15 Things to do before you arrive on campus

The first week of classes will be here sooner than you know it. Here are 15 action steps we suggest you take before you arrive on campus. Take a read and start preparing!

1). **Complete all of the required new student forms.** Have you filled out all of your forms? Having your forms completed before you arrive to campus gives you the fast pass once you arrive for move-in day. Go to my.geneva.edu, sign in with your Geneva account and fill out the forms!

2). **Follow the Center for Student Engagement’s (CSE) Social Media Accounts.** The CSE runs most of the student programs on campus and following our accounts will keep you informed of everything happening on campus.
   - Facebook: facebook.com/GCSPO
   - Twitter: @GenevaCSE
   - Instagram: @GenevaCSE
   - Snapchat: genevacse
   - Directtext: 724.804.TEXT (text us any questions you might have)

3). **Get on the Geneva College Class of 2021 Facebook Page.** You don’t need to wait until day one to be meeting your new peers. Connect on Facebook and start building lasting friendships now.
   - [https://www.facebook.com/groups/GenevaClassof2021/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/GenevaClassof2021/)

4). **Print out your Welcome Week Schedule.** Welcome Week begins on Wednesday, August 23rd from new freshman and Friday, August 25th for transfer students. Welcome Week is integral to connecting you to Geneva. Welcome Week is about meeting new people and transitioning to learning in college! New freshman begin their Learning and Transitions (L&T) course during Welcome Week, which means that you will start receiving points for your L&T class during these days. Make sure you are doing what you need to be able to truly focus and be present on these days. If you’re local, call off work so that you can be present on campus for these days.

5). **Make a move-in day playlist.** Nothing gets you in the groove on your first day of campus life like your own jams. Then, once you arrive, swap playlists with your new roommate/classmate. Who knows, you might both secretly like the same artists!

6). **Write someone a thank you letter.** Although you have accomplished a lot to get here, most likely someone else has also contributed to you making it to Geneva. Take a second to let this special person know how much you appreciate how they have impacted your life. And send them a letter - not a text or Facebook message – but a letter. Trust us, they will appreciate it.

7). **Make a packing list.** Even if you aren’t a list person, we suggest going with a list on this one. Start with the large categories: academics, clothes, snack food, room décor. From there, start adding specific items to the list. This list will help alleviate the stress of actually packing. Make sure to check with you
roommate to make sure your both not bringing the same items. No one wants two microwaves. Check out our suggestions on what to bring on the Welcome Week site.

8). **Throw a going away party for yourself.** You are starting a big new venture. The best way to start a new chapter, celebrate with folks that are in your current chapter. Invite your family, invite your friends, and make the most of a night of celebration together.

9). **Check the move-in day map.** We know that move-in day is a big day for you. We want to make that big day as stress-free as possible. Therefore, we have created a specific driving flow to help keep everyone moving in the right direction – literally.

10). **Contact your roommate** (commuters – we thought we would give you a gift and let you skip out on one). Some of the best times in college are with your roommate. Take the initiative to contact your roommate and start the relationship off right. Wondering what you would talk about? Here are some conversation starters: What are you bringing for the room? What time do you think you will get to Geneva on move-in day? How often do you shower a week? From there, just go with your instincts.

11). **Check out local churches.** Plugging in with a local church is a great way to connect, serve, and be served. Click this link, read through the list, and figure out which new spot you might start calling your church home. [https://www.geneva.edu/page/local_churches](https://www.geneva.edu/page/local_churches)

12). **Hug your parents daily.** Even if they don’t show it, your parents are going to miss you – or at least most of you. Give them a little daily kickback for helping you make it to age 18. A hug can go a long way in making the transition a good one for everyone.

13). **Make a list of 10 goals.** College is what you make it. The opportunity for growth is around every corner at Geneva. Make a list of 10 things you want to accomplish in your first year at college.

14). **Pray.** We have already been praying for you as you start making this transition. Join with us as we cover this time of your life in prayer. Be specific. Be bold. Be consistent.

15). **Enjoy your summer.** Although we hope you start thinking about how you can prepare for college, we don’t want you to miss out on your summer. We hope you dominate this list, all while saving room for soaking in the sun, hitting up baseball games, and enjoying late nights with the friends.