

STUDENT RESOURCES



This is a student made guide for different resources at Penn State. Several of these resources are not advertised but could help several people if they were known. This

guide provides financial, reporting, and academic resources available to students at Penn State University Park for little to no cost. This guide is in no way

endorsed or sponsored by Penn State and is simply a resource for students by a student.

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1 Financial Resources

Basic Needs Support

Are you facing challenges with access to adequate food, stable housing, or meeting other basic needs? Do you know a Penn State student who is facing these challenges? As a first point of contact at every campus, you can complete the Basic Needs Request form for yourself or on behalf of someone you know. Provides financial support for things such as: groceries/meals, toiletries, and household items, rent and utilities (public assistance), medical bills/health insurance, and childcare. *This can only be done once per student.*

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/basic-needs-support>

Food Pantry

Food pantry available to all Penn State students, no questions asked. One major location on the north side of campus with several distribution facilities throughout campus.

<https://thelionspantry.psu.edu/>

Free Tax Filing for those with Income Under \$58,000

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) is a free tax filing service for all members of the Penn State Community that make under \$58,000 annually. To obtain this service it is necessary to book an appointment early in the tax filing season.

<http://www.psuvida.org/>

Summer Success Scholarship

The Summer Success Scholarship helps students who have fallen behind in their degree program and would benefit from taking a summer course to get caught up but have financial challenges to doing so. The scholarship is available to students at all Penn State campuses. Students who receive the scholarship will receive \$2,000 toward their summer tuition. Eligibility Requirements: Enrolled in at least one summer course at any Penn State campus; Demonstrate that taking a summer course is necessary to get back on track for your degree program; Demonstrated financial need. **Closes every year mid April.**

<https://summersession.psu.edu/current-students/summer-success-scholarship>

Completion Scholarship

Completion Scholarships are intended for undergraduate students who are experiencing hardship and having difficulty funding their educational expenses. If a student's tuition and on-campus housing expenses are covered, funding may be used for non billable expenses. Nonbillable expenses include

those related to a student's education, such as housing, food, transportation and child care if tuition and billable expenses are paid. Eligibility requirements: currently enrolled as an undergraduate student at Penn State; one or two semesters away from completing a first associate's or bachelor's degree (30 or fewer credits remaining); in good academic standing (2.0 GPA or higher); experiencing a hardship that is complicating degree completion; a current FAFSA on file (if applicable, international students may still apply); documentation that confirms an official timeline to degree completion; financial need for educational expenses related to the current academic year; record of having accepted all available aid (including Direct Loans, Parent Plus Loan, or private loans); not previously awarded the maximum "Open Doors" scholarship (typically \$3,000 total). **To get the best chances of receiving this scholarship, apply August of your senior year.**

<https://success.psu.edu/complete>

Equity Scholarships

The Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity facilitates the awarding of approximately eighty annual scholarships through a central application process. The Educational Equity Scholarships include support for students with disabilities, students with veteran status or military dependents, and students who further the inclusion, diversity, and equity initiatives of the University.

All incoming and current Penn State students are encouraged and welcome to apply, including students enrolled in graduate and undergraduate programs across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and in World Campus. Students must complete the application to be eligible for consideration, including short essay questions. Educational Equity provides one application for all scholarships. Students will be considered for all scholarships for which they are eligible, and students must submit an application each year for consideration.

<http://equity.psu.edu/scholarships>

Schreyer Grants

For Schreyer students, grants can be requested through SRS for miscellaneous things. This includes (but is not limited to) getting funding for research or for living while doing research (e.g. you have a research position over the summer but it does not pay enough money to cover your living expenses). They are very liberal in awarding grants for many reasons and it is **highly recommended as a source of funding.**

(login and select "New Grant Application"- only available for Schreyer students)

<https://www.shc.psu.edu/srs/>

Free Financial Advisors

Schedule a confidential meeting with a professional financial coach to discuss your finances and help tackle your unique challenges. Meetings are available in person and online.

