

BELIN-BLANK

Residential Handbook



Welcome!

Dear Belin-Blank Center Students and Families,

Welcome! We are very pleased that you will be joining us here at The University of Iowa for one of our many pre-college summer programs. This Student Handbook is designed to answer your questions and to help you and your parents know more about what to expect when you arrive on campus.

The Belin-Blank Center has an excellent reputation of providing high quality academic courses along with rewarding out-of-class programming. Each member of our Resident Advisor (RA) Staff completes a week-long training that focuses on providing a safe, comfortable, and enriching environment. We assume responsibility for students 24 hours a day and keep our student-to-RA ratio at approximately 10:1.

Please visit our “Summer on the Brain” link on our webpage at www.belinblank.org/summer. The Summer on the Brain site contains program information and updates, along with a handy page called “@BBC” where you can see photos of student groups, find out when Openings and Closings are, and learn ways you can connect to the Belin-Blank Center via social media.

As always, feel free to call with any questions or concerns you or your family may have. Our phones are answered 8:30 AM until 4:30 PM, Monday-Friday. We do have voicemail if you wish to leave a message after hours. Calls are answered the following business day. If you need to reach your child due to an emergency, please call our office during our office hours; after-hours, call the 24-hour desk at Burge Residence Hall. The numbers are listed below.

We believe that you will have an exceptional academic and social experience as part of the Belin-Blank Center Summer Programs and look forward to seeing you soon!

*Sincerely,
Jan Warren
Assistant Director for Student Services*

*Belin-Blank Center
9:00 AM-4:30 PM Monday-Friday
(319) 335-6148*

*Burge Hall 24-Hour Desk
Emergency Only
(319) 335-3091*

Directions to the Belin-Blank Center

Please note that Dubuque St. (exit 244) will be under heavy construction all summer. We suggest you use an alternate exit to get to campus from I-80.

From the East (I-80):

Take the Dodge St. exit (246) and head south. Follow Dodge St. approximately 1.5 miles to Bloomington St. and turn right. Continue on Bloomington St. for 6 blocks when you will turn right onto Clinton St. Burge Hall will be on your left. The Blank Honors Center is next door, to the south of Burge.

From the West (I-80):

Take the 1st Ave. exit (242) and head south. Follow 1st Ave. to 2nd St./US 6 and turn left. Continue on 2nd St./US 6 for approximately 1.5 miles. Turn left on Iowa Ave. and continue to the stoplight. Turn left on Madison St. After one block, turn right on Jefferson St. After 2 blocks, turn left on Clinton St. and continue for 2 ½ blocks. Burge Hall will be on your left. The Blank Honors Center is next door, to the south of Burge.

From South of Iowa City (Hwys. 1, 6 & 218): Take Riverside Dr. north to Burlington St. Turn right (east) on Burlington and proceed to the third traffic light (Clinton St.) Turn left (north) on Clinton St. and continue through five stoplights to Burge Hall (on your left). The Blank Honors Center is directly adjacent to Daum Hall.

Parking

Limited parking is available on the street outside of Burge Hall. Because a number of students will be arriving and departing on the same day, we ask that you only park near Burge while you are moving your belongings in or out. There is a parking ramp located behind the Blank Honors Center (North Ramp). To reach the North parking ramp, go south on Clinton to Market St. Turn right onto Market, go to the end of the street and turn right (Madison Ave). Follow Madison to the parking ramp entrance. Take the elevator to the top level of the ramp. BHC is located diagonally across from the ramp.

Getting Started

Summer on the Brain Website Our online [Summer on the Brain](#) is designed for students and families. The links for the [@BBC](#) page and the [Handbooks](#) will be especially helpful. From these pages, you will find a listing of Opening and Closing times, an overview of residence hall services and amenities, as well as other helpful information.

Welcome to Burge Hall! This will be your home during your stay on the U of I campus. Burge Hall has a lounge on the main floor, laundry facilities, and vending machines. A meal plan is included in your program registration fee, so students have no need to bring food to summer programs. To make this experience rewarding and fun for everyone, we have some basic rules, guidelines and other information to ensure the comfort and safety of you and your fellow residents.

The Residence Hall Staff The Residence Advisors (RAs) for your program will be living on the floors with you and are responsible for daily programming and assisting you throughout your program. There will be several different programs taking place at the same time, each with its own RA staff. Resident Advisors have received training for their work with pre-college students and are under the supervision of the Belin-Blank Center administrative staff.

Check-in Procedure On the opening day of your program, check-in will be held in the lobby of Burge Residence Hall, which is adjacent to the Blank Honors Center (BHC). This is where you begin. If you flying to the Eastern Iowa Airport, please notify the Belin-Blank Center in advance.

