



CEGSAC

STUDENT MANUAL

CIVIL ENGINEERING GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (CEGSAC)

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REVISED BY 2023-2024 CECSAC EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Introduction and Additional Resources

Welcome to the Lyles School of Civil Engineering at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana! This manual was created by civil engineering graduate students for civil engineering graduate students to answer a lot of commonly asked questions from new students and to provide links to helpful additional resources.

This manual reflects only the opinions of the writers. We hope you find this manual helpful as you progress through your studies at Purdue. Please send any comments/suggestions on the manual to any of the co-president of the Civil Engineering Graduate Student Advisory Council, whose email address can be found at this website:

(<https://engineering.purdue.edu/CE/Academics/Organizations/CEGSAC>).

The Civil Engineering Department has an additional manual with important information that can be found here:

(<https://engineering.purdue.edu/CE/Academics/Graduate/Current/Handbook/00-Introduction>).

The Graduate School also publishes the Graduate Staff Employment Manual, which outlines general policies, employment policies & benefits, and payroll procedures if you are being funded as graduate staff:

(<https://www.purdue.edu/gradschool/documents/gpo/graduate-student-employment-manual.pdf>).

Transportation

What options are available for traveling to/from campus during the semester?

- Car
 - Parking
 - Parking Passes are available through the Purdue Parking Facilities website (<https://purdue.t2hosted.com/Account/Portal>) to full-time students who live at least 1.5 miles away from campus.
 - The C-Pass is for designated parking lots and all students who live outside a 1.5-mile radius from campus are eligible to apply. (<https://www.purdue.edu/parking/documents/CBoundaryMap.pdf>).
 - C-Garage parking passes can also be purchased by students but are limited in number.
 - A and B parking passes are available to graduate students currently with a 0.75 FTE (full-time equivalent, working 30 hours/week) or greater appointment. Proof of appointment is needed from the Business Office.
 - Neighborhood parking is available near Hampton Hall. Refer to the map for permissible parking locations. (https://en.parkopedia.com/parking/west_lafayette/?arriving=202308031100&leaving=202308031300).

Many of the streets closest to campus are restricted to 2-hour parking and can only be used once each day regardless of time spent in the location. West Lafayette issues parking tickets based on blocks, so you cannot park in one designated block for more than two hours per day. Failure to move your vehicle within this timeframe will likely result in a parking ticket fee. Fines typically cost about \$35 when issued, and double in price if not paid within the specified period. Specifics about West Lafayette Street parking can be found at the town website (<https://www.westlafayette.in.gov/our-city/wl-street-parking-time-limit-map>).

- Getting an Indiana driver's license
 - You are encouraged to apply for an Indiana state driver's license as soon as possible (note: many companies require proof of a valid US for internship/employment offers).

If you have an out-of-country driver's license and is a resident of Indiana, you must pass the vision screening, written test (also known as knowledge test), and driving test (also known as driving skills examination) to obtain an Indiana driver's license. It is recommended to obtain the International Driver's Permit (IDP) from your home country, prior to departing for the US (however it is not mandatory in Indiana). The foreign license or IDP is valid for driving in Indiana for one year or until your home country license expires, whichever comes first.

If you are moving to Indiana from another state and hold a valid driver's license in that state, you are no longer required to complete a written test. If your out-of-state license has expired when transferring to Indiana, you are required to take the written test. If you do not possess an existing driver's license you may need to obtain a learner's permit first and complete 6 months of driving practice under the supervision of a licensed driver.

- Refer to the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles website (<https://www.in.gov/bmv/licenses-permits-ids/learners-permits-and-drivers-licenses-overview/drivers-license/>) to view the requirements and to see what conditions apply to you.
 - Driving Schools – if you would like practice learning to drive, consider enrolling at one of the following driving schools:
 - Road Star Driving
(<https://lafayette.roadstardriving.com/>)
 - Midwest Driving School
(<https://www.midwestdrivingschool.us/>)
- Zipcar (<https://www.zipcar.com/>) is a car rental service where you pay a monthly membership rate and you have immediate access to the Zipcars strategically parked around campus. You are typically allowed to use a Zipcar with the driver's license from your home country for the first 6 months – 1 year of your time in the US (depending on the country of citizenship/home country) before the license expires.
- Cars should yield to bikes and pedestrians and keep a minimum of 3 feet away from bikes.
- Car rental is possible at Purdue Airport as well. More information for reservation can be found at the following link.
 - <https://www.nationalcar.com/en/car-rental/locations/us/in/purdue-airport-08pu.html>

- Walking
 - Campus map and building information. (https://www.purdue.edu/campus_map/).
 - Pedestrians have the right-of-way in crosswalks, but always watch for vehicles.