<https://financialliteracy.psu.edu/>

LGBTQ+ Scholarships and Awards

The Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity (CSGD) offers several scholarships and awards to Penn State students that are part of the LGBTQ+ community.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/csgd/find-support-lgbtq-student/lgbtq>

University Park Allocation Committee (UPAC) Funding

The mission of the University Park Allocation Committee (UPAC) is to objectively and effectively allocate a portion of the Student Initiated Fee (SIF) income towards events, travel experiences, equipment, and other items requested by student organizations or individuals that will ultimately

enhance student life, add value to the out-of-class experience, and/or improve the educational climate at the University Park campus. **Good for individuals and student organizations.**

<https://upac.psu.edu/handbook/>

Undergraduate Research and Fellowships Mentoring Office (URFM)

URFM offers several mentoring services as well as scholarships and fellowships.

<https://urfm.psu.edu/>

Pennsylvania State Grants

For residents of PA for at least 12 months that have not obtained a Bachelor's degree. A grant is a type of financial aid award that you don't need to repay, as long as you meet all of the eligibility requirements. They have both academic year and summer grants.

<https://www.pheaa.org/grants/state-grant-program/>

Institutional Scholarships Managed by the Office of Student Aid

This is a list of scholarships managed by the Office of Student Aid. Many (but not all) deadlines are in May of each year.

<https://studentaid.psu.edu/types-of-aid/scholarships/applications>

Association of Residence Halls Students (ARHS)

Despite its name this organization helps more than just residence hall programs! The Association of Residence Hall Students (ARHS) is the primary representative voice for the University Park residence hall community. The organization works to make sure that students in the residence halls have an experience that is more than just living in a "dorm" room. ARHS works with the offices of Housing, Food Services, and Residence Life to make sure that all parts of residence hall life meet students' needs. **SPS has submitted funding requests to put on the annual Formal and has received this funding.**

<https://sites.psu.edu/arhs/>

Student Engagement Network (SEN) Grant

The Student Engagement Network offers this unique funding opportunity for students which supports the breadth of student engagement experiences in the spirit of both in-person and virtual/remote engagement experiences. Undergraduate students across the commonwealth are encouraged to apply for an SEN Grant that will support virtual, remote, and/or in-person engagement opportunities in the coming academic year (see specific grant cycles). All experiences must follow federal, state, and University policies on health and safety as well as Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on physical distancing, and should include plans to improve personal growth, professional readiness, and/or social connection/impact.

Students may apply for either a \$1000 award or a \$2000 award. Successful applicants will receive the requested amount, either \$1000 or \$2000, to complete their experience during the grant cycle timeframe and are required to participate in a free, non-credit-bearing SEN Canvas course centered on the student engagement journey. Learn more about the SEN Canvas course here.

Deadlines:

Winter Break Experiences- Application closes September

Spring Semester and Maymester Experiences- Application closes December

Maymester and Summer Experiences- Application closes March

<https://sen.psu.edu/grant-program/>

Grocery Store Loyalty Programs

Local grocery stores such as Giant and Weis offer free loyalty programs that include many discounts. You can sign-up either in store or online at no cost or commitment. This will give you access to sale prices on several items and allows you to accumulate points that can be redeemed for in-store credit or gas discounts. Be sure to check out their weekly-ads for deals.

Giant Rewards: <https://giantfoodstores.com/rewards>

Weis Rewards: <https://www.weismarkets.com/rewards>

Trade in Clothes for Money

There are two thrift stores located in State College where you can sell your clothes: Plato's Closet and Uptown Cheapskate. *(Over the past two years I have taken old clothes to these places and probably made about \$100)* You can also go here to buy brand name clothes for cheap!

Plato's Closet: <https://www.platoscloset.com/home>

Uptown Cheapskate: <https://www.uptowncheapskate.com/>

2 Goods and Services

Free Period Products

Days for Girls PSU provides free period products. They offer free period products for use in bathrooms on campus as well as take home kits. See the image for locations of these services. For the most up to date information checkout their instagram @daysforgirlsPSU.

