

Clark College FAQs

Q: What are some good ways to get involved on campus?

A: Murray State has over 150 on campus student organizations. There are many places in your residential college to get involved—intramural sports teams, clubs within the RC (outdoors, crafts or arts, debate, academic or quick recall teams, etc.) and many RC committees that would be eager to have your input. Talk with your FYL, RA, RD, RCC President or College Head about finding a place to plug in. In addition, there are all sorts of organizations on campus that are looking for members; some are specifically related to your major, such as honor societies, foreign language clubs, study groups, and Greek organizations. Finally, there are a variety of religious groups that meet and hang out together a lot doing service projects or taking missions trips during college breaks.

Q: What is the purpose of the Residential College Council?

A: The RCC governs and helps to put on programs in your residential college to make your life better. They help put together fun activities and things to do in your residential college. You can get involved on the RCC and make a difference in your residential college while forging friendships with your neighbors and honing valuable leadership and communication skills, not to mention enhancing your resume.

Q: Who should I talk to if I am having trouble in a class?

A: Talk to your professors, they are usually willing to help and will think a lot of you if you come to talk with them, especially if they can see you are making an honest effort. You can also talk to your RA or FYL. There is almost always a tutoring session going on for freshman level classes, so look around. There is also probably someone in your residential college who has had the class you are taking before, so ask your fellow students for help.

Q: Where can I get tutoring services?

A: Ask the professor of the class you are struggling with if there is tutoring within that department and definitely check out the Lowry Center (between Wilson Hall and Pogue Library). There is free tutoring all around—even professors who offer tutoring right here in Clark College. Just ask!

Q: Where are some good places to study around campus?

A: Waterfield and Pogue Libraries are almost always a good place to study. There are quiet areas in each building that are set aside just for people to study in. If the weather permits, it is also nice to study out in the Quad behind Pogue Library. There are also various marked study areas in each of the buildings—just look for the signs.

Q: Where can I park my car besides the stadium?

A: Freshmen have to park at the stadium. Upperclassmen are allowed to park in yellow zones if they live on campus and a brown zone if they live in White or Regents. Students that live off-campus are

allowed to park in red zones. On the weekends from noon on Friday to 6:00pm on Sunday, students, including freshman, may park in any zone except for a blue zone.

Q: How can I get around if I didn't bring a car to college?

A: Racer Routes is a series of bus routes that have been established throughout Murray. If you show a valid MSU ID, your ride will be free. Murray Calloway County Transit Authority (MCCTA) runs public transportation around town and out into the county for a fee. Finally, there are several pay-per-ride taxi services (Bri'z and Mama Nancy's are two). Also, many of your new friends will have a car and will be willing to offer you a ride.

Q: If I wake up feeling sick, what can I do?

A: Murray State has a free health center for students on campus. Patients are seen on a drop-in basis and no appointment is necessary. Patients are screened and assessed by professional nurses. The nurse practitioner is on campus daily during clinic hours. The physician is on campus six hours per week, but is available to the nurses by phone when not on campus. Should a patient receive a prescription while at Health Services, s/he may get that prescription filled at a local pharmacy (there is no pharmacy on campus). Many students also visit the Primary Care center located a few minutes off campus; however this is not free to students.

Q: How do I prevent gaining the dreaded freshmen 15?

A: Research shows getting 7-8 hours of sleep per night and eating a protein based breakfast is important for avoiding weight gain. In addition, stay active. Murray State provides a lot of aerobic classes you can take for free with your friends at the Wellness Center, as well as walking tracks (Racer Arena and CFSB), basketball courts, tennis courts, a swimming pool, etc. The city park has walking trails and a Frisbee Golf course/path. Watch your food intake--just because Winslow serves a dessert with every meal, doesn't mean you have to eat one with every meal. Try to keep your plate colorful when you pick your foods. Know the calorie content of soft drinks you regularly enjoy (and alcoholic beverages if you drink alcohol) and snacks too.

Q: What can I use my ID for?

A: The main things you can use your ID for include: purchasing food or snacks with your meal plan or flex dollars; entering or checking into buildings; getting into ballgames and many concerts or theater events and lectures; checking out things from the libraries. In addition, your ID is valuable around town and will get you a discount at almost any restaurant and at many other businesses. Always ask when you order if they give an MSU discount.

Q: Can I eat in The Thoroughbred Room?

A: Yes, but the T-Room uses flex dollars and freshmen are required to have the Unlimited Meal Plan, which only has \$75 flex dollars at the beginning of the semester. They also accept cash and debit cards if you don't have a meal plan.

Q: How do I know what's being served in Winslow Dining Hall?

A: Winslow's menu is posted online and in Winslow's front lobby.

Q: Where can I use Flex Dollars?