- Bus
 - CityBus (<https://www.gocitybus.com>) is the local bus system for Greater Lafayette area, including the Purdue Campus loops. You can download the mobile app **MyCityBus** to your smart devices to get real time updates on the location of a particular bus as well as schedules for stops near you. In addition to the mobile app, the maps and schedules can also be accessed via their website or on Google Maps/Google Transit. The four campus loops (14, 15, 17 and 28) run from 7 am until at least 6 pm Mon-Fri during the Fall and Spring semesters.
 - The bus service is free to all students with use of your Purdue Identification Card (PUID)*.
 - * Exceptions to this are routes 21A and 35 which service specific apartment complexes and require additional identification to ride for free.
 - Many larger apartment complexes (particularly near Walmart in West Lafayette) have their own bus shuttle service to and from campus.

- Other Mobile Apps for locating bus stops and buses in real time:
 - DoubleMap
 - Next Bus
 - Rider alerts can be received by email/text.
 - Sign up at (<https://gocitybus.com/wheres-the-bus>)
 - Text “RT4” followed by bus stop ID and route to 41411 to receive the next 3 scheduled departures via text.

- Biking
 - Bicyclists are expected to follow vehicular traffic patterns. They are not supposed to ride on sidewalks, particularly if there are designated bike lanes.
 - Bicycle signs and markings on campus:
(<https://www.purdue.edu/bikes/signs.html>)
 - Students are also strongly encouraged to register their bikes with the Purdue Police Department if they plan to use their bikes around campus. Registering your bike allows the Purdue Police to help with (lock maintenance, repairs, instruction, etc.)
(<https://www.purdue.edu/bikes/index.html>)
 - University Surplus Store – Abandoned Bikes. Students looking for a cheaper alternative to buying a brand-new bike should check out Purdue’s University Surplus Store. Bikes that have been abandoned and are not reclaimed are transported to the University Surplus Store and sold off for cheaper prices than at a local shop.

- Electric Scooters (Spin/Bird)
 - Electric Scooters can be found around both Lafayette and West Lafayette, and can be used by downloading a mobile app and scanning the barcode found on the scooter. Note: use of electric scooters requires debit or credit card transactions.
 - Scooters are expected to obey rules like bicyclists and not permitted in certain areas such as parking garages. More information is available on the respective mobile app.

How do I get to Purdue University from the airport or vice versa?

- Indianapolis:
Reindeer Shuttle and Lafayette Limo (both go only to airport), Greyhound Bus, Hoosier Ride, Amtrak* (Located in Downtown Lafayette)
- Chicago Midway & O'Hare Airports:
Lafayette Limo, Express Air Coach, and Reindeer Shuttle (to the airport), Greyhound Bus, Hoosier Ride, Amtrak* (Located in Downtown Lafayette)
- Facebook: Purdue University Rideshare Group (a cheap option for carpooling with other Purdue students)
 - * Booking through Amtrak may result in Greyhound bus tickets.

How do I get to local stores in the area if I don't have a car?

- Bus: CityBus
- Carpool with other students
- Walking / Biking / Electric Scooters
- Uber/Lyft App

Housing Options

What different types of housing options are available for students?

- Rent on-campus.
- Rent off-campus.
- Buy a home off-campus.

Most students choose to rent, while some purchase homes due to the relatively low cost of living. More students tend to live off-campus in either West Lafayette or Lafayette than on-campus. Refer to the Graduate Student Housing website for more information.

(<https://www.purdue.edu/gradschool/student/housing.html>)

Websites for finding off-campus housing include:

- (<https://www.boilerapartments.com>)
- (<https://www.craigslist.com>)

How can I find a roommate?

- Facebook groups: using keywords like 'Purdue' and 'Housing' you can find many private Facebook groups to connect with other students looking for roommates.
- Contact current students in your specialty area.

- Refer to websites, such as craigslist.com, that contain ad listings. Note: please use caution when contacting strangers.

How do I set up utilities?

The utilities you are expected to pay will depend on the lease agreement with your landlord. Your landlord may set these up and/or pay for them, or you may be expected to call the companies and set up the utilities upon move in. The following are common utilities that you may have to pay, as well as some typical local providers of these services.