WHERE TO FIND FREE PERIOD PRODUCTS @PSU:

ON CAMPUS

- HUB bathrooms
- Pattee and Paterno Bathrooms
- Business Building bathrooms
- Days for Girls PSU Office (HUB 319)
- UPUA Mutual Aid (HUB 314)
- UHS (by appointment)
- Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity (cabinet at Center Entrance)

OFF CAMPUS

- Abba Java (299 Locust Lane Downtown)
- Websters (133 East Beaver Ave Downtown)
- Lion's Pantry (Orange N, Services Road, State College, PA 16803)

FLOW2GO

- E109 Westgate
- 123 Chambers
- 112 Hammond
- 104 Borland
- 204 Business
- 5 Henderson
- 104 Deike
- 111 Ritenour
- 230 Ag Administration
- 210 Nursing Building
- GN Bathroom Carnegie (Basement)
- 204 Boucke
- 102 Sparks

CUB PANTRIES

- Student Disability Resources (101 Boucke)
- Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity (Lower Level, 0011 HUB)
- Student Veteran Center (146 Ritenour)
- Student Care and Advocacy (120 Boucke)
- Pasquerilla Spiritual Center (Lobby)
- Wellness Suite (20 IM Building)
- EMS Library (105 Deike)
- Office for Off Campus Student Support (204 E. Calder Way, Suite 200)
- Gender Equity Center (204 Boucke)
- Physical and Mathematical Sciences Library (201 Davey Lab)
- University Health Services (by Reception Desk)
- Pattee Library (W-212)

@DAYSFORGIRLSPSU

Free Professional Attire

The Professional Attire Closet (PAC) exists to serve students and recent alumni in need with professional event needs like career fairs, interviews, and networking events. Students can visit the closet during drop-in hours or make an appointment during regular business hours (8:00 am - 5:00 pm).

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/career/programs/events-workshops/PAC>

Cheap Outdoor Adventure Gear

Our gear rental service offers discounted prices for students on backpacking, camping, paddling, rock climbing, winter sports, fishing, and scuba equipment. Reservation requests should be submitted online at least 24 hours in advance for best service.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/campusrec/programs/outdoor-adventures/gear-rental>

Free Legal Services

Student Legal Services provides advice, referrals, document drafting, and other legal services to University Park and Commonwealth Campus students facing personal legal issues. To get started, please complete our intake form. You may also stop by our drop-in hours and complete an intake form at our office. This service is **really free** and helps with things such as rental disputes and speeding tickets! They also offer **free reviews of apartment leases** before you sign.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/legalservices>

Free Tech and Media

The Wagner Annex provides free technology to Penn State students for check-out up to 2 weeks (in some cases an extension can be provided). Technology includes, but is not limited to: laptops, projectors, cameras, drones, tablets, apple pencils, tripods, cables, lighting, microphones, and more. Go to the following website and click "Patron Portal" for check-out.

<https://libraries.psu.edu/about/departments/media-and-technology-support-services-wagner-annex>

Free 3D Printing

The Penn State Maker Space provides each Penn State student with 3D printing credits that can be refilled daily. This can be used for a variety of 3D prints including custom designs. Once the print is made, students can pick it up at the Commons Service Desk in the library.

<https://makercommons.psu.edu/>

Free Movies

Penn State offers streaming and DVD access to several films. DVDs can be found in the library for checkout while other media can be found on the free (for Penn State students) streaming service Kanopy.

<https://libraries.psu.edu/databases/psu01876>

Interfaith Human Services

Interfaith Human Services is a local option that has a financial care program to help with bills, clothes, healthcare, budgets, and financial stability. This program is run by faith-based communities but welcomes all individuals regardless of religious affiliation.

