When is move in?
Tuesday, August 12, and Wednesday, August 13 are Valdosta State University’s freshmen move in days! We have divided the days into time slots based on your hall and floor assignments as listed in the table below.

Where are the unloading zones?
- Georgia Hall: Georgia Avenue & Unload Curbside
- Langdale Hall: Café Lot & the Langdale Timed Lot
- Patterson Hall, Lowndes Hall, and Brown Hall: Main Entrance to campus off of Patterson Street
- Reade Hall: Area between the Bailey Science Center & Powell Hall

What do I do once my vehicle has been unloaded?
To make move-in day as efficient as possible for everyone, you should move your vehicle immediately to the Oak Street Parking Deck once all your belongings have been unloaded. Shuttle buses will continuously run from the Oak Street Parking Deck to main campus for your convenience. Keep in mind that overnight parking is not permitted in Oak Street Parking Deck; the Sustella Deck is available to residents for that service.

Will anyone be there to help us move in?
Yes! Numerous students, student organizations, faculty, and staff members are excited to help you and your student make a smooth transition into Valdosta State University’s residence halls! Don’t be surprised if the volunteers take everything and you barely break a sweat.

Will my student have anything to do after move in?
Yes, we have several programs that will be happening during Welcome Week and beyond. For starters, our Residence Hall Association (RHA) will be hosting several events during the first five nights we’re open. These events include Trivia Night with prizes and local food, Blazin’ Outdoors with s’mores and games led by our Campus Recreation staff, Late Night Pancakes on Palms Quad, and finally, Color Day, which features a variety of games with a color theme. After Welcome Week is over, the Housing and Residence Life department will be hosting events over the next four weeks. This series of events is titled “Strike a MATCH” and focuses on Mingling, Acclimating to campus, Teaching life skills, Community building, and developing VSU into your Home for the next week. You can learn more about all of these events on our website.

Lastly, first-year students will be required to attend a mandatory floor meeting soon after move-in. Please be on the lookout for a flyer with information for these meetings when you move in.

Students participating in a First-Year Learning Community (FLC) will also participate in an FLC kickoff event during welcome week. Times will vary based on each FLC group and will likely immediately follow your mandatory academic orientation the week you arrive on campus. More information about the FLC kickoff event will be distributed through your VSU email address in July.

For more information regarding specific events, please visit www.valdosta.edu/academics/freshman-learning/ and follow us on Twitter @VStateFLCs.
Fall Assignment & Roommate Information

To view your housing assignment and roommate information, please follow these steps:

- Go to: [http://www.valdosta.edu/eas/sis/](http://www.valdosta.edu/eas/sis/)
- Click on: Login. Enter your User ID name and PIN
- Click on: Student & Financial Aid
- Click on: View Housing Application/Assignment
- Select Term: Fall 2014

If your application has been accepted and you do not have an assignment, please check back later for your room assignment information. Accessing this information should make it easier for students to speak with their roommates before school starts to decide who is bringing the TV, refrigerator, and other room essentials.

Room Swap/Change Request & Consolidation Policy Explained

If for some reason you are unhappy with your room assignment, then you can request a room change. No applications for changes will be processed until two weeks after the semester starts. On September 2, room changes within the same hall will be processed. Out-of-hall room changes begin September 8.

If you do not have a roommate after the room change process, then you may be required to consolidate with another resident in the same situation. Lists of students in your building who also need roommates will be available. The opportunity to offer private rooms may also be available after room change. See your handbook for the specific processes.

Basic Information About Renter’s Insurance

Every year college students lose millions of dollars’ worth of property. Valdosta State University does not insure any personal items. Therefore, it is important to learn how to protect your personal property in the residence halls. Students are often covered under their parents’ homeowner’s insurance policy, so be sure to check your policy.

Renter’s insurance is available to any resident who is not protected by his or her parents’ insurance. Policies provide coverage for many items commonly found in residence halls, including clothing, computers, school supplies, and electronic devices.

