

Ready to go for Spring 2024 (1/9/2024)

Note: This letter is sent via email by the VP for Student Life to all students at the beginning of fall semester and to all new students at the beginning of spring semester.



Fall 2026

Summary of what's in this email:

- A welcome from Student Life
- Policies students are responsible to know and abide by (the "Student Handbook")
- Information about where to go for resources and information

Welcome to all new first-year, transfer, and returning students! We are so thrilled to welcome all our new students for the Fall of 2026 and to welcome back students who have been away for a little while. We are in for an awesome semester!

The Student Life Staff is made up of members from the [Student Life Office Suite](#) (Kerrwood Hall 2nd floor), [Campus Life](#), [Residence Life and Housing](#), [Intercultural Programs](#), [International Student Services](#), [Student Health Services](#), [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#), and the [Campus Pastor's Office](#). We have key partnerships with the [Center for Student Success](#), the [Martin Institute for Christianity and Culture](#), and the [Career Resource Center](#). All of us are ready to get started with what God has in store for us this year. We are here to support and encourage you in whatever ways we can!

Living in the Westmont community carries privileges and responsibilities. In order to help students understand the commitments and provisions of this community, the [Student Life Handbook: Policies, Procedures, & Resources](#) web page provides information about programs, services, policies, and procedures related to the life of a Westmont student. Follow any of the links to access specific information on that particular policy, procedure, or topic.

We hope you will review the [Community Life Statement and Behavioral Expectations](#) annually as this document frames our life together. Our [Diversity Matters at Westmont](#) statement is also important.

All Westmont College students are responsible for reviewing and adhering to all published college policies on the [Student Life Handbook: Policies, Procedures, & Resources](#) webpage. Below is a list of policies students often have the most questions about. Please take some time to review this information:

- [Alcohol](#)
- [Drug-Free Campus](#)
- [Safety Withdrawal Policy](#)
- [Sexual Activity Outside of Marriage](#)
- [Chapel and Convocation Attendance](#) Chapel and convocation attendance is required on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings beginning at 10:30 a.m.
- [Withdrawing From Westmont](#)
- [Privacy Rights \(FERPA\)](#)

Below are policies related to harassment and discrimination.

- [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#)
- [Unlawful Sexual Misconduct Policies and Procedures](#)
- [Bias, Harassment, and Discrimination Policies and Procedures](#)
- [Unlawful Sexual Misconduct or Bias-Related Incident Report Form](#)

In addition to the Student Life Policies, Procedures, and Resources, and drawing your attention to particular policies, below you will find notifications that Westmont is required by law to report to you.

Finally, we encourage you to be a good neighbor in our community. Please abide by the speed limit on the roads up to Westmont, take down your hammock after you use it, and stay off of our neighbor's private property, including the Tea Gardens above campus. How we interact and behave in our community makes a difference. We appreciate you being respectful of those who live around us.

Thanks for your attention to the policies and resources that are important to us as a community. May God protect, guide, and direct us this year!

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Required notifications for Westmont Students

The following information is available for any student, parent, prospective student, and other interested parties.

Annual Security Report of Westmont College: This report is prepared in accordance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crimes Statistics Act (formerly the Campus Security Act of 1990) of 1998 and to implement the requirements of the 2008 Higher Education Opportunity Act Fire Safety Reporting provisions. These laws require Colleges and Universities to annually distribute information about its campus safety procedures, crime statistics, and campus fire safety procedures and statistics to the Federal Department of Education, as well as to the institution's current and prospective students, parents, and employees. The URL address for this report is distributed annually to current students and employees through the campus email system. You can find more information [here](#).

Athletic Program Participation Rates and Financial Support Data (Equity in Athletics Disclosure): This report includes data about participation, staffing, revenues, and expenses attributable to Westmont College intercollegiate athletic activities. This report is available upon request from the [Athletics Department](#) or by emailing athletics@westmont.edu.

Bias, Harassment, and Discrimination Policies and Procedures: The College prohibits and will not tolerate harassment, discrimination, or bias-related incidents by or against its students, faculty, staff, independent contractors, applicants for employment and admission, and guests to the college. This policy can be accessed [here](#). The [Unlawful Sexual Misconduct or Bias-Related Incident Report Form](#) may be used to report an incident.

Completion/Graduation Rates: This report documents the number of students counted as a completion or graduation. This report is available [here](#).

Confidentiality of Student Records and FERPA: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) is a federal law enacted to establish procedures for disclosing information contained in student records and to protect the privacy of those records. More information can be found [here](#).

Drug and Alcohol-Free Campus Policy: Information concerning alcohol and drug use, resources for rehabilitation and counseling, and disciplinary sanctions can be found [here](#).

Financial Assistance and Loan Deferment Programs: For information concerning available financial assistance programs and loan deferment or forgiveness programs, visit the [Student Financial Services Office](#).

Hazing: The Hazing Policy is found [here](#).

Institutional Information: For information about cost, refund policies, withdrawing from Westmont, academic programs, accreditation, services, facilities, and study abroad programs, consult the [College Catalog](#).

Interacting with Immigration Officers on Campus: California state laws govern how employers and schools that participate in the Cal Grant program are to interact with federal immigration officers who seek to execute a federal immigration order on campus. Among

other things, the laws require that except as otherwise required by federal law, an employer or a person acting on behalf of the employer shall not provide voluntary consent to an immigration enforcement agent to enter any nonpublic areas of a place of labor. See the full policy [here](#).

Missing Student Policy: The Missing Student Policy is found [here](#).

Nondiscrimination Policy: The Nondiscrimination Policy is found [here](#).

Patriot Act: The Patriot Act Policy is found [here](#).

Peer-to-Peer File Sharing: The illegal distribution of copyrighted materials may subject students to criminal and civil penalties. Information Technology provides more information about peer-to-peer file sharing and other resource use guidelines on their [webpage](#).

Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Community Act: Information concerning alcohol and drug use, resources for rehabilitation and counseling, and disciplinary sanctions can be found [here](#).

Unlawful Sexual Misconduct Policies and Procedures: This policy is found [here](#). The [Unlawful Sexual Misconduct or Bias-Related Incident Report Form](#) may be used to report an incident.

Vaccinations and other Health-related required forms: All entering Westmont students are required to provide health forms noted on the [Health Center page](#).

Voter Registration Forms: Forms are available at the Westmont Post Office or online [here for federal information](#) or [here for CA information](#)

Withdrawal Policies: The [Registrar's Office](#) maintains information on [Westmont's withdrawal policies](#).