<https://www.interfaithhumanservices.org/how-we-help/financial-care-program/>

P & G Coupons

P & G Good Everyday offers manufacturer coupons, rebates, and rewards for their products (e.g. Tide, Pampers, Vicks, Head & Shoulders etc). These coupons may be used at grocery stores. To obtain coupons you need to make a free account.

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

Tickets At Work

TicketsAtWork is pleased to offer entertainment and travel discounts for both regional and nationwide attractions and events to all Penn State University employees. Now you'll have access to exclusive savings on movie tickets, theme parks, hotels, tours, Broadway and Vegas shows & more. These discounts are not available to the general public and are exclusive to the TicketsAtWork Corporate Discount Program. Be sure to visit often as new products and discounts are constantly being added. *I personally got a Sam's club year membership here for \$10 (as opposed to \$50).*

Company Code: PENNSTATE

<https://www.ticketsatwork.com/tickets/>

Free at Home COVID Tests

Every U.S. household is eligible for 4 free at home COVID tests provided by the government. All that is necessary is to fill in your name and address and these tests will be delivered to your home/apartment at **NO COST**.

<https://www.covid.gov/tests>

Low Cost Non-credit Art Classes

The Center for Arts and Crafts offers a variety of non-credit adult art classes throughout the year. Classes and workshops include wheel-thrown pottery, painting, drawing, stained glass, and more. Recently, classes have ranged from \$5 to \$45 in price depending on which class you sign up for. Check the website for the most recent and upcoming art classes.

Also note, that some classes “require” you to purchase additional supplies– **CHECK WITH THE INSTRUCTOR BEFORE THE CLASS STARTS TO SEE IF YOU ACTUALLY NEED TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES.** I went to a pottery class and the Arts and Crafts Center said I had to buy supplies for the class. When I arrived to class, the instructor said we could use community supplies and there was actually little communication between the Center of Arts and Crafts and the instructor which is why the center did not know this.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/departments-directory/student-leadership-and-involvement/center-arts-crafts>

Cheap Furniture

LionSurplus

The LionSurplus is located North of campus and resells old furniture from the university at very cheap prices. Previously sold items include: desks, desk chairs, computer monitors, cabinets etc. Their facebook page posts new items daily.

Hours Monday through Thursday 8:00am to 2:30pm and Friday 7:30am to 12:30pm

<https://surplus.psu.edu/>

Centre Peace

Centre Peace is located in Bellefonte and is good for living room and bedroom furnishings: beds, couches, recliners, end tables.

3047 BENNER PIKE, BELLEFONTE, PA 16823 | 814.353.9081

SHOWROOM: TUES-SAT: 9AM-4PM | DONATIONS: TUES-SAT: 9AM-3PM

<https://centrepeace.org/>

Goodwill and St. Vincent De Paul Thrift Shops

Goodwill and St. Vincent DePaul thrift shops are both in the Lemont area near the mall and are good for small appliances and kitchen stuff: coffee pots, toasters, silverware, plates/bowls, pots/pans, lamps etc

3 Academic Resources

Free Microsoft, Mathematica, Matlab, SAS and more

Penn State offers free access to popular applications through the WebLabs (previously known as WebApps) portal with a valid Penn State login. Downloading these applications is not necessary. However, to access WebLabs off-campus the Penn State VPN is required.

WebApps: <https://weblabs.psu.edu/>

Penn State VPN: <https://www.it.psu.edu/software/> (Go to "Available Software", login using Penn State Credentials, Download "Global Protect VPN")

Free Tutoring

Free tutoring for a variety of topics is provided by Penn State Learning. Tutoring can be in-person, online, one on one, and in group study sessions. They also provide practice packets for some courses.

<https://pennstatelearning.psu.edu/>

Reservable Study Spaces

The Pattee/Paterno, Architecture and Landscape Architecture, Earth and Mineral Sciences, Engineering, and the Physical and Mathematical Science libraries all offer study spaces for reservation. These can be private rooms and open study spaces. The private study room spaces are great for zoom calls, meetings, and a place to be without any distractions. The Ritenour building also has private study spaces for Eberly College of Science students where the walls are completely made of white boards.

