



College Move-In Day: A College Packing List of Essentials for Your Dorm Room Plus MORE

-At Orientation:

Ask about **FERPA** forms, **DPOA** Health and Finance. Otherwise they cannot discuss anything regarding your student's finances or health. Some schools prefer you use theirs, there may be instances you'll want to hire an attorney to prepare these for you. IF the student is attending an out of state school, double check what will be needed.

Note-some schools require these forms to be notarized.

- We have found that renting books is the most inexpensive route, and you do not have to worry about selling them. Unless your student knows they will need the textbook and want to purchase it.

We always compared: The school's bookstore, Chegg.com, and Amazon before making the decision to purchase, buy used or rent.

**** Don't send anything with your student that you really care about or expect to see again.

-Consider adding their laptop, musical instruments etc., to your Homeowners policy.

-If you need to purchase a mattress, consider ordering it a month to 2 months in advance to avoid the rush.

Before you buy or pack anything, be sure to check with your school about what items are and are not allowed. Most schools have to be very careful about health and safety regulations, and rules differ from place to place. One school might not allow microwaves; another might have specific regulations about what size of refrigerators is allowed. (See more examples below).

If you're attending a college out of state, consider only packing what you need for that weather season. Packing your entire wardrobe may seem necessary, but it can be more of a hassle trying to find a place for all your items once you're in your quarters. One tip for out-of-state students that will save you money on shipping and give you more room to pack other things you'll need is buying some items when you arrive at your new home. Also consider ordering from that city's local store and have it held for Pick Up.

Consider talking to a current student about what to pack. They can tell you about the “don’t bothers” and “must-haves” for the residences at your new college residence. They may even know specifics about your building that will be a real help. Most schools have a Freshman Facebook page which can be a wealth of information and you can get questions answered fairly quickly.

Be sure to carefully complete and review your housing contract. By omitting certain information or sending it back incomplete, this could alter your living situation very dramatically. Once you arrive on campus, you could be locked into a living situation you do not care for simply because of a few errors.

In the meantime, here’s a list to help you start planning your move. Good luck!

Bath and Bedding

Twin XLong Mattress Encasement for Bed Bugs & Pillow encasement – throw these out at the end of the year. *******Don’t bring them home!!!!!!**

Bed sheets (Suggested Size: Twin XL)

Pillows

Pillowcases

Mattress pad

Comforter and/or quilts (Consider bringing sturdy, easy-to-wash items)

Throw blanket

Reading pillow

Alarm clock

Tissue

Paper towels

Under bed storage

Towels: bath, washcloths and hand towels. Consider putting your name on a tag in permanent marker, especially if you have plain white or other “anonymous” towels

Shower shoes (Community Showers)

Shower bucket/basket/caddy to carry items

Health and Grooming

Shower gel or bath soap

Shower Cap

Shampoo and conditioner

Deodorant

Hair grooming tools (combs, hair dryer, brush)

Toothbrush and toothpaste

Lotion/ skin cosmetics

Women who wear makeup might want a portable makeup kit/box

Bathrobe (Especially important if the shower is down the hall!)

Travel soap container

Dental floss

Eye drops
Q-tips
Mouthwash
Nail clippers
Loofah
Cotton swabs
Shaving kit
Handheld mirror
First Aid kit, including basic adhesive bandages, vitamins, Tylenol, Motrin, cough drops, whatever you like for an upset stomach, etc. (This will cut down on trips to the health center!)
Hot/Cold gel pack
Lice Kit (Nix, Rid, Lice MD)
Prescription medicines and copies of each prescription
Bathroom cleaning products – unless you are in a community bathroom
Shower mat
Toilet Brush, Bathroom cleaners
Air Freshener
Scale
Thermometer
Heating pad
Air purifier

Clothes and Laundry

Clothes. Your space will be limited, so only bring what you think you will wear. You can always bring more back to school after your first trip home