VSU has information about (but does not sponsor) four companies that provide insurance for students’ personal property. National Student Services, Inc., offers a Student Personal Property Plan and coverage for both on- and off-campus housing. CSI Insurance Agency, Inc., offers a Student Personal Property Protector Plus program, which covers your property worldwide for 12 months. Next Generation Insurance Group offers a student plan that covers personal liability coverage and student property protection. Sallie Mae Insurance Services offers insurance that includes property and liability protection, replacement cost, and loss of use coverage.

Insurance policies have limitations and restrictions, so be sure to read each policy carefully. Web addresses to each agency are provided below.

**Helpful Websites for Renter’s Insurance:**

- National Student Services, Inc.  
  [www.nssinc.com](http://www.nssinc.com)
- CSI Ins. Agency, Inc.  
  [www.collegestudentinsurance.com](http://www.collegestudentinsurance.com)
- Next Generation Insurance Group  
  [www.gradguard.coms/renters](http://www.gradguard.coms/renters)
- Sallie Mae Insurance Services  
  [www.salliemaeinsurance.com](http://www.salliemaeinsurance.com)

Cable TV Service in the Residence Halls

Remember, you have already paid for basic cable service in your residence hall room.

Please visit [www.valdosta.edu/housing](http://www.valdosta.edu/housing) for more details or call 229.333.5920 to get answers for your housing questions!
Residence Hall

Holiday Closings

All residence halls will close/re-open for holidays as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLOSE</th>
<th>RE-OPEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
<td>November 30 @ 10AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Holidays</td>
<td>January 7 @ 1 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>March 29 @ 10AM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plan ahead and make arrangements for transportation and a place to stay during these breaks.

Note: Centennial & Converse Halls Do Not Close.
Centennial and Converse do not close for break periods, but they do close for the two weeks between the contract ending in July and the new contract beginning in August.

Mail & Packages

Each resident is assigned a mailbox. Refer to the information listed below to access your VSU box number and combination. Centennial residents will get their mail in Centennial Hall, and all other residents will get their mail in Hopper Hall.

Note: Items requiring a signature or items that are too large to fit in your mailbox will be distributed at the Student Mail Center in Hopper Hall. You will receive a VSU e-mail notification and can claim the item at The Student Mail Center with a VSU Student ID.

Hours: Monday – Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

VSU Box Address
Students should make sure that their mail is addressed as follows:
Student’s Name
VSU (Box Number)
Valdosta State University
1500 N Patterson St
Valdosta GA 31698

VSU Box Number
& Combination Access

- Go online to www.valdosta.edu
- Click on: Current Students
- Click on: Banner (Registration)
- Click on: Login
  (Enter Your User ID = Student Identification Number and PIN = 6 Digit Birthday, Use MMDDYY)
- Click on: Student and Financial Aid
- Click on: Campus Mail Box
- Choose Term
- Box Assignment and Combination can be Viewed on this Screen

Note: Combinations will not be available until the beginning of the semester.
### Freshmen Residents

**Unlimited Access + 5 Guest Meals + $125 Dining Dollars**
$1,896 Per Semester

This plan offers the most flexibility and is the best value in town! Enjoy unlimited meals or snacks in our all-you-care-to-eat Hopper or Palms Dining plus $125 in Dining Dollars to be used at any on-campus dining location.

**14 Meals/Week + 5 Guest Meals + $225 Dining Dollars**
$1,896 Per Semester

Enjoy 14 meals per week at our all-you-care-to-eat Hopper or Palms Dining plus $225 in Dining Dollars to be used at any on-campus dining location.

**10 Meals/Week + 5 Guest Meals + $370 Dining Dollars**
$1,896 Per Semester

Enjoy 10 meals per week at our all-you-care-to-eat Hopper or Palms Dining plus $370 in Dining Dollars to be used at any on-campus dining location.

### Resident Students

**Ranked as Sophomores or Above**

**$950 Dining Dollars**
$950 Per Semester

Enjoy $950 Dining Dollars to be used at any campus dining location.

**Students Living in Centennial Hall & Converse Hall**

**$525 Dining Dollars**
$525 Per Semester

Enjoy $525 Dining Dollars to be used at any campus dining location.

