

Family Chat

April 22, 2015

dorineo: My son is in IA - I'm trying to find out 1) when we will be billed for summer classes and 2) when is the deadline to signup and pay for a dorm - I want to make sure we don't miss deadlines. thanks

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): Good morning everyone! Welcome to the family chat today. My name is Arie Gee and I am the Assistant Director for Family Programs and Engagement in the Dean of Students Office.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Dorineo, does your son currently live in Beaty?

dorineo: yes

dorineo: he said he has registered for classes.....but we've not seen any payments that are due

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): I believe that all IA students signed a 2-semester contract in Beaty, meaning that they will stay right where they are for Summer.

familychatmoderator(Daniel Moore_Academic Advisor): Good morning all! I am Daniel Moore, an Academic Advisor in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

dorineo: so have we already paid?

familychatmoderator(NSFP_Rachel): Good morning, my name is Rachel Lowe, and I am a student assistant in the Dean of Students Office. I'm excited to speak with you all today.

familychatmoderator(NSFP_Corry): Good morning, my name is Corry Moore, and I am a Program Assistant in the Dean of Students Office. Looking forward to our wonderful conversation today.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): The bill for classes is due Friday, May 22. I'm looking into the Housing Payment now.

dorineo: thanks so much

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): I'm unable to find the contract for this year. The deadline for payments for Summer A/C 2016 is April 13 with the "deferment due date" being May 25, so my hunch is that those dates are similar to this year. If I can find a more definitive answer, I will pass it along!

Igallego18: Good morning everyone! apologize for the delay, Im overseas and time is different from you all.

anacrespo: I wanted to thank all of the chat UF participant for these wonderful chats.I wish you all a wonderfulSummer and look forward to the Fall semester. Hopefully these chats will still beavailable.

Ualgalmom: Hi there, am I the only one around?

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): Welcome @Igallego, I'm glad you could join us!

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): We will be taking a chat break during the Summer A session, but we will be back with Family Chats during Summer B!

Igallego18: Thank you, this is my first experience with the Universities Chats, I thankyou for having this available for us parents.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): We are happy to do it! Are there any questions among the group?

Igallego18: My daughter is a Freshman in Innovation Academy, she will be on Campus this summer, are these students taking a full time schedule?

Ualgalmom: Yes, thank you for having this available for us. There are so many resources, but unless we know about them, they are useless. I have to say I was able to get some very useful help for my student who was feeling totally overwhelmed. I reached out to U Matter, and were able to offer very real, tangible assistance to my student.

familychatmoderator(Daniel Moore_Academic Advisor): @Igallego18: Yes, IA students are taking full-time course loads in the summer. We usually advise them to work with an advisor to ensure that they have balanced their schedules between our Summer A, B and C terms.

Igallego18: thank you! in what date will the Summer C term end and how long is this complete summer Term?

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Ualgalmom, I'm so glad U_Matter was able to help your student. They are great professionals who care deeply about the success of all UF students.

familychatmoderator(Daniel Moore_Academic Advisor): @Igallego18 Summer C is from May 11th -August 7th. That term is 12 weeks.

musiclover: Good morning. My student has been trying to cancel her housing contract for next year. The link provided in the e-mail sent by the Housing Department is not letting her submit her request. She e-mailed and left messages to the Housing Department, but has not received response. Both her RA and Director of Housing at Lakeside have not been able to assist her either regarding the technical issue. She is planning to go in person. Who would be the staff member that she needs to see there? We are concern that the deadline, May 1st, is approaching. thanks for your assistance.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Igallego, Summer A is the first half of summer, Summer B is the second half of summer, Summer C is the full summer term. The last day of classes for Summer (both B and C) is August 7.

Ualgalmom: Yes, but I have to say, when I initially called into the switchboard, they had no idea what U_Matter was. Hopefully, that has now been resolved, as that should be the very first the

Ualgalmom: thing they should know about if a parent or student is need of assistance.

Igallego18: My understanding is that the IA students who are Freshman need to live on Campus the first year. Would her housing contract end at the end of Summer Term? Once the summer term is done, can she live out of Campus?

