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LUTHER
COLLEGE

Parent and Family Newsletter



ACADEMICS AT LUTHER



Luther Named One of the Best Colleges for Sustainability

The 2022 Sustainable Campus Index is out and this year, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) named Luther College the fourth best baccalaureate institution in the nation for its efforts in sustainability.

“From sustainability scholarships to sheep grazing in our solar fields, Luther incorporates sustainability into all aspects of college life,” said Jon Jensen, director of Luther’s Center for Sustainable Communities.

Luther scored especially well in the Curriculum category and is ranked number nine of all colleges and universities in the nation. This category recognizes colleges with courses, programs or learning outcomes in sustainability. **At Luther, 37% of all courses include a**

sustainability component and 100% of departments have sustainability course offerings. [Read more.](#)

Academic Calendar Reminders

- Family Weekend: Sept. 23–Sept. 25
- Homecoming: Oct. 7–Oct. 9, 2022
- Fall Vacation: Oct. 15–Oct. 19, 2022

HEALTH & WELLNESS



Getting Involved in Campus Life

As we settle into the fall semester, students may struggle to acclimate, or reacclimate, to life on campus. Encourage them to pursue connections beyond the classroom. While "getting out there" can be daunting, joining organizations and attending events are some great ways to build community.

[Read more.](#)

UPDATES & REMINDERS

Financial Reminders

- **Students can grant proxy access to their NorseHub accounts** so that parents or guardians can view financial aid offers, statement of account balances, and academic information electronically. Due to privacy rights, the college cannot share a student's information without their consent and the student can select the information that they want to share.
- **Student account balances over \$1,000** (after scheduled payments) were assessed a \$100 late fee on Sept. 12. Payment plans are available. If you are concerned about your student's balance or being able to make a payment, please reach out to studentaccounts@luther.edu so that we can work with you and your student. We can set up a virtual meeting via Zoom, Google Hangouts, or simply talk over the phone.
- **The 2023-24 FAFSA will be available for completion** online at studentaid.gov beginning Oct. 1. Families will use 2021 Federal tax information to complete their FAFSA.
- **Students with an outstanding balance due for Fall Semester or a J-Term Study Away** need to secure a Federal PLUS or private loan now if they have not done so already.
- **The Financial Aid Office has begun awarding endowed scholarships.** In most cases, these scholarships do not increase a student's overall financial support; it is simply replacing a portion of a student's Luther Grant by identifying the actual source of the funding in the financial aid offer. Current levels of scholarship and grant assistance would not be possible without the generous support of donors.
- **In August, the Biden-Harris Administration announced one-time student loan debt relief.** More information can be found at studentaid.gov/debt-relief-announcement/. This relief applies to Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans as well as Federal Direct Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students (PLUS).

New.luther.edu

A new version of www.luther.edu launched on August 31. It reflects Luther's latest strategies in messaging and branding, and new underlying technology (the WordPress content management system) that will benefit the college. While the homepage is directed primarily toward student recruitment, we also launched a special "gateway page" for parents and families. From the homepage, you can choose "Information for Parents and Families" to discover [programs, events, news, and information especially for parents and families](#).

Note that as you dig into the Luther website, you will see different page structures and designs. Over the coming months, we will complete the process of migrating the entire Luther website into the new content management system.

Family Weekend September 23–25

Family Weekend is an ideal time for you to experience Luther College and explore Decorah. We invite you to let your student be your host as we gather as a community both on campus and in the surrounding area.

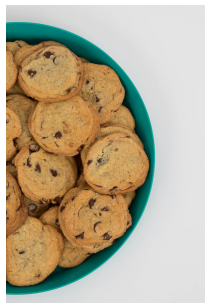
[Pre-registration for Family Weekend](#) is open through 5 p.m. CDT Wednesday, Sept. 21. Not sure of your plans? No problem! Pre-registration is not required and you can register at the Dahl Centennial Union between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 21.

Highlights for the [Family Weekend](#) include the Class of 2023 reception for seniors (families welcome!), the first annual Luther Book Shop 5k fun run/walk, David Faldet's *LC History: A Little Place of Learning in the Heart of America*, concerts, athletic events, and worship on Sunday morning. We hope to see you there!



Christmas at Luther 2022: The Gifts They Gave Emmanuel, December 1–4

Ticket sales begin for parents and families of student performers at 9 a.m. CDT Tuesday, Sept. 20. Login to your account (or create an account if it's your first purchase) at tickets.luther.edu. To activate the "buy" button, you'll need to enter the promo code that will be emailed to you the evening of Sept. 18. Your student performer has also been informed of the promo code you should enter—ask them! Performer families are limited to a maximum of six in-person tickets. Tickets for alumni will go on sale Oct. 11, and for the general public on Nov. 8. Livestream tickets will be available after Oct. 1. Performance dates and times are listed on the [Christmas at Luther website](#).



Luther College Woman's Club Treat Orders

The Luther College Woman's Club has been offering treats and fruit baskets for Luther students for more than 60 years. All proceeds return to Luther College in the form of scholarships for deserving students. To date, over \$325,000 has been given to the college as a result of this service. [Place your treat order today!](#)

CONNECT WITH CAMPUS

Hispanic Heritage month ...



Luther Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

Starting Sept. 15 through Oct. 15 we're recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month.

A series of events have been planned to celebrate Hispanic American individuals with roots in Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

"For more than 40 years, Hispanic Heritage Month (also known as LatinX Heritage Month) has been a national celebration. It is important we highlight and show appreciation for the rich history, heritage and contributions of the LatinX community throughout our nation and beyond. In the U.S., the LatinX population has reached over 60 million in 2020, making them the nation's second-fastest-growing racial or ethnic group after Asian Americans. The growth and impact of this vibrant community are evident and should be honored." – Dr. Robert Clay, Luther's chief equity and inclusion officer. [Read more.](#)