### Additional Dining Dollars Plans:

Resident students can also choose from the following three plans, **in addition to** another meal plan, to enhance their retail purchasing power and tax-saving options on campus (i.e. you could choose the Unlimited + 5 Guest Meals + $125 Dining Dollars plan PLUS the $200 Dining Dollars + $10 Bonus Dining Dollars plan):

- **$300 Dining Dollars + $22.25 Bonus Dining Dollars**
  $300 Per Semester
  With the Bonus Dining Dollars and sales tax savings, this plan provides $322.25 in purchasing power to eat on campus. This plan may be used at any on-campus dining location.

- **$200 Dining Dollars + $10 Bonus Dining Dollars**
  $200 Per Semester
  With the Bonus Dining Dollars and sales tax savings, this plan provides $210 in purchasing power to eat on campus. This plan may be used at any on-campus dining location.

- **$100 Dining Dollars**
  $100 Per Semester
  This plan may be used at any on-campus dining location.

### Change Your Plan

In order to change your meal plan, please visit your Banner account at [https://banweb.valdosta.edu/pls/prod/twbkwbis.P_WWWLogin](https://banweb.valdosta.edu/pls/prod/twbkwbis.P_WWWLogin). Please note that you may only change your meal plan once per semester.

### Important Tips

- Meal plans can only be used by the student whose name appears on the contract.
- Meal plans are activated on the student’s VSU 1Card, which must be presented at the time of purchase.
- Meal Plans for the Fall Semester are activated Tuesday, August 12.

For More Information, contact V-State Dining, located in Palms Dining Center on N. Oak Street, across the street from the Baptist Student Center.

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**V-State Dining Office Hours:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday - Thursday</td>
<td>8 AM - 5 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8 AM - 3 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Phone:** 229.333.7149

**Website:** [www.dineoncampus.com/valdosta.edu](http://www.dineoncampus.com/valdosta.edu)
What to Bring

Students may want to bring several items for their rooms. Each student will be responsible for providing his/her own bedding needs and towels. Students have access to laundry facilities in the residence halls. The following items are additional suggestions generated by students who have lived on campus:

- Flashlight & Batteries
  - In Case of Power Outage (candles are prohibited)
- Alarm Clock / Clock Radio
- Personal Hygiene Items
- Shower Caddy & Shower Shoes
- Pens, Pencils, Paper, Notebooks
- Posters & Room Decorations
- Stereo and/or Radio
- iPod/MP3 Player
- Small Television
  - Basic cable is installed in each room.
- Telephone
  - Local Phone Service is not Provided in Each Room, So Only Bring if you are Contracting with AT&T. Cordless Phones must be 900 MHz or 5.8 GHz
- Small Microwave
  - Great for Popcorn & Reheating Pizza
- Compact Refrigerator
  - Max. 4.4 Cubic Feet
- Plastic Cups, Plates, & Eating Utensils
- Dish Pan, Cloth, Towel, & Dishwashing Liquid
- Personal Cleaning Supplies
  - Cleaners, Sponges, Broom or Vacuum. (Students are responsible for cleaning their rooms, including kitchens and bathrooms in the suites/apartments).
- Desk Lamp
- Laundry Bag & Detergent
- Sewing Kit
- Hangers
- Wastebasket
- Can Opener
- Surge Protector (UL 1449 Rated)
- Rug
  - 9x12 is a Good Size for Most Rooms
- Window Curtains
  - Blinds are provided. Curtains must be hung with tension rods. Windows vary slightly in size depending on the building. We advise you to purchase your curtains after you arrive.

What to Leave Home

The following items are prohibited in residence halls:

- Firearms, Knives, Air Guns, Martial Arts Weapons, or Weapons of any Kind
- Candles, Incense or Any Item that Produces or Has an Open Flame
- Cooking Devices, Including, But Not Limited to, Broilers, Toaster Ovens, Electric Skillets, Hot Plates, Hot Pots, and George Foreman Grills
- Room Heating Devices with Exposed Heating Coils
- 2.4 GHz Cordless Phones
- Wireless Routers
- Flammable and/or Combustible Items
- Fireworks, Smoke bombs, Sparklers, etc.
- Contact Paper
- Duct Tape
- Extension Cords
- Chemicals
- Light Dimmers, Ceiling Fans, or any other Device that Interferes with the Electricity of the Room
- Weight Lifting Apparatus, such as Barbells
- Animals or Pets, except Fish and Service Animals per Federal Law. The university reserves the Right to Limit the Size of Aquariums
- Waterbeds and Water Furniture
- Refrigerators, Except as Previously Defined