Sharlene Williams: My son is a freshman, almost a sophomore after next week lol, do the returning students go through dorm and roommate selection by May 1st? My son initially was going to stay in Gainesville to take summer classes, but has decided to come home for the summer, so my other question is when is the move in August for students that won't be freshmen?

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @musiclover, she can email Assignments@housing.ufl.edu or go talk to her Residence Director, David Rowe (davidr@housing.ufl.edu). She can also go into the Main Housing Office if she is unable to reach anyone.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Igallego, the IA Contract does end at the end of the Summer, so they are free to move off campus at that time.

Igallego18: Thank you

Ualgalmom: Off topic question: Is there an all around push by everyone to move the school up in rankings? I am hearing that classes are getting much harder with larger workloads, could that be the reason, is this just a perceived change?

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Sharlene, the information about room sign-up is here (<http://www.housing.ufl.edu/undergrad/room-signup/>) the bottom of the page has information for Current students who are signing a new contract. Move in for current students will be during the same time period as the new incoming students.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Ualgalmom, I believe I was the one who talked to you on the phone about U_Matter! I did pass along that comment to the Dean of Students so that we could make sure there is more campus-wide knowledge of the program!

anacrespo: My child will be living off campus for the fall term, the building where she will be living does not offer parking I understand it would be street parking and she would need to get a decal from the City she currently does not have a car so I am not sure how the permits on campus work, but can she get a UF parking permit if she lives off campus? and can she have two permits Campus and street parking permits? I thought it would be good to have both as it would give her more parking options because when we visit the parking situation is terrible.

Igallego18: My daughter in the fall term will be doing her internship overseas, is there any warehouses she can leave her personal items. Until her Spring term begins again? who should I reach out to?

Ualgalmom: Arie; Thank you, I think that is so important. BTW, my student did get help he needed!

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Ualgalmom, with the moving up in rankings, there is a push on that campus-wide. We have hired some great professors who are very well-known in their fields. Some of these professors also come with high expectations of students, because they care so much about the topic. Classes also get harder as students progress in their field of study (as they should)!

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @anacrespo, it depends on where your student is living. Do you mind sharing the location? If she lives close enough to campus to walk, I would recommend not purchasing a parking pass. Also, before purchasing a campus decal, check the parking maps to make sure she isn't parking just as far away as she would be parking at home. The RTS busses are a great resource for our off-campus students.

Sharlene Williams: Thank you @NSFP_Arie, I'm just trying to stay informed because I know the summer will fly by.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @lгалlego, for storage, there are several mini-storage places in Gainesville, but we don't really have one that we recommend for students. It is all about location and pricing, so I would recommend doing some research and talking to the managers at the locations.

Ualgalmom: Arie; I agree, they should get harder. I see some frustration in my student with all the online courses and support as a Freshman. Perhaps, it takes getting used to heavier on line, as opposed to live class.

lгалlego18: thanks Arie.

anacrespo: She will be living very close to Campus and she could walk because it is very close she will be living in The Courtyards. If I understand the Campus parking is based on where you live?

familychatmoderator(Daniel Moore_Academic Advisor): @Ualgalmom: I would agree. If your student has not taken many online courses, there could also be a bit of adjustment in that area as well.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Ualgalmom, Online classes are an adjustment for some of our students because they have to adjust their time management and how they learn the material, but I've noticed that our students who master online classes have great success post-graduation. So many employers have moved their training modules online for the intro material. For online classes, I really recommend having them visit the professor's office hours. It can make a huge difference in understanding the material!

musiclover: I want to share good news. My student just informed me that was able to cancel the housing contract when visited Housing Department today. For general information, the link indicated in the e-mail was the incorrect. Thank you .

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @anacrespo, parking is based on credit hours and on or off campus location. Many of our students with lower numbers of credits will receive a decal for the Park and Ride lot, which is near Southwest Recreation Center side of campus. If she is living in the Courtyards, driving to campus will take longer than walking (I battle 13th ave every day).

lгалlego18: while my daughter is in her internship in the Fall can she continue taking on-line courses as an IA student?

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @musiclover, that is GREAT news! Sometimes going in person is the best way to get things accomplished!

Ualgalmom: Arie, yes, I know contact with the T.A. was a real frustration. I don't know if there was an issue with office hours, but somehow there were some issues.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): lгалlego, I would recommend having her talk with her advisor about taking online classes while she is doing an internship, especially if she is getting credit for her internship.

