

# Office of Student Life Frequently Asked Questions

# We're here to help! Come to our office for assistance with these areas.

- Life on campus
- Hiatus from Sage
- Student Advocacy
- Orientation & Family Weeken

- Getting involved
- Student Government
- Commuter Resources
- Not sure where else to go..

### How can I get involved on campus?

There are many ways to engage on campus—run for student government, get involved in clubs, participate in campus traditions, and attend FREE programs and activities sponsored by the McKinstry Student Center in Troy and Freddie's in Albany. If you are interested in a club that isn't currently active on campus, meet with the director of student activities and find out how to start a new club or to recommend activities you would like to see on campus. We advertise our events with colorful posters on campus, via email, and on social media. Make sure you check your Sage email regularly and join your class Facebook page so you don't miss any of the nearly 100 exciting and FREE events that are offered each semester!

### • If I am a commuter, can I still participate in campus activities?

Absolutely! Commuting students are welcome at all activities and events, even those that take place on evenings and weekends and in the residence halls. In addition, commuters can enjoy activities uniquely designed for them, like the FREE monthly commuter coffee hours.

### Am I allowed to participate in activities on the campus that isn't my home campus?

Of course! Activities are planned by the student life offices, the student centers and the ACE Activities Board across both campuses, and any undergraduate student is welcome to participate in activities on either campus. The more the merrier!

### Is there an easy way to travel between campuses?

During the academic year, the College operates a free shuttle between campuses when classes are in session. The shuttle schedule is available online at <a href="www.sage.edu/student-life/the-sage-shuttle">www.sage.edu/student-life/the-sage-shuttle</a>. In addition, Sage students can ride the local CDTA busses for free with their Sage IDs. Go to <a href="www.cdta.org">www.cdta.org</a> for bus schedule information.

# Can I be excused from class if I am hospitalized or have a death in the family?

The Dean of Students on each campus can provide support for students who are hospitalized or who have to miss classes due to family illness or death. If you reach out to us, we will notify your faculty about your extended class absence and can assist you in advocating for your needs. However, we cannot "excuse" you from class. You and your faculty member will need to discuss how any class absence will impact your academic progress.

### Do I contact the Dean of Students if I have an academic issue?

No. Academic matters should be addressed first with the specific faculty member, and then with the faculty department chair and the academic dean, if the matter is not resolved. Your academic advisor can also be a great support on academic issues. The dean of students' office does not have any authority with academic matters, but we can assist students in connecting with resources on campus to support their success and work with you to help identify your needs, concerns and opportunities.

# • Who do I contact if I need to take a leave from the College?

If a student needs to discontinue their studies, either in the middle of a semester or in between terms, they will need to complete paperwork with the Dean of Students in the Student Life Office. Students can opt to permanently withdraw from the College, or take a temporary hiatus for one semester or up to one year. We can help students understand the academic and financial implications if they need to consider taking a leave from the College and discuss alternative options, if appropriate.

# • Is Orientation required for all new undergraduate students?

Yes! All new first year and transfer students should attend New Student Orientation in order to gain valuable information from the offices of Financial Aid, Student Accounts, Academic Advisement (including class scheduling), Residence Life, and many more. Orientation sessions are offered on each campus during the summer and on the days leading up to the start of fall classes and in January for our spring admits. Go to <a href="https://www.sage.edu/orientation">www.sage.edu/orientation</a> for more information.

# • What if I am not sure which office can best answer my question?

Stop by, call, or email the Student Life Office. We're happy to point you in the right direction!

Albany

Office of Student Life

**Troy** 

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