
- Purchase your on-campus parking permit at osu.campusparc.com

CAR

Purchase your on-campus parking permit at osu.campusparc.com

Know where you can park around campus by using the interactive [parking map](#), SureParc

Be aware of peak versus off-peak parking hours

Did you know that some on-campus parking restrictions are reduced during off-peak hours to promote safety and encourage customers to use the nearby parking lots?

OFF-PEAK PARKING HOURS

To promote safety, some on-campus parking restrictions are reduced to encourage customers to use the nearby parking lots. Check osu.campusparc.com for more info.

BUCKEYE TIP

As you commute to campus during Michigan Week, keep a look out for the M's crossed out on every building and sign on campus!



Busing Around Campus

BUCKEYE TIP

- Be sure to avoid leaving valuables in your car by bringing them with you throughout the day.

CAMPUS AREA BUS SERVICE (CABS)

- FREE Transit through CABS provides you with safe, reliable and clean transportation around campus.
- Download the [Ohio State University App](#) to track the buses in real time!

CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY (COTA)

- Explore the greater Columbus area using your BuckID! Fees to ride the COTA are automatically included in tuition.
- COTA rides are FREE for Ohio State students
- All COTA buses are equipped with bike racks
- Download the [Transit App](#) to track the COTA bus routes!



Transportation and Safety Resources

CABS PARATRANSIT

- Door-to-door adaptive transportation whether you're on or off campus
- Provides transportation for registered riders with permanent or temporary disabilities. If you are in need of this resource, contact 614-292-6202 or visit ttm.osu.edu/paratransit

COTA PROJECT MAINSTREAM

- Adaptive transportation through the city of Columbus and COTA
- Offers rides for those whose functional limitations prevent them from riding COTA's fixed-route options. For more information, visit cota.com/services/cota-mainstream

ADA ACCESSIBLE PARKING

For additional resources on parking permits and where to park, visit go.osu.edu/ADA.

SAFETY RESOURCES

The Department of Public Safety has many programs to keep commuters safe. The [Lyft Ride Smart program](#) offers discounted rides inside university-designated service area.

The [Rave Guardian app](#) uses GPS tracking to help keep you safe and informed.

Also stop by 3106 Ohio Union year round to pick up free personal home and **safety devices!**

Check out all of the Department of Public Safety's resources by visiting dps.osu.edu/resources.






Getting Involved



Getting Involved

There are **1,400+ organizations** to pick from when deciding what you want to get involved in! Whether a club is focused on academics, volunteering or sports, any way you decide to get involved guarantees a more complete Ohio State experience.

 **Major events** to help you get acclimated:

- Welcome Week
- Involvement Fairs in August and January (A great place to learn about what Ohio State offers)
- University-wide and degree specific career fairs
- Commuter Meet-Up prior to Student Involvement Fair

BUCKEYE TIP

 BuckeyeThon is the largest student-run philanthropic event in Ohio, raising funds and awareness for the Hematology/Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplant Unit at Nationwide Children's Hospital. BuckeyeThon engages thousands of students annually, fostering a spirit of philanthropy to make a difference For The Kids. The annual Dance Marathon celebrates the year's fundraising while students dance the night away!
Visit buckeyethon.osu.edu. 

ON-CAMPUS JOBS – WHY DO IT?


- Make money
- Flexible, convenient student positions
- Meet new friends

Shorten your commute by having your school and job in one place!

Student Life's Buckeye Careers, located in the Younkin Success Center, offers career counseling, mock interviews, resume review and career talks, all available by appointment. Visit:

 careers.osu.edu

BUCKEYE TIP

 Update your professional wardrobe for free by checking out the Reid Family Career Closet! Visit go.osu.edu/CareerCloset to learn more about where and when the closet is available.

Join Our Team!

Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement is looking for dedicated students looking to develop their professional skills while building community amongst peers.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT:

- Flexible, dynamic schedules
- Ongoing leadership and development opportunities
- Build relationships with fellow Buckeyes
- Creative efforts to engage students

Visit go.osu.edu/occsehireing for more information





Car Maintenance

Car Maintenance Checklist

If you will be a commuter student driving a vehicle, it will be important to maintain your vehicle.

REPLACE THE AIR FILTER

By replacing clogged air filters on older vehicles with carbureted engines, you can improve fuel economy and acceleration.

GET AN OIL CHANGE

This is one of the simplest services you can perform to improve your vehicle's fuel economy.

CHECK THE LIGHTS

Regularly check to make sure no headlights, turn signals or brake lights are out of order, and repair immediately if they are.

WASH YOUR VEHICLE

Keeps the paint and wax on the car.

CHECK YOUR TIRES

Regularly check tire pressure to stay safe and prevent a flat tire.



Important Numbers to Know

Office of Student Life

614-292-9334

studentlife.osu.edu

CampusParc

614-688-0000

osu.campusparc.com

Off-Campus and Commuter

Student Engagement

614-292-0100

offcampus.osu.edu

Transportation and

Traffic Management

614-292-RIDE

ttm.osu.edu

Counseling and

Consultation Service

614-292-5766

ccs.osu.edu

Student Wellness Center

614-292-4527

swc.osu.edu

EMERGENCY #'S:

Police, Fire, Medical emergencies

9-1-1

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

9-8-8

NON-EMERGENCY #'S:

Ohio State Police

614-292-2121

dps.osu.edu/police

Columbus Police

614-645-4545

columbuspolice.org

Columbus Division of Fire

614-221-3132

columbus.gov/fire

Student Advocacy Center

614-292-1111

advocacy.osu.edu

Student Legal Services

614-247-5853

studentlegal.osu.edu

Collegiate Recovery Community

614-292-4527

This phone number also provides
after hours support

swc.osu.edu/services/collegiate-recovery-community



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