(Click "Reserve a Room")

Libraries: <https://libraries.psu.edu/services/rooms-spaces>

Ritenour: <https://science.psu.edu/current-students/science-collaborative-learning-center>

Academic Accommodations

Student disability resources offers the following accommodations/resources given on a case-by-case basis: Exam Accommodations, Note-Taking Assistance, Alternative Textbook and Course Materials, Assistive Listening Devices, Sign Language Interpreters, CART, and Captioning; Consideration / Flexibility Accommodations, Temporary Impairment, Housing Accommodations, Assistance Animals, Accessible, Transportation and Parking, Transitioning Between Penn State's Campuses, and Discrimination Complaints reporting. Don't be afraid to ask for accommodations!

<http://equity.psu.edu/student-disability-resources/accommodations>

What if Reports

What if Reports can be generated in Lion Path and are helpful for seeing what else is necessary to meet graduation requirements for any major– including majors you are not in! This is different from the prescribed requirements stated on each departments' websites, in that it creates custom requirements

based on your specific degree path and already includes credits you have already taken. A tutorial of what if reports can be found at the link below. To generate the report you must login to Lion Path.
https://tutorials.lionpath.psu.edu/public/Docs/S_RunningWhat_if_Report.docx

Students Toward Astronomy Research (STAR)

Students Together for Astronomy Research (STAR) is a new program that provides research opportunities for undergraduate astronomy students at Penn State. STAR was inspired by the successful UROC program, designed and run by members of the Penn State Department of Geography.

Undergraduate students enrolled in STAR will work on research projects under the guidance and mentorship of Penn State Astronomy & Astrophysics graduate students, post docs, or faculty members. In doing so, they will earn course credits while developing their research capabilities and expanding their astronomy knowledge. Applications are now open for Fall 2023 projects!

<https://sites.psu.edu/astronomyresearch/>

Chalkin Center for Student Success

The Roz and Gene Chaiken Center for Student Success is a welcoming and inclusive space for all Liberal Arts students to work, study, and connect with peers and support staff. Learn more about college and University resources or further your academic, personal, and professional goals. The center also serves as a one stop shop for information and questions.

Services include:

- Open study
- College and campus resource connection
- Peer success coaching drop-ins and appointments
- Student success workshops and programming

<https://la.psu.edu/current-students/chaiken-center-for-student-success/>

Student Care and Advocacy Support for Academic Concerns

Student Care and Advocacy offers general consultation related to academic areas: personal circumstances, instructor complaints, grade grievances, withdrawals, withdrawal, re-enrollment, and a variety of other issues. If you have questions about an academic issue or a combination of issues, contact our office for assistance.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/support-safety-conduct/support-resources/academic-concern>

4 Reporting Resources

Your Rights as a Penn State Student and Policies You Uphold

Both Penn State and the University Faculty Senate have created a list of policies that all members of the University must uphold. If any of these are being violated you can bring these policies to the attention of those who are violating them, or if that does not work, use the resources in this section.

- The Penn State University Faculty Senate has created a list of policies that Undergraduates and Faculty must follow. These include, but are not limited to, topics such as what assignments are allowed during the week before finals, what is allowed for grading policies and more. These are your rights as a Penn State student and if they are being violated this allows for actionable changes.

<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/>

- Penn State Policies on the following categories: Academic, Administrative, Budget, Business Services, Financial, Human Resources, Intellectual Property, Payroll, Research, Safety, and Travel.

<https://policy.psu.edu/>

Confidential Reporting

Confidential resources will not disclose your identity and any identifying information you have shared without your permission, and seeking advice from a confidential counselor does not constitute a report to the University or law enforcement.