Anna719: My daughter is in a triple at Broward. One of the first roomies left her fridge after she did a housing swap. How should they handle this other person's property?

lгалlego18: perfect!

Sharlene Williams: I know there was an email sent out extending an invitation to parents, etc. of current students to volunteer during Preview and Family Preview this summer, are any of the moderators on here going to be available during that time so we can meet you in person if we participate?

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Anna, if your student is comfortable contacting her roommate who moved out, she can try to reach out to see if she is planning to come back and get it. If she is NOT comfortable reaching out, she can reach out to her RA or Hall Director to let them know so that they can recommend a plan of action. She should do this sooner rather than later as Housing will charge the residents if they leave belongings in the room when they move out.

Anna719: ok thanks

Igallego18: The students who have Bright Futures, when is the last date to submit the FAFSA documentation?

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Sharlene, YES! I am actually the one who sent the email and will conduct the training and be the contact person all summer for this program!

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): This is the first year piloting this program, so I am very excited to meet all of our volunteers!

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): Igallego,

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): Students no longer have to submit the FAFSA for Bright Futures.

Ualgalmom: Arie, that

Igallego18: My understanding FAFSA has to be completed on an annual basis, but my daughter being an IA student her schedule runs different from students who are on a Traditional schedule.

Igallego18: Does that mean if she maintains her grade average the Bright futures continues applying?

Anna719: On FAFSA, I found this link that says no you don't have to fill it out for Bright Futures

Anna719: <http://www.sfa.ufl.edu/news/gov-scott-removes-fafsa-requirement-for-bright-futures/>

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): I'm not sure of all of the details, but Student Financial Affairs has a great page with information about Bright Futures! <http://www.sfa.ufl.edu/programs/state-of-florida-programs/florida-bright-futures-scholarship-program/>

Igallego18: Thanks Anna

anacrespo: Arie thank you she would not be using the car to attend classes she would mostly be using it over the weekend or for grocery shopping etc. I am mostly concerned with parking the car not the everyday use.

Ualgalmom: Arie, can you tell me if this problem with IT at the school is being resolved, I am hearing that hwk assignments are not getting to professors because of it.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @anacrespo, a city parking decal will probably suffice for her. Parking on campus in most locations is lifted after 4:30 on weekdays and on the weekends!

Sharlene Williams: @NSFP_Arie that's great, I'm trying to come and be a volunteer, I wasn't able to come with my son to Preview last summer, due to a scheduling conflict, he came with his father so I didn't get a feel for the campus and how the first year would be. I'm excited to participate to help other families and learn more about UF as well. I'm glad you all are offering this program. What a nice way for families to meet families who currently have students at UF.

Igallego18: absolutely agree!!

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Ualgalmom, the main IT issue that I've heard of has been an issue when students try to submit via the WiFi. If they can, I always recommend students find a wired connection (whether it be an Ethernet connection in their residence hall or one of the computers in the library) to submit their homework assignments. Students can also reach out to the IT Help Desk to help resolve these issues. 352-392-4357

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Sharlene, I think it will be so helpful for both new and returning family members!

anacrespo: O wow that is great, I had no idea that parking was lifted at these time and on these days. Thank you for your suggestions and recommendations. I am also hoping parking will not be enforced on moving out day

anacrespo: we will be moving her out on May 1st

musiclover: As we approach to the end of this academic year, I do not want to miss the opportunity to congratulate you all for the wonderful job you perform on a daily basis. Thanks to the New Families Program, Housing and Wellness Center for making this a successful year for us. During this year, we faced many situations, but with the assistance of you all, my daughter is finishing strong both academically and emotionally. THANK YOU.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @anacrespo, I don't think parking is strictly enforced on those days. Housing areas should be the most lenient. To be safe, if you are going to stay parked for an extended period of time the restrictions in the Green lot are lifted that day.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @musiclover, I'm so glad to hear that your daughter has had a great semester! I know we are "NEW Student and Family Programs", but the Family Programs piece of our office is here to support families for their student's entire education, not just in the first year. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help in the future!

hopedvm: My daughter is finishing her freshman year. She had a good dorm, but a lousy roommate situation. Next year she has signed a contract for a different dorm- suite style, 4 girls. She's friendly w/ the 2 girls for the other room, which were her roommates friends. Now, my daughter's roommate/friend baled out. Thus leaving my daughter to have some1 randomly assigned. Do they generally get assigned an upperclass student, or are the chances very high, she'll wind up w/a new to college freshman?