- Cable/Internet (Comcast, Frontier, DISH, DirectTV, Xfinity, Metronet, Wintek)
- Gas (Vectren)
- Electric (Duke Energy)
- Water (often covered by apartment, confirm by talking with landlord or lease owner)
- Cell phones (Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, Mint)

Where should I set up a local bank account?

Three commonly used local banks by students are the Purdue Federal Credit Union (<https://www.purdufed.com/>), Chase Bank (<https://www.chase.com/>) and Huntington National Bank, HNB (<https://www.huntington.com/>).

- Zolve (<https://zolve.com/>) offers credit card to students without the need for a Social Security Number (SSN).

How do I get a State Identification Card (State ID)?

Identification cards may be issued to an Indiana resident of any age who does not have a driver's license. It is recommended that you obtain a State ID if you do not intend to obtain a driver's license. You cannot hold both an identification card and a driver's license at the same time, even if one is issued by another state. Refer: <https://www.in.gov/bmv/licenses-permits-ids/learners-permits-and-drivers-licenses-overview/identification-cards/>

How do I obtain a Social Security Number (SSN)?

A Social Security Number (SSN) is required for students who are working on assistantships with the department or working on any on-campus jobs. The following steps may be indicatively noted as the procedures for obtaining a SSN.

- Graduate staff who are employed with the department will receive a new hire onboarding process email from the CE department (online process). Complete the onboarding process as Part 1 of the requirement.
- Submit required physical documents for I-9 verification (Part 2) to Potter Engineering Center (for engineering students) or as instructed in email.
- The Engineering center will assist in initiating the SSN application which will be submitted to ISS for validation. ISS may take up to 7 days.
- Submit the ISS certified SSN application form along with the required documentation to the SSN application center at Lafayette office (physical submission).
- SSN processing may take 7 -14 days (a physical card will be mailed to you).

Weather

What is the weather like and how can I prepare for it?

- The temperature in West Lafayette, IN varies from an average high of 85° Fahrenheit (29° Celsius) in July to an average low of 19° Fahrenheit (-7° Celsius) in January.
- For many international students, the winters in West Lafayette, IN can be quite a shock. However, it is manageable with proper attire. Insulated, waterproof boots and wool/fleece socks are strongly encouraged. Students should have a warm hat, scarf and gloves. Additionally, a good quality coat or parka is needed. See the shopping section for suggestions of where to purchase these items.
- Other things to watch out for in winter:
 - Beware of pipes freezing – in very cold weather, it is possible that your plumbing could freeze if the pipes aren't properly insulated. Do not ever turn off your heat in winter (even if you are out of town for an extended period of time), as doing so increases the chances of freezing pipes. If you find that water isn't coming out of the faucets, notify your landlord immediately to prevent the pipes from bursting.
 - Black ice forms on roads and sidewalks, causing very slick and dangerous surfaces which are difficult to see. Walk and drive more slowly and carefully when there are slick conditions, particularly when taking turns.

What about tornadoes?

- While occurrences are infrequent, Purdue is in an area susceptible to tornadoes. Tippecanoe County has hazard warning sirens that go off if there is a potential threat. These sirens are tested at 11:00 am on the first Saturday of every month - no action is required during these scheduled tests. Refer to the tornado safety webpage

(<https://www.purdue.edu/ehps/fireprotection/tornado.html>) for safety preparation and response information.

Academic Resources

What student mentors are available to answer questions or concerns about student life on campus?

- The Civil Engineering Graduate Student Advisory Council (CEGSAC) aims to have student representatives from each of the CE disciplines. These representatives are eager and willing to answer your questions or refer your concerns to the faculty. The organization's website has the names, emails, and pictures of each officer, so please reach out to these students with questions or concerns (<https://engineering.purdue.edu/CE/Academics/Organizations/CEGSAC/people>). CEGSAC plans events during Orientation Week in August (the week before classes begin) and also during the academic year, so that you have the opportunity to meet and interact with other CE graduate students.
- The Purdue Graduate Student Government, PGSG (<https://purduegradstudents.com/>) is composed of student senators, who are representatives from each school. Senators meet to voice ideas and concerns from the student body.
- The Ombuds office consists of individuals that act as impartial and, in most cases, confidential resources for any graduate students with questions or concerns. You can schedule a meeting to voice concerns such as: adjusting to grad school, the relationship with your advisor, funding difficulties, etc. (<https://www.purdue.edu/gradschool/student/oga/ombuds.html>)
- 'Senior' students, who have been here longer than you and that have the same advisor as you, are also likely to be great resources.