A: You can use flex dollars anywhere food is being sold on campus, (Winslow, Dunkers Deli, Fast Track, Hart Coffee Shop, Waterfield Library) with the exception of the bookstore and Sparks hall.

Q: How does the unlimited meal plan work?

A: The unlimited meal plan allows you to enter Winslow as many times a day as you'd like to eat. You eat at Winslow a LOT, but save your Flex Dollars, because you only get \$75 with this.

Q: Can I get more than \$75 Flex Dollars for my meal plan?

A: You can add extra meals and flex dollars to your account by contacting the RacerCard office or on your MyGate.

Q: Are there vegetarian meals at Winslow?

A: Yes. There are also vegan and gluten free options available—just speak to a Winslow employee about them. Nutrition information is also posted online and in Winslow.

Q: Do I have to be checked in to friends' buildings?

A: Yes! This helps keep the campus safe.

Q: What should I do if I'm worried about walking around campus at night?

A: Call Racer Patrol at 270-809-2222 and request an escort. They are happy to help.

Q: How do I work Blackboard more efficiently?

A: Call the Help Desk, 270-809-2346. You can also go to their office that is located in Oakley Applied Science. Another option is to ask your FLY, RA or other friends if they can do anything to help.

Q: How can I bunk my bed?

A: Living in Clark allows you to bunk or loft your bed for no extra cost. You can ask the front desk or your RA for directions and where the materials are located.

Q: Can I hang stuff up on my walls?

A: Yes, but ask your RD or RA what kind of hangers you are allowed to use. Tape and Sticky Tack or putties are not allowed in Clark, but at the beginning of the semester 3-M gives away free poster hangers that are very handy and work well. "Blue painter's tape" and tacks are also a good idea. When using tacks, make sure to use them sparingly.

Q: What if I run out of quarters before I finish drying all my clothes?

A: Most of the front desks in all the residential colleges have a cash exchange machine for quarters.

Q: *How can I become a First Year Leader, FYL?*

A: Talk to your college head and fill out an application. Notices will also be posted around the building when the applications are available.

Q: *Can I work on campus my first year?*

A: It depends if you were admitted conditionally. There are many places on campus that welcome new applicants any time, but if you are admitted with conditions you need to have plenty of time to pay attention to your academics so campus jobs are not available. Job openings are posed throughout the year online. Part-time jobs can also be found off campus. Career services may have a listing of the openings.

Q: *Are rain boots really necessary?*

A: Absolutely, unless you like being soaked in class. Guys tend to avoid “rain boots”, but most girls on campus will use rain boots so they don’t get soaked. At bare minimum, everyone should have a rain jacket and an umbrella.

Q: *How much time should I allow myself to get across campus?*

A: About 15 minutes to walk, but between most academic buildings, 5 to 10 minutes is plenty.

Q: *If I don’t like my roommate, can I change roommates?*

A: Try to accommodate and work things out, it’s part of growing up. Most problems can be solved by simply talking things out together. Your RA can also help with this. At any point in time you can always put in a room change, but they are subject to availability. The best time to change roommates is at the end of the semester.

Q: *How long are students required to live in the residential colleges?*

A: Freshman and sophomores are required to live on campus unless they live at home with their parents. If you receive regional tuition, you are required to live on campus through your junior year.

Q: *How do I use MyGate when scheduling classes and checking my grades?*

A: This information is located under the Academics tab. If you need help, check with your FYL, advisor, RA, or an upperclassman.

Q: *What is the purpose of a first year leader (FYL)?*

A: To help smooth the transition from high school into college life and answer any questions you have, regardless of the topic.

Q: *What intramural sports can I participate in?*

A: We offer softball, football, basketball, volleyball, and soccer. You can sign up to play for your residential college, a fraternity/ sorority, or organize an independent team with some of your friends.

Q: *What are the rules on checking in a guest?*

A: Murray State as a 24/7 check in policy, however no cohabitation is allowed. You are allowed to check in two guests at a time where you give your ID's to the front desk. You must stay with your guests at all times and then check out when you leave.

Q: Can my guest stay the night?

A: Yes, as long as it's okay with your roommate and it doesn't become Co-habitation. The general rule of thumb is no longer than 2 nights sleeping over.

Q: Is there a curfew for when my guest has to leave?

A: The residential colleges do not impose a curfew. However, you and your roommate may decide that a curfew is good idea.

Q: How many guests can I have?

A: At any time you are allowed to have two guests checked in at any time.

Q: Are there laundry services in the residential college?

A: Each residential college has washers and dryers available. You have to do your own laundry. You must provide your own detergent, quarters. Each load costs \$1.00

Q: What furniture comes in the residential college?

A: Standard rooms are equipped with an adjustable bed, armoire, dresser, desk, and chair per person.

Q: Are there quiet hours?

A: Every floor requires a respectable noise level after midnight. Two floors are designated as quiet floors and require a respectable noise level after 10pm.