

HI-TIDE

A Parent and Supporter's Guide to SUNY Oswego



IN THIS ISSUE

Paying the Bill

Residence Life and Housing

Campus Employment

Contact List

DOWN TO BUSINESS!

OLIVIA HARRINGTON, CLASS OF 2021

Now, onto the topics everyone wants to discuss. How are you going to pay the bill? When can you pay my bill? And much more. To start off with some basics, let's discuss how to view it.

First, your student will need to log on to myOswego, go to financial services, and then view/pay the bill. The balance is in the top right-hand corner and is always up to date! Paying the bill from here is easy by using a debit/credit card. If you do not want to pay the bill all at once, you can sign up for a payment plan through the Office of Student Accounts. Be sure to sign up for this plan every semester you intend on using it.

NOTE: This is only available to students, under the students' rights and privacy act (FERPA) however, a family member or supporter may have proxy access and/or be an authorized payer. Proxy Access allows a student to provide access to specific pages of their student's information in myOswego to a third party ("proxy") such as a parent, mentor, corporate sponsor, etc. Students control what information proxies can access, as well as the length of time that they have access. The process requires that the proxy have an email address.

Once a student has had a conversation with their family member or supporter identifying that they would like them to have access to parts of their protected education record, a student may register that family member or supporter as an authorized payer and/or provide them with proxy access. An authorized payer is someone who the student has identified that has the ability to view and pay the bill and also discuss the student's financial account with a Student Accounts office representative. Students can remove an authorized payer from their account at any time by contacting the Student Accounts office in writing at student.accounts@oswego.edu.

Remember, this is your student's decision as they start to leave the nest! If no authorized payer and/or proxy is identified by the student, the college is unable to provide any identifying information to third parties. For students interested in setting up an authorized payer, please visit the Office of Students Accounts website at oswego.edu/student-accounts/payment-options-0.



For students wishing to set up proxy access, visit the Registrar's Office website oswego.edu/registrar/proxy-access for instructions.

If you wish to view your student's financial aid packages, go back to myOswego, financial services, and then financial aid. Here is where you can view any documents that must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office, but also accept or decline any loans you may have received. If you and your student are receiving financial aid, be sure to go to this every year after the FAFSA is completed to accept the aid. Once this is complete, you need to complete the Direct Loan Entrance Counseling and MPN through the FAFSA website if you are a first-time borrower under the Direct Loan programs. If this is not the first time you or your student have taken out loans, you may not need to complete this again. The financial aid office is here to help every step of the way, so if you have questions, just ask!

Another important item is that you and your student submit the health insurance waiver form by **SEPTEMBER 15th!** If you take one thing away

from this week's newsletter, please let it be this. If your student is coming to campus and your insurance will cover them in the Oswego area, complete the Health Insurance Waiver form also found in myOswego. This will save you and your student \$720 on your bill for something you are already paying for! This is through the Office of Auxiliary Services. If you have any questions on how to upload your insurance, you can find their contact information at the end of this week's newsletter.

For any questions or concerns about paying the bill, the Office of Financial Aid and Student Accounts will be hosting virtual one on one appointments. The link to sign up can be found oswego.edu/orientation/new-student-appointments.

A LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITY

Whether or not this is your student's first time away from home, the transition to moving anywhere new can always have its rough spots. Unique to SUNY Oswego, there is a large support network for your student as they make this transition. Your student will have a Resident Assistant (RA) on their floor who is there to guide them as a peer, but also as a resource. There is also a Professional Staff Member who lives in the residence hall as well. This staff member ultimately runs the building and ensures everyone's safety. The RA staff offer programs and events every week to bring their floor and building together. Living on campus at SUNY Oswego is truly living in your own community. Your student has so many opportunities to get involved and to know their peers that they are living within the building. Lists of what to bring and what not to bring on move-in day and our residential student handbook can be found on the website.

While there are many ways to get involved, there are also many opportunities for campus employment. You will never meet a SUNY Oswego student who doesn't work on campus, in a club/organization, or involved in some way. Campus employment ranges from the dining halls, to the fitness center and even offices on campus. Have your student ask their Laker Leader about more ways to get involved, and campus employment!



CONTACT LIST

Office of New Student Orientation
(315) 312-5522 • orient@oswego.edu

Residence Life and Housing
(315) 312-2246 • reslife@oswego.edu

Financial Aid
(315) 312-2248 • financial.aid@oswego.edu

Student Accounts
(315) 312-2225 • student.accounts@oswego.edu

Please note: SUNY Oswego's official form of communication is college email. Please encourage your student to check their email daily for important messages from their academic advisor, campus offices, and more.