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @HopeDVM, it is possible that she will have a freshman roommate, but if she knows of another upperclass student, she can pull them into the room before new students can sign up.

musiclover: Thank you, Arie.

lgallego18: one of my daughters roommates is moving into Woodlands of Gainesville, and asked my daughter to join her in the spring term 2016, has anyone had any experience with this location? Do Gator buses travel through this area? Is it walking distance?

familychatmoderator(Daniel Moore_Academic Advisor): @lgallego18 RTS (the bus system) does run out there pretty regularly, but it is not within walking distance.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @lgallego, I used to live off of that road. The busses come every 10-15 minutes and that is early enough on the route that the busses usually aren't full by then, which is a great thing! It is very convenient to getting to the Mall area and campus (unless you're traveling in rush hour).

lgallego18: Thanks Daniel!! she does have an automovil with a decal cause she lives on campus. Once she moves out campus does she need a different colored decal, cause she will no longer be a freshman...my understanding depending what school year you are as a student that is the color decal you receive..

hopedvm: Thanks. I want her to solve her own issues, but at the same time, college experience is also who you live with. It's fine to have 1 bad year...but, I don't want her to have another! Is there access to a list of transfer students coming to UF that might want on campus living, that she can access before the Facebook page to find a roommate, which did not work for her at all last year?

lgallego18: Thanks Arie

familychatmoderator(NSFP_Rachel): @lgallego18, Yes, her parking decal may change based on credits and location. She can find information about parking passes at parking.ufl.edu. This is where she can order a new one. It will show which one she's eligible for.

Sharlene Williams: I just want to say that the moderators and the staff at UF are so professional and helpful to the families, it has made the transition much easier the past year. With my son being from Philadelphia, these chats have been so informative and a way to stay connected even more with what is going on. Having my child be an out-of-state student left me a little displaced and with the emails and chats I've been able to feel more at ease during the semester. I haven't been able to make all the chats, but for the ones I've been on, I've learned a lot.

Gatsh: My son is a freshman in engineering. He was unable to get into a programming class that he needs. It is not a critical tracking class, but it will have an impact down the line, as it is a prerequisite for another class in the Spring. His advisor told him that room will probably open up before the Fall semester begins. Could you tell me - is it likely that new sections will be opened, or is he relying on someone else dropping out? Waiting until the last minute makes me nervous!

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @HopeDVM, we can't release a list of admitted students (for FERPA/security reasons). I would recommend having your daughter reach out on the Facebook group (the UF18 group) to see if anyone else is still looking for a roommate. Roommates are never guaranteed to be good relationships, even if it is a friend. Living with a freshman might even be better than living with an upperclass student for her.

lgallego18: This is my first chat, and I Thank you all for all the information you all had provided me, it was greatly appreciated and thank you for your time an effort. I will be looking forward to our next chats.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Gatsh, I'm going to let Daniel take that one!

familychatmoderator(Daniel Moore_Academic Advisor): @Gatsh There is a large possibility that her will be able to get a seat in the programming course that he needs. Students adjust their schedules thousands of times between now and the beginning of fall. I do understand that waiting can be a bit stressful, but checking ISIS regularly will likely result in him getting a seat in the fall.

familychatmoderator(NSFP_Rachel): @Sharlene, I am so glad to hear that you have enjoyed the Family Chats! Our hope at NSFP is to be a resource for both you and your students during the transition to college. We look forward to hearing from you in the future!

familychatmoderator(NSFP_Rachel): @lgallego18, We are happy to hear that you have enjoyed your first Family Chat! We look forward to being a resource and guide for you and your student in the future!

Anna719: Gotta go. thanks for everything.