What resources are available to help with my writing?

- The Purdue Online Writing Lab, OWL (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/>) provides free resources on writing tips, avoiding plagiarism, developing a resume, etc. Over 200 services are available, including: tutoring sessions, English as a Second Language (ESL) conversation groups, general writing workshops, etc. You can schedule an appointment through the OWL website using your Purdue login details.

Can I take courses from different schools?

- Yes, but your plan of study (the coursework required to graduate) must be approved by your committee. Consult your advisor before scheduling courses.

How can I connect to the internet on campus?

- The wireless network at Purdue covers most of the campus and provides Internet access to students, faculty, staff, and visitors. There are several wireless network names (SSIDs) available for use, including the free AT&T wireless network (attwifi) for guests. Students, faculty, and staff use PAL 3.0 & Eduroam for regular use. Use your Purdue career account username and password to connect. (<https://it.purdue.edu/services/wifi.php>).

What resources are available to help with my professional development?

- The Purdue Center for Career Opportunities, CCO (<https://www.cco.purdue.edu/>) provides writing guidance on resumes, cover letters, and personal statements. The center assists students with developing a career plan, job search strategies, and mock interviews. Students can make appointments to meet with center employees on a 1-on-1 basis.
- The College of Engineering developed a manual entitled “Mentoring: For Graduate School and Beyond,” which provides career development resources:

(<https://engineering.purdue.edu/Engr/Academics/Graduate/ProfessionalDevelopment/mentoring-information>).

Where can I get additional help with my English?

- LARA, the Lafayette Adult Resource Academy (<https://www.laralafayette.org>) provides English as a Second Language classes free of charge.
- Purdue OWL has ESL tutors who can help with writing projects.
- Purdue Language and Cultural Exchange (PLaCE): (<https://purdue-place.gosignmeup.com/Public/Course/Browse>)

How do I register for classes and prepare my plan of study?

- Class registration usually begins by completing an Orientation course in Brightspace a few months before the semester starts. Then, you can finalize your registration during Orientation Week, the week before classes begin. Jenny Ricksy, the graduate administrator for the Lyles School of Civil Engineering coordinates the activities during

this week. Throughout your time at Purdue, please read emails sent by Jenny and refer to the current graduate student webpage (<https://engineering.purdue.edu/CE/Academics/Graduate/Current>) for additional information. At this link you can find the CE Graduate Student Handbook with more information prepared by the main office.

How can I get an office on campus?

Space in Hampton Hall is very limited and is usually controlled by the area secretaries. Your advisor needs to approve the request for office space with the area secretary, then space will be assigned as it is available. Priority is given by seniority and favoring research assistants and PhD students. The main office conducts space assessments each semester.

Funding

Who do I contact if I have questions about my existing funding?

- You may contact your faculty advisor to discuss your existing funding or complementary supporting options. Additionally, you may request information for other funding sources or opportunities from the Civil Graduate Program Administrator, Jenny Ricksy (<https://engineering.purdue.edu/CE/Academics/Graduate/ContactUs>)

What types of funding are available on campus?

- Assistantships
 - Assistantships cover tuition and pay a stipend of usually \$2083 - \$2333 per month. For more information visit: (<https://engineering.purdue.edu/CE/Academics/Graduate/Future/Funding>).
 - The graduate school employment manual describes the available assistantship positions as follows: (<https://www.purdue.edu/gradschool/documents/gpo/graduate-student-employment-manual.pdf>)
 - Research Assistant: performs duties related to a research project or program under the guidance and direction of faculty members
 - Teaching Assistant: could include any tasks related to the instruction of students
 - Graduate Assistant: duties that are generally administrative and/or professional in nature

- Fellowships
 - Fellowships are available internally through Purdue and the Lyles School of Civil Engineering. Students are nominated by faculty for these fellowships. Refer to the Fellowship Manual for additional details (<https://www.purdue.edu/gradschool/fellowship/fellowship-resources-for-staff/Fellowship-Manual---Updated-October-2020-FINAL.pdf>)
 - Students should consider submitting applications to the following external programs as a possible avenue for funding their graduate education. (<https://engineering.purdue.edu/CE/Academics/Graduate/Future/Funding>)
 - American Concrete Institute Fellowships and Scholarships
 - ASCE Graduate Fellowships
 - Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program
 - Environmental Engineers of the Future
 - Ford Foundation
 - GEM Fellowship Requirements
 - NASA Fellowship and Research Opportunities
 - National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship
 - National Science Foundation Graduate Research
 - National Science Foundation East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes for U.S. Graduate Students (EAPSI)
 - The National Security Education Program
 - Rowland Junior Fellowship (RJF)
 - International Road Federation
- Campus jobs
 - Purdue Student Employment Services helps students to find part-time employment (<https://www.purdue.edu/dfa/employment/find-job.html>).
 - Information Technology at Purdue (ITaP) Student Employment – for students with technical experience or general interest in computing (<https://www.itap.purdue.edu/support/index.html>)
 - Housing & Food Services Student Employment – positions with flexible schedules are available.
 - Recreational Sports Student Employment (<https://www.purdue.edu/recwell/employment/studentEmployment/index.php>)