NOTE: The preceding list is not all-inclusive. Any item that is a threat to public safety may be removed from a student’s room. University staff will continually monitor all areas through staff visits and unannounced inspections. The presence of prohibited items will be documented. Students will be required to remove those items from the premises and may be subject to disciplinary action as well as monetary fines.

Be Sure to Like the VSU Housing and Residence Life Facebook Page and follow us on Twitter & Instagram.
Attention Freshmen Students!
If you plan to move in on Tuesday, August 12, or Wednesday, August 13 — Freshmen Move-In Days — RHA would like to welcome you to VSU! Stop by our Welcome Week events just for freshmen! Check the RHA calendar included in your welcome pack during move-in for more details.

Valdosta State University’s RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION

The Residence Hall Association (RHA) at Valdosta State is a highly involved student organization. The three main areas of RHA that you can get involved with are our hall councils, student conferences, and monthly programs.

What is Hall Council?
Hall Council is a student organization for each of the residence halls. There are open positions for each hall, like President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Event Coordinator, that you can run for when you arrive to campus. After being elected, you’ll be trained by our RHA Executive Board in order to be the voice for your residence hall and to put on fun events for your fellow residents.

Accomplishments and Goals
Student conferences are hosted throughout our state, region, and country specifically for students in the halls to attend. This past year, our RHA took students to East Carolina University, Georgia Tech, University of Georgia, and University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. At these conferences, students attend amazing leadership development sessions while proudly representing their own college/university. VSU was able to win a couple of awards at these conferences, including Emerging Student Leader, which was awarded to student Tori Baldwin.

Monthly Programs
Once a month, RHA hosts events for students living on campus to attend, to learn, and to get to know other students. This past year, we hosted Highlighter Dance Party, a Mardi Gras Fat Tuesday event, Be the Match (for the bone marrow registry); and our biggest success, the annual Jello Fight. Our students are planning now for their events in the fall, so be on the lookout for those events once you arrive. Also, if you’ve looked at the section of this newsletter regarding “Will my students have anything to do after move-in?” you’ve already seen RHA mentioned in terms of programs. If you haven’t read that section, flip over to page 1 to read about it.

If you have any questions, feel free to email RHA Advisor, Mark McNalley at mpmcnalley@valdosta.edu
The Office of Housing and Residence Life is sponsoring VSU’s Annual Room Decorating Contest!!!! Find your inner interior decorator and use your skills to transform your room! You will be judged on factors such as originality, organization, and style.

Judging is scheduled to take place toward the middle of September. We are looking for a male and female winner from each hall and two grand prize campus winners! Deck out your room in things that are unique to who you are as an individual and as a Blazer! Do you have what it takes to win?

**Please be aware that winners are expected to do the following:**
- Show your room to prospective students for the entire academic year, especially on Visitation Days.
- Allow pictures taken of your room to be included in promotional pictures for Housing publications (i.e. website, brochures, etc.)
- Have **NO** illegal possessions (i.e. drug paraphernalia, substances, etc.) in your room. Also, no promotional material or insignia of other collegiate institutions. We need VSU Blazer pride only!
- Have no prior housing/university infractions or disciplinary sanction.

**Good Luck & May The Best Room Win!**

*Note: All housing guidelines for decorating must be followed.*
**NEWSLETTER Spotlight**

**Eric Petersen**

**COMPEx DIRECTOR:**
Georgia, Reade, Converse & Langdale Halls

**What made you choose student housing as a profession?**
I chose housing as a profession because of the profound impact my RA and other housing professionals had on my development as a student while I was in college. I want to provide the same kind of mentorship and opportunities to students that they provided to me.

**What are you most excited about in your new job?**
I’m excited for the opportunity to work with the RA staff here at VSU, especially the chance to help teach the RA class.