Gatsh: Thank you, Daniel. Could you explain the registering process to me? I have read that once a student has registered for 15 credits, they get a new start time. Can they only alter their schedules during the add/drop phase, or is it continual during the summer? I will definitely have him continue to check ISIS.

hopedvm: @arie thanks for the suggestion. I didn't think to look at the #UF18 to see if anybody still using that. I was just thinking about the new #UF19. I would suggest that to her thank you!

Asgharm5: My daughter like to take Biology-2 Course clasover the summer near to home University & she applied for the process for approval. You know how long would it take?Semester Summer Semester near by home -do

familychatmoderator(Daniel Moore_Academic Advisor): @ Gatsh: My Pleasure. Yes, the registration process is cyclical. It allows students to register for a full-time course load, and then closes to allow others to do the same. Once it has cycled through everyone it opens again to allow students to adjust their schedules. They can drop courses at virtually anytime, but they can only add courses during their registration windows. The add/drop period is at the start of the semester and gives students a last minute opportunity to finalize their schedules before the semester picks up.

Asgharm5: Also, she signed up for Biology course over the summer at UF, and waiting from approval to attend this course near to home University. Is registeringwith UF impact on this process?

hopedvm: About to lose my wifi. Thanks for all you do & all the hard work year round. Have a terrific summer.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): Thanks @Hopedvm! Have a great summer!

Gatsh: Thank you so much! That really puts my mind at ease. I was worried that he would have to wait until add/drop for others to drop the course.

familychatmoderator(Daniel Moore_Academic Advisor): @Ashgharm5: It sounds like she has already applied for transient study. The overall processing time may vary. In the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences we aim to process these requests in 5-7 business days. But as you can imagine this is a busy time of year for those requests. If the request is approved at the college level, the student is notified by email and the request moves forward to the Registrar's and Financial Aid offices before going to the transient institution. Since the application has to go through so many offices it is important to get it in as soon as possible. But students are informed of their applications progress through the pipeline by email each step of the way.

familychatmoderator(Daniel Moore_Academic Advisor): @Ashgharm5: Advisors may ask about her registering for the course here before they approve the request, but could just approve the request and remind her to drop the course here to make room for someone else.

Asgharm5: Great, Thank You, will advise her.

familychatmoderator(Daniel Moore_Academic Advisor): My pleasure!

musiclover: What is the minimum number of credits to be eligible for summer financial aid?

familychatmoderator(NSFP_Corry): musiclover 6 credits would be the minimum for aid

musiclover: Thank you Corry.

familychatmoderator(NSFP_Corry): My pleasure!

musiclover: Arie, could you provide more information regarding volunteering during Preview?

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): Sure @musiclover! We are hoping to have 1-2 family members assist with Preview to help answer questions about what it is like to be a UF Family member. Family members love hearing from other family members (like these chats) so we wanted to develop this opportunity for families before the chats start in the semester. The responsibilities will vary based on the day you volunteer, but all of the days have a high level of interaction with new families.

VTmom: I have a "Good Student Certificate" form from car insurance which my son is in. My son is a freshmen in UF. This form need School check his grade as he mark GPA 3 or above, with school official's signature. What email address I could send to the right place in UF & phone# to call. Please

familychatmoderator(NSFP_Corry): VTmom: please have your son stop by the UF Registrars Office to have the certificate signed.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): Are there any final questions before we wrap up our chat for the day?

familychatmoderator(NSFP_Corry): VTmom: The Registrar's phone number is 352-392-1374

musiclover: Thank you, Arie. It sounds really exciting and interesting. My daughter will be assisting during some preview sessions as an ambassador for her college, so I thought I could volunteer while I'm there.

Ualgalmom: Thanks for your time and good suggestions! Have a great summer

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): @Musiclover, That's great! We would love to have you! Do you still have the link to sign up?

Sharlene Williams: My son made the Dean's List last semester and he said he's probably going to make it again this semester, are certificates given out for that?

familychatmoderator(Daniel Moore_Academic Advisor): It was great chatting with you all today! Enjoy the rest of your day!

musiclover: I think I do.

familychatadministrator(NSFP_Arie): Thanks for joining us this semester for the chats. We will have a short break in chats for the Summer A block, but we will be back with chats during Summer B! If you have questions or concerns in the meantime, you can always reach us at IHaveAGator@ufl.edu or on our GPFA Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/GatorParentFamily>