The Gender Equity Center

The Gender Equity Center can provide you with confidential assistance, whether you are looking for emotional support, academic support, or information about reporting options.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/genderequity>

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

CAPS focuses on addressing the psychological needs and personal concerns of students that may interfere with their academic progress, social development, and emotional wellbeing. A CAPS counselor can speak with you confidentially to help you understand your options, provide support, and connect you with resources based on your needs.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/counseling>

The Center For Sexual and Gender Diversity

The Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity can provide you with confidential assistance, whether you are looking for emotional support, academic support, or information about reporting options.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/csgd>

Centre State

Centre Safe is a community resource that supports anyone who has experienced dating and domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Contact their confidential hotline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to be connected with a counselor/advocate.

Hotline: 1-877-234-5050

Ombuds People

(This is intended to only be used by undergraduates if they are employed by Penn State. If an undergrad student with no employment relationship with Penn State goes to them, they will just be referred to another resource as best as the Ombudsperson can provide.)

Eberly College of Science ombuds program was created to provide a safe and informal opportunity for members of our college to discuss problems and issues outside of formal channels. By listening to concerns, Eberly ombuds assist faculty, staff, and graduate students in identifying options for resolution, including reporting to formal channels when mandated. Eberly ombuds are to remain impartial and non-judgmental while advocating for fairness.

In some cases, individuals may feel more comfortable with an ombuds who knows the climate within their department or unit, and in other cases, they may wish to consult an ombuds outside their area. Faculty, staff, and graduate students in the college can choose to meet with any of the Eberly College of Science ombuds.

Eberly ombuds are committed to:

- Providing a safe environment for individuals to discuss concerns.
- Helping develop strategies to enhance communication.
- Clarifying interests and goals while attaining solutions.
- Identifying and evaluating other resources at the university that may be available.

Eberly ombuds cannot:

- Change rules or policies
- Guarantee confidentiality

Note ombudspeople are mandated reporters and must report state-mandated things including (but not limited to) crimes and harassment.

<https://science.psu.edu/diversity-initiatives/ombuds/mission-of-the-eberly-ombuds>

Report Bias

This website provides students, faculty, staff, alumni, and guests with a Penn State User ID with a web form for reporting acts of bias that occur at Penn State. Students may use the form to report any act of bias they experience themselves or observe directed against anyone else. Penn State students may also submit a report by contacting the 24-Hour Hotline at 1-800-560-1637.

<http://equity.psu.edu/reportbias>

Report Sexual Misconduct

All of the following are also summarized and listed on Penn State's website.

<https://universityethics.psu.edu/our-expertise/title-ix/report>

Online

Submit an incident report online to the University's Office of Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response.

https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?PennState&layout_id=1

In-Person

You can file a report in person with the Office of Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response (120 Boucke Building) or the Affirmative Action Office (328 Boucke Building).

Book a virtual drop-in (available for all campuses).

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/OSMPRAppointmentAvailability@PennStateOffice365.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/>

Anonymously

File an anonymous report through the Penn State Hotline, available 24/7 at all campuses.

Penn State Hotline

1-800-560-1637

www.hotline.psu.edu

With the Police

You have the right to file a report with law enforcement as well as the University. You can file a criminal complaint with the University Police Department or local police department, depending on where the incident took place.

For on-campus crimes, contact University Police at 814-863-1111 or file a report online.

For off-campus crimes, contact the local municipality police department or call 911.

With a Professor or Penn State Employee

You may go to a professor or other Penn State Employee but note, with the exception of confidential reporting resources, **Professors and Penn State Employees are mandated reporters and must report to the university.**

Report Code of Conduct Violation

The student code of conduct may be found here:

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/student-accountability/code-procedures/student-code-conduct>

Reporting here:

https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?PennState&layout_id=0

Report Hazing

Anonymous or named reports accepted.

<https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/55078/index.html>

Astronomy Department Undergraduate Townhall

The Astronomy department Climate and Diversity committee holds an undergraduate townhall once a semester. Two graduate students facilitate discussion where undergraduates can voice their opinions about the astronomy department and any suggestions or problems they may have. These town halls are summarized and discussed with the department head and released to the department without any identifying information. Be on the lookout for posters and emails from the astronomy department each semester for more information.