Weather-appropriate outer clothes. You will probably be walking to class; be sure your coat or jacket is right for the climate

Laundry basket and soft side drawstring bag

Laundry detergent

Bleach

Dryer sheets

Stain remover stick

Underwear

Pajamas

Socks

Shirts

Jeans

Shorts

Jewelry- leave anything of sentimental value at home, at least until you have a better idea what you're stepping into

Sweats

Sunglasses

Hat

Sportswear

Loungewear
Sneakers
Boots
Sandals
Business Wear- start building this wardrobe
Dress shoes/dress socks for men
Swimwear
Gloves and scarf
Belts
Watch
Iron or steamer
Ironing board
Spray Starch
Hangers
Shoe storage
Coat rack
Suitcase/ luggage
Quarters
Lint brush

Decor

Posters. You will probably also be able to buy some of these on campus
Sticky wall mounts and removable adhesive hooks. Most schools do not allow you to put nails in the walls, so you will need other ways to hang your décor. (Command Hooks)

Personal pictures, photos, and other favorite items. Avoid heavy frames, since you may not be able to hang them

Curtains and spring rods, if you like them and your school allows them. Some people like this touch in their room

Rugs or a piece of carpet if you have vinyl floors, which can be cold and uncomfortable. Check to see if the school allows this

Additional seating for guests (Futon, bean bag, pouf)

Desk chair

Decorative area rug

Bath Mat

Desk lamp

Clip On Lamp

Trashcan & wastepaper baskets

Floor lamp

Bedside table

Bed risers

Over the door storage hanger

Stepladder

Bulletin Board

Dry-Erase Markers
Fan
Curtains
Clock
Adhesive Hooks
Closet Organizer
Twinkle lights are very popular (Christmas Lights)

School Supplies

A sturdy backpack or book bag for everyday use
Computer and any necessary supplies/accessories. Some schools also offer great discounts on or provide computers, printers and other electronic necessities
Calendar or planner
Pens
Paper
Pencils
Notebooks
Binders
Paperclips
Tablets
Sticky notes
Highlighters
Ruler
Calculator
Batteries (mouse, flashlight, calculator, etc.)
Stapler
Earphones
Extension cord
Envelopes
Stamps
Markers
Computer Mouse
Desk Storage
Index Cards
Pencil Sharpener
Whiteout
Scissors
Tape
Hole punch
Printer paper

Electronics and Equipment

Computer/laptop

TV

Stereo/speakers

DVD player

Game systems

Tablet

HDMI cords

Food and Snacks

Small refrigerator. During the first week of school, schools may have refrigerators and microwaves to rent or buy

Microwave, hot plate, coffee maker, etc. Check first—many schools have especially strict safety regulations about these items. Also, find out what communal kitchen space may be available

Plastic cups

Microwave-safe bowls

Food storage containers

Coffee mug

Water bottle

Dish soap

Scrubber

Small dish towel

Foil

Napkins

Disposable forks and spoons

Can opener

Oven mitt

Pot & Pan

Ziplock bags

Popcorn

Chips

Sodas

Bottled water

Cereal

Granola bars

Soup

Condiments

Juice boxes

Peanut butter & jelly

Sandwich meat

Bread

Fruit snacks

Misc.

Umbrellas

Hand Sanitizer

Masks

A small and inexpensive toolkit.

A large backpack or shoulder bag for possible weekend trips you might take

Car registration & insurance

Medical insurance card

Driver's license

Student ID

A copy of Social security card

Financial aid forms

Debit card

Emergency contacts

Bicycle

Bike lock

Safety pins, sewing kit

Flashlight

Dolly (you'll need it for moving boxes and furniture from your car to the dorm) Skate boards work great too

Cleaning Supplies - Bleach wipes, glass cleaner, toilet cleaner & brush

Michigan College Planning

601 S. Garfield Ave, Ste B / Traverse City / MI / 49686 / 231.947.0203

<https://www.michigancollegeplanning.com/>