



First Things First

Supporting you before day one.

If you missed past mailings, check out the archive here!

August 18, 2026

Welcome to **First Things First**, your (mostly) biweekly newsletter that guides you smoothly through summer, and gets you prepared for life at Bates. Somehow, it's all come down to this - **Arrival Day is next week!** We are so excited to welcome you to campus, but in the meantime, we've got a few last pointers for you:

Today's Updates:

- **All remaining new student forms are due tomorrow (8/19).** Been putting off completing them? There's no time like the present to login to [Garnet Gateway](#) and check them off your to-do list. Heads up: if you arrive on campus without completing your forms, you will be asked to step aside to complete them before you're given your Bates ID and room key. Who wants to go through the hassle? Just get them done!
- We've prepared [this handy guide to Arrival Day](#) to help you and your loved ones (if they're traveling to Bates with you) understand how your first hours on campus will go. The information is super important - be sure to read it before arriving! Questions? Send us an email at fye@bates.edu, or call us at 207-755-5900.
- As a reminder, you are required to complete all 6 lessons of the *Perspectives* program by **TOMORROW, Wednesday, August 19**. Upon doing so, you'll be entered into a drawing to win a **Nintendo Switch 2, Sony wireless noise cancelling headphones, Bates beverage holders, or \$25 College Store gift cards!** [You can access the program here.](#) [Check out the login guide here.](#) Questions? Send us an email at fye@bates.edu.
- **Ok, ok, ok - you've literally done *all of the things* - what's next?** Here are some ideas:

- Connect with your roommate! You can find their contact information on [HouseCat](#).
- Check out the [ResLife website](#) to learn about what you can and can't bring to campus!
- Order books via [textbook.bates.edu](#). Note that the College Store does not carry textbooks on its shelves, so we recommend ordering them via this website. There is a kiosk in the College Store at which you can do this, too.
- Check out the [Orientation schedule](#) and get excited!
- Get on [Bates Engage](#) and start checking out clubs. [Bates Engage Mobile](#) also has your Orientation schedule in an easy-to-peruse format, located via the "More" tab.
- Apply for campus jobs on [Handshake](#).

That's it for now! If **anything** comes up at any time, don't hesitate to reach out to us by replying to this email, emailing fye@bates.edu, or calling us at 207.755.5900. We're so excited to welcome you to campus in the fall, and want to hear from you.

With Bobcat spirit,

[The First-Year Experience Team at Bates](#)

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