**Why did you choose Valdosta State?**
I chose Valdosta State because I spent three years working for Georgia Southern, and love working in the state of Georgia, but wanted to come to a smaller campus. The people here are all super friendly and welcoming, and it’s easy to see this place as a home for me for the next several years.

**What do you like to do for fun?**
I love to read — I’m currently working my way through Game of Thrones — and have an unhealthy addiction to Netflix. One of my biggest stress relievers is cooking and trying new recipes. I love using all my kitchen gadgets. I also try to run at least a couple days a week just to get out of my apartment and be a little healthier.

**What’s one interesting fact about you?**
I was on my undergrad’s swing dance performance team.
Fall Explosion is a series of planned events that take place from move in day through the end of August. Fall Explosion is a collaborative effort among several VSU departments to aid new students in acclimating to college life and to engage those students in purposeful extracurricular activities. Some event highlights include “The Happening,” cookouts, movies on the lawn, free game room hours, tie-dye, and much, much more.

http://www.valdosta.edu/student/student-life/our-services/special-events/

Birthday Recognition Program
Each month Housing & Residence Life sends out postcards to recognize the birthdays of our residents. When you receive your card, stop by our office to exchange your card for a treat.

Homecoming 2014 is October 20-25. There will be campus activities going on all week leading up to the Homecoming football game on October 25. Contact Student Life for more information at: www.valdosta.edu/stulife
Local Phone Service

Local phone service is not provided in the residence hall student rooms. If students would like to order local access, they will need to call the AT&T Residential Sales line at 1-888-757-6500 or access the AT&T website (ATT.com, select Residential/Local access) and place an order with their address, including residence hall and room number. At this site they will find the current rates, installation, termination and any promotions that may be available at the time of their order.

Parking & Transportation Permit Registration

How to Register for a Parking Permit & Avoid Long Registration Lines

- Many of you have probably already attended an orientation session and registered for a parking permit to be added into your fees. After adding the permit charge to your fees, you must then log into our Web portal to submit your vehicle information to receive your permit; permits are available for sale at the beginning of July.

You may do this electronically at www.valdosta.edu/prc. Fall parking permits, which are valid the entire year, cost $50. Each student will be charged a $118 parking facility fee and a $20 transportation fee each semester; the parking permit fee is a separate charge.

You may also obtain your parking permit in our office, first level of the Sustella Avenue Parking Deck Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

All visitors to the university should obtain a visitor's parking permit at the Parking & Transportation Department before parking a vehicle on campus.

Parent & Family Programs...

serves as a resource and a way for VSU parents and families to be involved in the life of the university. VSU parents and families are valued partners in each student’s educational journey. There are a variety of ways to stay connected; one of the most important ways is by visiting the Parent Resource website and registering your contact information. We will use the contact information submitted to keep you up to date on campus activities, important dates, and general advice on how to support your student as they navigate their own independence.

For more information contact:
Niki Turley, Assoc. Dean of Students 229.333.5941
Move In Day *Motions*

Please bring with you for move in.

= Parking Lots

- Georgia Hall residents will need to unload curbside on Georgia Ave.
- Reade Hall Entrance to campus here
- Langdale Hall Entrance to campus here
- Patterson, Brown, and Lowndes Hall Entrance to campus here
- Hopper Hall and Converse Hall Entrance to campus here
- Centennial Hall Entrance to campus here
- Oak St. Parking Lot
- Student Recreation Sports Complex
- Centennial Hall Parking
- Pattern, Brown, and Lowndes Hall Entrance here
- Hopper Hall and Converse Hall Entrance here
Parents Weekend

Friday, September 5, 2014
&
Saturday, September 6, 2014

For more information call:
The Office of Student Life
229.333.5674

To register visit:
valdosta.edu/stulife

The final day to register for this event is Friday, August 29 @ 3PM

#VState18

Required First Year Student Convocation
At 9:00 am on both Thursday, August 14 and Friday, August 15, first year students must attend two important events:

Thursday: First Year Student Convocation in the PE Complex

Friday: College Orientations
Locations will vary depending on the student's major.

All students will receive additional information and directions to these sessions.