Student Organizations

How do I find information about student groups on campus?

- There are more than 1000 student organizations and clubs at Purdue. All student groups are listed on this website: (<https://boilerlink.purdue.edu/>)
- Intramural Sports - 40 different leagues offered through the CoRec for a small participant fee: (<https://www.purdue.edu/recwell/programs/intramuralSports/index.php>)
- International Center - creates cross-cultural connections between diverse people through education (language programs- ESL and foreign), arts, cultural events, etc. (<https://www.intlctr.org/>)
- International Programs - coordinates events, workshops and travel (<https://www.ippu.purdue.edu/>)

What are the Civil Engineering specific student groups?

- CEGSAC (Civil Engineering Graduate Student Advisory Council)
- Discipline-specific and Professional Groups
 - ACI (American Concrete Institute)
 - ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers)
 - ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers)
 - BSAC (Bowen Laboratory Student Advisory Council)
 - EERI (Earthquake Engineering Research Institute)
 - GIGSO (Geo-Institute Graduate Student Organization)
 - ITE (Institute of Transportation Engineers)
 - PGS - Purdue Geotechnical Society
 - USGBC (U.S. Green Building Council)
- Undergraduate Groups (Typically undergrads but grad students welcome to join as well)
 - CESAC
 - Chi Epsilon

Social / Classroom Etiquette

[Lax, Joanne. "Graduate Communication Needs." Purdue University. West Lafayette, IN. 2015.]

What is proper classroom etiquette?

- Students are expected to arrive on time and be seated prior to the start of class.
- During the lecture, they should not engage in conversations with other students or other distractions such as using a cell phone or reading a newspaper.
- Students are encouraged to ask questions and participate in class discussions.
- Students are permitted to quietly leave the classroom to use the restroom or make an important phone call without asking the professor.
- Understand the professor's expectations.
- Coursework deadlines are usually strictly enforced.
- Teamwork on assignments is usually encouraged but copying is not.
- Follow Purdue's rules for academic integrity.
(<https://www.purdue.edu/odos/osrr/academic-integrity/graduate.html>)

What is proper meeting etiquette?

Meetings follow similar etiquette to the classroom and timeliness is important. If you are asked to RSVP, you must indicate whether you intend to attend the event or not. You are expected to attend meetings and events if you have affirmed your attendance in an RSVP. If your plans change and you are no longer able to hold the meeting, be considerate and inform the host as soon as possible.

What is proper office etiquette?

In your own office/lab, respect others by:

- Being cordial
- Maintaining area cleanliness
- Keeping down noise (music/talking/loud eating) – many students use headphones for listening to music.
- Not bringing in/leaving smelly food
- When visiting someone else's office:
 - Knock on the door, even if ajar; Don't jiggle the doorknob.
 - Wait to be invited before you enter.
 - Don't sit unless invited.

- Remain on the far side of the desk.
- Silence your cell phone.

What is proper email etiquette?

Students are expected to respond promptly to messages and to check Purdue email daily.

- If the recipient does not respond immediately, be patient and do not nag them.
- Use correct grammar, punctuation, abbreviations, capitalization, and spelling.
- Avoid contractions and emoticons.
- Use the subject line to indicate the topic of the message. Do not leave it blank.
- Be certain that your name appears in English letters.
- Have a professional email address (if using an address other than Purdue) and signature block.
- Appropriate opening line:
 - Dear Dr./Mr./Ms./Prof./Professor
 - Do not use “Esteemed ___” or “Miss _____”
- Appropriate closings include Sincerely, Regards, Cordially, Best, Best Regards, Kind Regards

What is normal hygiene etiquette in the United States?

Most people shower once every 1-2 days. Additionally, deodorant/antiperspirant is worn, and people brush their teeth daily. It is also customary to only wear clothing items once or twice before washing them.