5 LGBTQ+ Resources

Clothing Transit

The Clothing Transit is an opportunity for members of the queer and trans community to exchange clothing and accessories, including shoes, bags, hats, and jewelry – all free of cost. The intention of the Clothing Transit is to provide trans and gender non-conforming students with the freedom to comfortably find clothing that reflects their gender expression and identity without the discomfort of shopping in a traditional clothing store.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/csgd/transgender-and-non-binary-penn-state/clothing-transit>

Safer People Safer Places

The Safer People Safer Places network seeks to create a safer and more inclusive environment for sexual and gender diversity. The network is a campus-wide program designed to raise visibility about the LGBTQ+ population, increase the understanding of issues facing LGBTQ+ students, faculty, and staff, and raise the awareness of the various LGBTQ+ resources available across Penn State.

The program offers a variety of workshops providing a foundation of knowledge needed to be an effective ally to the LGBTQ+ community at Penn State. Individuals who complete workshops can choose to display a Safer People Safer Places decal in their work area. Network members should be comfortable with LGBTQ+ individuals approaching them to talk about LGBTQ+ related issues, and be able to assist individuals in finding campus and/or local resources. Those who complete the foundations workshop will also be added to our Safer People Safer Places network listserv and be listed on our website as a network participant.



The Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity

The Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity (CSGD) provides a comprehensive range of education, information, and advocacy services to students, faculty, staff, and alumni. We work to create and maintain an open, safer, and inclusive environment honoring gender and sexual diversity. Through educational, social, and supportive programming, along with workshops and individual consultation, the Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity strives to serve the entire Penn State community. Not only do they have this website but they also have a physical center people may go to in the HUB.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/csgd>

LGBTQ+ Mentor Program

The Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity (CSGD) provides a mentor program that pairs students who identify as LGBTQ+ with another LGBTQ+ student at Penn State.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/csgd/find-support-lgbtq-student/lgbtq-mentor>

More resources at the The Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity link!

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Multicultural Resources

Paul Robeson Cultural Center

The Paul Robeson Cultural Center (PRCC) is a space open to all Penn Staters to find community, support, develop leadership skills, and learn about diversity and social justice. It's open Monday through Friday. We encourage students to stop in anytime the center is open to interact with peers and center staff.

We regularly host activities, such as Fun Friday (food, music, etc.), discussion groups, game tournaments (connect four, chess, spades, etc.), movie days, and more. The PRCC also sponsors BLUEprint peer mentoring organization. BLUEprint promotes, academic, social, cultural enrichment thru peer to peer mentoring. We encourage students to attend our programs and events, including speakers and open forums.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/cultural>

Intercultural/Multicultural Student Organizations

General Associations (visit OrgCentral at <https://orgcentral.psu.edu> for more info):

- Armenian Student Association
- Asian Undergraduate Student Association
- Bangladesh Student Association
- Brazilian Student Association
- Caribbean Student Association
- Chinese Student and Scholars Association
- Colombian American Student Association
- Dominican Student Association
- Egyptian Student Association
- Emirates Student Union
- Filipino Association at Penn State
- Hong Kong Student Association
- Indonesian Student Association
- Iranian Student Association
- Korean Student Association
- Kuwaiti Students Association
- Mexican-American Student Association
- Puerto Rican Student Association
- Saudi Arabian Student Association
- South Asian Student Association
- Taiwanese American Student Association
- Taiwanese Student Association

- Thai Student Association
- The Peruvian Student Association at Penn State
- Turkish Student Association

Fraternities and Sororities:

- National Pan-Hellenic Chapters and Council
(<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/department-directory/office-fraternity-sorority-life/about-community/chapters-councils/national-pan>)
- Multicultural Greek Council Chapters and Council
(<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/department-directory/office-fraternity-sorority-life/about-community/chapters-councils-0>)

Caucuses (visit OrgCentral for more info):

- Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) Caucus
- Black Caucus
- Latino Caucus

Multicultural Resource Center

The Multicultural Resource Center (MRC) provides individual college counseling and educational services for undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds at University Park and assists students in meeting the challenges associated with education and attaining a degree at a major research institution. MRC counselors work with students on a variety of issues, and the staff is dedicated to helping students succeed and graduate from Penn State.

