



Commuter Life: Thriving Off Campus

July 2026



Welcome Commuters!

Welcome to Marywood University!

You are here today because you will be commuting to campus, and we are excited to welcome you to the Marywood community.

Whether you are commuting from a few minutes away or traveling a longer distance, we want you to know that commuter students are an important part of campus life.

Many of our students balance classes with work, family responsibilities, athletics, and opportunities for involvement. Our goal is to help you stay connected, engaged, and successful throughout your time at Marywood.

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We are here to support you!

Resources Available:

- Office of Student Engagement
 - Work Study opportunities, campus programming, Facebook page with off-campus rentals.
- Commuter Student Association
 - Commuter-focused club that hosts specific events for commuter students
- Campus Safety
 - Parking passes, campus alerts
- Academic Support Services
 - Academic Advising, Tutoring/Writing Center, Counseling Center
- Center for Wellbeing
 - Walk-in support, 24/7 crisis support
- Career Services
 - Networking opportunities, career fairs, resume help

The Marywood Community is committed to supporting commuter students both inside and outside the classroom. Never hesitate to ask for help or reach out when you need help!



Commuter Student Lounges



The Commuter Student Lounge Offers:

- Comfortable seating
- A place to study
- Somewhere to relax in between classes
- Opportunities to connect with other commuters

Think of the lounge as your home base while on campus!

Location: Madonna Hall, Terrace Level



Get The Most Out Of Your Experience

Get involved early!

- Participate in New Student Extended Orientation (August 19-August 23)
- Attend Weeks of Welcome events (August 24-September 25)
- Join clubs and organizations (**September 3 fall involvement fair**)
- Attend campus programs and events
- Participate in leadership opportunities (apply to be an Orientation Leader or an RA!)
- Meet new people

The students who become involved early often report feeling more connected to campus and have a stronger overall college experience!



The Commuter Student Association (CSA)



What is the CSA?

- A student-run organization tailored specifically for commuter students
- Hosts programs and events
- Creates opportunities to meet other commuters
- Advocates for commuter student needs
- Offers leadership opportunities

CSA helps build community and ensure commuter student voices are heard!





Commuter Appreciation Events

Examples include:

- Drive-thru breakfast
- Commuter Appreciation Week
- Commuter Giveaways
- Commuter Social
- Car Wash Vouchers
- Dining Discounts

These programs are designed to recognize and celebrate our commuter students!



Parking & Transportation

Things to know:

- Parking registration is **required**
- Parking permits are free
- Review campus parking regulations
- Allow extra time during busy periods for your commute
- Be prepared for winter weather conditions

Parking is often one of the biggest concerns for commuters, so make sure your vehicle is registered *before* classes begin!

[Campus Safety/Parking Information](#)
[Marywood Parking Map](#)





Safety & Communication

Stay Connected!

- e2Campus Emergency Alerts
- Omnilert Safety App
- Severe Weather Notifications
- Campus Safety Services

Make sure your contact information is up to date so you receive important campus notifications.

[View the most important apps for students using this link!](#)





Managing Your Time

Helpful tips:

- Build a realistic schedule
- Plan time between classes
- Utilize study spaces on campus
- Balance work and academics
- Keep track of important deadlines

Time management is one of the most important skills commuter students can develop.





Building Connections



Ways to connect:

- Join a student organization
- Attend campus events
- Introduce yourself in class
- Participate in leadership opportunities
- Spend time *on* campus in between classes

Building relationships helps create a stronger sense of belonging and community.



Dining on Campus

Dining Options Available:

- Main dining hall (Nazareth Student Center)
- Nazareth Student Center has sushi, ramen, and rice bowl options!
- Pacer Food Court has made-to-order sandwiches, burritos, and wings (McGowan)
- Study Grounds has Acai bowls, made-to-order wraps & salads & Starbucks & Meatopia BBQ!

Commuters are encouraged to take advantage of dining options while spending time on campus - especially during the commuter discount period (Thursdays 4:30-7PM).





Takeaways!

Remember...

- You belong at Marywood
- Commuter students are a vital part of our campus community
- Getting involved leads to stronger connections
- Resources exist to support your success
- Don't be afraid to ask for help

We are so excited to have you here and look forward to supporting you throughout your Marywood journey!





Thank you!

Questions?



Before you go...

Take advantage of the rest of today to connect, ask questions, and explore campus resources!

10:30 AM - 11:40 AM

Undergraduate Student Sessions

Location: Swartz B & Marian Chapel

11:50 AM - 12:20 PM

Understanding Financial Aid & Your Bill

Location: Insalaco Arena, Center for Athletics & Wellness

12:30 PM - 1:15 PM

Lunch: Pacer Palooza

Location: Insalaco Arena, Center for Athletics & Wellness