Shopping

Where do I go to buy groceries / food items?

- Groceries: Most students purchase food at either a grocery store (ex: Payless, ALDI, Fresh Thyme etc.) or a Superstore (Ex: Walmart, Meijer, Target, etc.). There are also many ethnic specialty grocery stores like Indian, Chinese, African stores located around West Lafayette and Lafayette, so we recommend asking other students in your program or doing a quick google search if you are looking for something in particular.
- Restaurants: Although there are restaurants scattered all around West Lafayette and Lafayette, there are three main areas that students frequently go to. The first is the “Chauncey Hill” area. Chauncey Hill is centered around State Street between Grant Street and River Road. The area has many restaurants, bars, and shops that are very popular with Purdue students. The second area is called the Levee. The Levee area is also centered

around State Street but runs from about River Road to the Wabash River. The last area students frequently go to for restaurants in Downtown Lafayette. This area is particularly popular with young professionals and graduate students.

- Campus Dining options: Purdue campus provides various dining options including the following (refer: <https://www.purdue.edu/visit/see-and-do/dining.php>)
 - Restaurants in Purdue Memorial Union
 - Dining courts in residence halls
 - Au Bon Pain - at the Wilmeth Active Learning Center (WALC)
 - The Bistro - at Rawls Hall
 - Continuum Café -at Lynn Hall
 - Così - at Honors College
 - Boiler Bistro - at Marriott Hall
 - Lavazza - at Marriott Hall
 - Port - at Lawson Computer Science Building
 - Chick-fil-A - 401 N Russell St
 - Amelia's Cafe - Neil Armstrong Hall of Engineering
- Alcohol: Alcohol in the US is typically purchased at either a bar or a liquor store although it is also available for purchase at most places that also sell groceries. Bars are located primarily in the areas described in the “Restaurants” section. Liquor stores are available throughout the town, so we suggest doing a Google search to find one nearest to you. When purchasing alcohol at any point, you must have a valid, government issued, photo ID with your birth date listed (passport, driver’s license, etc.) and some places may ask you for two forms of ID (can use credit cards as second form as long as first form has your photo and birthday listed). Only people above 21 years old may purchase alcohol in the US, and on Sundays, the sale of alcohol is only permitted between the hours of noon and 8:00 pm or in restaurants and bars within the state of Indiana. (All persons present when buying alcohol must be 21+ with ID.)

Where do I go to buy furniture or home items for my apartment?

- New Items: Furniture and home items can be purchased new from many locations. Most Superstores sell basic items like tables and futons. For mattresses, there are many discount mattress stores in the area, and places like Furniture Row have affordable options as well as other furniture. Be aware that most furniture stores will charge a delivery fee if you cannot transport the items yourself.
- Used Items: Since students are in graduate school only for a few years, many often opt to buy used/ previously owned furniture. Second-hand stores like Goodwill sell both clothing and furniture, but you can also find furniture items for sale on websites like Craigslist and

Facebook groups (ex: Buy/Sell/Trade Lafayette/West Lafayette) and from graduating students. If you decide to purchase items from private sellers (not stores), please meet the sellers in public locations and bring a friend with you. Another option is Purdue University Surplus Store. At the University Surplus Store you can buy bikes, furniture, and other items. Lafayette also has a new and used furniture store called Merrell's Furniture and Sell-it-here.

Where do I go to buy clothes and shoes?

- Tippecanoe Mall: A common place for students to purchase clothing is at the Tippecanoe Mall. There are many store options as well as a few restaurants. If you would like to see a complete list of stores available at the mall please see (<https://www.simon.com/mall/tippecanoe-mall/stores>).
- Department Stores: Other locations such as TJ Maxx, Marshalls, Burlington, and other clothing specialty stores exist within the Lafayette and West Lafayette Area.
- SuperStores: As well as selling groceries and home items, SuperStores typically also have a large clothing section for men, women, and children. A benefit to shopping at SuperStores is the items tend to be more affordable. However, these products also tend to show wear and tear faster.
- Second-hand options: There are multiple stores within the community that sell second hand/used clothing, one of which is Goodwill store . These stores can also be called consignment shops. Because stores move periodically, we recommend doing a Google search to find second-hand/thrift stores.
- Discount days: Superstores offer clearances on various occasions. Watch out for July 4 sales, Amazon Prime day, Black Friday & Cyber Monday (Thanksgiving weekend).