What does the MRC do for students?

MRC staff act as advocates for students in dealing with the complex makeup of a large university. They are eager to meet and talk with students. Any issue important to students is important to MRC counselors.

For instance, if you have personal concerns or an issue related to the University, MRC can help you. More specifically, MRC staff work with students in a variety of areas including:

- University policies, procedures, and regulations;
- Study skills, time management, and test-taking strategies;
- Obtaining free tutorial assistance;
- Interpersonal relationships with peers and family, conflict resolution, and other personal matters;
- Careers, internships, graduate and professional school, education abroad, and job opportunities;
- Assistance with questions on financial aid, scholarships, and money management; educational programming, including study groups and seminars; and
- Assisting targets of bias motivated incidents so they might find quick resolution and attain their educational goals.

<https://equity.psu.edu/offices/multicultural-resource-center>

BLUEprint Peer Mentoring

The purpose of BLUEprint is to promote the well-being of first-year and change-of-campus students, focusing on students of color, in order to encourage retention and successful persistence through Penn State. BLUEprint aims to assist freshmen and transfer/change-of-campus students with their acclimation to a well-rounded social and academic environment at University Park through peer mentoring.

Mentors

Mentors are upper-class students who participate in training sessions to foster the necessary skills and knowledge for them to have positive and meaningful interactions with their mentees. Mentors help mentees successfully acclimate and thrive at Penn State. Mentor recruitment and application period happens every spring semester.

Mentees

Mentees are first-year and change-of-campus who attend monthly enrichment sessions to discuss and learn about topics related to academic resources and success, cultural competence, personal and life skills, campus involvement, and professional development.

In addition to the one-on-one mentor/mentee meetings, the pairs are encouraged to attend BLUEprint large group events such as workshops, performances, social gatherings, community service projects, and other PRCC-sponsored cultural engagement programs. Mentee recruitment and application period happens every summer prior to the fall semester.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/cultural/blueprint-peer-mentoring>

7 Training Resources

Academic Integrity Training

Videos provided by Penn State to maintain academic integrity.

<https://undergrad.psu.edu/academic-integrity-videos>

Faculty and Staff (and Grad Student) LGBTQ+ Workshops

The Safer People Safer Places network seeks to create a safer and more inclusive environment for sexual and gender diversity. The network is a campus-wide program designed to raise visibility about the LGBTQ+ population, increase the understanding of issues facing LGBTQ+ students, faculty, and staff, and raise the awareness of the various LGBTQ+ resources available across Penn State.

The program offers a variety of workshops providing a foundation of knowledge needed to be an effective ally to the LGBTQ+ community at Penn State. Individuals who complete workshops can choose to display a Safer People Safer Places decal in their work area. Network members should be comfortable with LGBTQ+ individuals approaching them to talk about LGBTQ+ related issues, and be able to assist individuals in finding campus and/or local resources. Those who complete the foundations workshop will also be added to our Safer People Safer Places network listserv and be listed on our website as a network participant.

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/csgd/be-informed/faculty-staff-lgbtq-workshops>

Diversity Training Resources

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion offers a wide variety of self-training videos on different topics including but not limited to *Becoming an Inclusive Leader*, *Bystander Training*, *Being an Ally*, and *confronting internal and external biases*.

<https://fandb.psu.edu/diversity-and-inclusion>

8 Submit Another Resource

If you have another resource you would like added to this guide please contact Hannah Grzybowski at hmg5335@psu.edu.