What sort of services are typically tipped?

It is common (but not required) to tip for services in the United States. There can be a lot of confusion surrounding tipping because there are no set "rules". Below are some suggested guidelines for commonly tipped services:

- Waiter/Waitress at a restaurant: 15-20% of your total bill
- For delivery, 10-15% of the bill
- Bartender at a bar: \$1-2 per drink
- Hairdresser/barber at a hair salon: 15-20% of your bill
 - Same percentages apply to manicurists & masseuses
- Taxi driver: 15% of your fare
- Doorman or shuttle driver that help to carry your luggage: \$1-4 per piece of luggage

Entertainment

- Local Festivals: Both Lafayette and West Lafayette host many festivals and events throughout the year. The Civil Engineering Main Office typically emails out information about upcoming events, but you can also check the city website for lists of the annual festivals.
(<https://www.homeofpurdue.com/calendar/annualevents.html>).
- Sports: There are often multiple sporting events on campus per week. If you are interested in learning more about the many team sports played on campus you can check out the Purdue Sports website (<https://www.purduesports.com/>). There are also many club sports or intramural sports available on campus. Also, Purdue is located closely to both Indianapolis and Chicago, so we recommend going to see a professional football, baseball, or basketball game.
(<https://www.purdue.edu/recwell/sports-and-programs/club-sports/index.php>)
(<https://www.purdue.edu/recwell/sports-and-programs/intramural/index.php>)
- State Parks: Indiana has over 30 state parks and lakes including Prophetstown State Park located just north of campus. Turkey Run State Park is about 60 miles away from campus. Many state parks offer hiking, camping, boating, swimming, and more so there are always other activities available. For information on all the state parks, visit the DNR website (<https://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/>).
- Local parks: On campus there is the Horticulture Park which connects to the cross country path. Celery Bog, Cumberland Park and Happy Hollow are local areas with hiking. Happy Hollow has areas for barbequing. Cumberland Park also has a local farmers market in the Summers.
- Student Groups: With over 1,000 student organizations at Purdue, this is usually at least 1 event occurring every week. For information about student organizations available on campus and upcoming events, check out the Boilerlink website (<https://boilerlink.purdue.edu/>). If you are interested in participating in events geared towards Civil Engineering students, watch for emails and postings from the Civil Engineering Graduate Student Advisory Council (CEGSAC; primarily for graduate students) and the Civil Engineering Student Advisory Council (CESAC; primarily for undergraduate students).

Safety Information

Safety Contacts

- EMERGENCIES Call 911

- PURDUE POLICE
(<https://www.purdue.edu/police/>)
Phone: 765-494-8221 (non-emergency number)

- PURDUE FIRE
(<https://www.purdue.edu/fire/>)
Phone: 765-494-6919

- EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
(https://www.purdue.edu/emergency_preparedness/)
To report a safety hazard: ehps@purdue.edu
Phone: 765-494-0446

- ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY
(<https://www.purdue.edu/ehps>)
Carol Shelby, Senior Director
(765) 494-7504
cselby@purdue.edu

- PURDUE RADIOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
(<https://www.purdue.edu/rem/>)
Phone: 765-494-6371

- Sign up for emergency text alerts at (<https://www.purdue.edu/securepurdue/>)

- Emergency boxes
 - Emergency telephone call boxes are located throughout campus. They have a blue light on top, and are marked "Emergency."
 - In case of emergency, open the door and push the button to speak directly with Purdue Police.

Health and Wellness Information

How can I get involved in intramural or club sports?

- Intramural Sports
 - Intramural Sports provides structured individual, dual, and/or team leagues, tournaments, and events in more than 40 sports.
(<https://www.purdue.edu/recsports/programs/intramuralSports/>)
- Club Sports
 - The Club Sports Program offers team and individual sports in intercollegiate leagues. It is usually highly competitive with tryouts and involves a much greater time commitment than intramural sports
(<https://www.purdue.edu/recsports/programs/clubSports/>).

Is there a place for students to exercise on campus?

Yes, the France A. Córdova Recreational Sports Center (COREC) is accessible to all fulltime Purdue students by swiping your Purdue ID. Purdue's COREC features two 1/10-mile indoor tracks on separate levels, as well as an expansive aquatic center, rock wall and sports areas (basketball, volleyball, badminton, hockey, ping pong, etc.). For an additional fee, students can sign up for the Group X pass to attend classes (Zumba, cycling, Body Sculpt, etc). The Turf Recreation Exercise Center (TREC), adjacent to the COREC, has turf fields primarily used for playing pick-up or intramural soccer. Next to the TREC, there are outdoor tennis courts that are available to anyone in the spring, summer, and fall. The indoor tennis courts are at the Schwartz Tennis Center on McCormick Road (discounted price with Purdue ID). Additionally, there are the Intramural Fields, mainly for intramural teams but also open for pick up soccer, baseball, and softball. There is also a place to golf on campus off of Cherry Ln called Birck Boilermaker Golf Complex with 2-18 hole courses and a driving range. As written in the entertainment section, there are many local parks to walk and hike in as well.

What resources are available for psychological counseling?

Purdue University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers counseling and therapy services in the form of one-on-one appointments, group and couples therapy, emergency/crisis, alcohol and other drugs program, and psychological testing
(<https://www.purdue.edu/caps/>).

What resources are available to promote healthy living?

There is a Wellness Office in the CoRec which provides a number of different services including:

- Nutrition Counseling
- Demonstration Kitchen
- Alcohol Education
- Sexual Health
- Stress Management & Well-being
- Massage Therapy and Light Therapy

Many of these services are free (or offered at very low cost) for students. Refer to the website for more details.

(<https://www.purdue.edu/recsports/programs/wellnessPrograms/index.php>).

Where do I go to find out information about student health insurance?

The Purdue University Student Health Services (PUSH) is a facility that caters to the healthcare needs of Purdue students. It provides primary medical care, mental health therapy, and after-hours care (<https://www.purdue.edu/push/Insurance/index.html>).

Where on campus can I go to meet with a doctor?

The Purdue University Student Health Services (PUSH) building has a number of doctors with different specialties.

- Making Appointments
 - Most PUSH services are by appointment, which can usually be done online or by phone. You will need to arrive at least 15 minutes early and bring your Purdue ID and insurance card. If you need urgent medical services, you may walk in during regular and extended hours.
(<https://www.purdue.edu/push/Appointments/index.html>)
- Vaccinations
 - PUSH provides allergy shots, immunizations, travel counseling, including vaccinations required for travel.
(765) 494-1818 and (<https://www.purdue.edu/push/Medical/index.html>)

If I get sick or hurt after normal business hours, what can I do?

- PUSH Urgent Care

- This extended care service is available after PUSH closes to appointments in the afternoon and does not require an appointment. Refer to website for weekday and weekend hours (<https://www.purdue.edu/push/AfterHoursCare/index.html>)
- Off Campus Urgent Care
 - During those times when PUSH Extended Care is not open, local urgent care services are available at the following locations:
 - Arnett Clinic:
2995 North Salisbury St., W. Lafayette
(765) 448-8000
 - Arnett Clinic:
2600 Greenbush Street, Lafayette
(765) 448-8000
 - IU Health Arnett Hospital Emergency Medicine (24 hours)
5165 McCarty Ln, Lafayette, IN 47905
(765) 448-8000
 - Arnett Clinic:
Old U.S. 231 South, Lafayette
(765) 448-8000
 - Med Express Care (Sigma):
915 Sagamore Pkwy, W. Lafayette
(765) 463-6262 – open until 8:00 PM
 - Unity Immediate Care Center:
1321 Unity Pl. Suite A, Lafayette
(765) 445.1362 – open until 11:00 PM
- Area Hospitals
 - There are two local hospitals in West Lafayette/Lafayette. These include:
 - IU Health Arnett Hospital:
5165 McCarty Ln. Lafayette, IN 47905
(765) 448-8000
 - Franciscan St. Elizabeth Health Lafayette East:
1701 S. Creasy Ln, Lafayette, IN 47905
(765) 502-4000

If I need to get prescription medication, what do I do?

You will need a prescription from a doctor to order your medicine from a pharmacy. It is recommended that you bring prescriptions from home for the first few months so that you don't

have any delays getting your medicine. Also, carry your prescription/doctor's note with you through customs.

- Purdue Retail Pharmacy (Preferred, as Purdue Pharmacy offers reduced copay)
(<https://www.pharmacy.purdue.edu/retail-pharmacy>)
(765) 494-1374 or 1-888-850-0037
- Off Campus Pharmacies – there are a number of off campus pharmacies. Most people choose one close to their apartment or campus. Some of these pharmacies include:
 - CVS
 - Walgreens
- Some superstores and grocery stores also have pharmacies, and some examples are listed below:
 - Target
 - Meijer
 - Walmart
 - Payless