Getting Started

Openings

After you check into the residence hall, an Opening for students and parents will be held for your program. Times and locations for Openings and Closings are also listed under the [@BBC](#) link on the [Summer on the Brain](#) website. The Opening will give you an opportunity to learn more about the faculty, meet staff, and to ask any questions you may have about the summer program.

Students should be completely checked in before the Openings. Following the Openings, there will be a brief opportunity for any last minute questions and to give family members a chance to say good-bye.

Your room will be checked at check-out time for any damages or missing items. Please be aware that you will be charged for the full amount of any repairs or replacements. When leaving, be sure to double-check your room so that you don't leave anything behind.

During your stay it is important that you **do not:**

- put tape or stickers on the walls or doors
- remove furniture from the room
- remove window screens
- put mattresses on the floor

Residence Life

Roommates

Each room houses two or three students participating in the same program. Males and females are assigned to separate floors. Living in a close group, you will likely develop friendships and learn a great deal about people after knowing them for only a short time. It is important for you to respect other people and their rights. Keep your room neat and orderly and keep in mind that you are sharing your living space with others.

Activity Groups/Color Groups

Students will be assigned to activity groups, sometimes referred to as color groups. When participating in recreational activities and traveling on field trips, etc., you will often be asked to meet as an activity group. Students are expected to be with their own activity group during these times.

What to Bring

Clothing

Dress for most classes and activities will be casual. Jeans or shorts with short-sleeved shirts are fine for everyday wear. A light jacket, sweatshirt or sweater will come in handy for cool days and overly air conditioned classrooms. Please keep in mind that while it is summer, we expect all students to dress appropriately.

For outdoor activities, you will want comfortable clothes you don't mind getting dirty and at least one pair of active-wear shoes. Bringing rain gear such as an umbrella and/or a raincoat is highly suggested.

In addition to your regular clothing, you might want to bring at least one set of dress clothes for dances and special events.

Items which will be provided

Bed linens, towels, washcloths and a blanket and pillow will be furnished and changed weekly. You should plan to bring additional towels in case you go to the pool or the lake. It is suggested that you bring colored towels since white towels may get mixed with the University linens. Also, if you are used to sleeping with an extra pillow or blanket, you'll want to bring one with you.

Additional items you should pack

- Personal grooming items (soap, shampoo, toothbrush, etc.)
- Laundry soap and laundry bag
- Sunblock
- Umbrella and/or rain gear
- Medicines may be stored in RA rooms. However, **staff may not administer any medication.**
- Swim wear and beach towel

Rules and Regulations

Rules and Regulations

Students may not have guests of the other gender in their rooms at any time. (Family members helping with moving in or out are welcomed.) You may not cook in your room, but you may bring snacks to your room from the vending areas. “Lights Out” will be between 10:30 PM and 11:00 PM, depending on the program.

Discipline

The following behaviors are considered detrimental and may result in expulsion from the program:

- willful damage or vandalism to property belonging to the University or another individual
- misuse of fire equipment, including pulling of false fire alarms or misuse of a fire extinguisher
- possession or use of alcohol, tobacco or any controlled substances
- unexcused absence from program classes or irresponsible behavior in class
- willful or consistent misbehavior
- absence from the program without permission
- operation of, or riding as a passenger in, any vehicle not authorized for summer program purposes
- failure to comply with program rules or with requests made by any program staff member.
- **Students are expected to respect the safety and dignity of others at all times.**

Loss and Damage

For your safety, and the protection of your belongings, **always lock your door** at night and whenever you leave your room. If you suspect a theft, report it immediately to your RA. If you lose something, you can inquire at the Burge Hall front desk. For items lost outside the residence halls, the campus Lost & Found office is in the University Capitol Center (UCC). Carry your key and a form of identification with you at all times.

Emergencies

Fire & Tornado Drill

Residence staff will instruct students about tornado and fire drills during residence hall orientation. All students must respond to fire alarms and tornado warnings as directed by staff members. Health and other emergency procedure details will be given to students when they arrive on campus.

Miscellaneous

If you experience any emergency (such as injury, illness, etc.), please contact residence staff immediately.

Activities and Events

Throughout your program there will be residential activities scheduled for participation by all program students. Following is a list of some possible special events that may be scheduled. Students may check the daily program schedule, posted on the door of each RA, for event times and locations.

Openings

A special welcome will be given by the program administrator, staff, faculty, and special guests. Participants and their families are invited to attend.

Class Activities

Classes may have their own fieldtrips during the day such as theatre performances, local bookstores, museums, and other university destinations.

Summer Program Dances

Participants in Belin-Blank Center programs may have a dance and movies during their stay.

Other Activities

Other possible activities may include painting pottery, fencing, doing tie-dye, team building activities, karaoke, introductory dance or marital arts lessons, or a variety of cultural and recreational activities available on and near The University of Iowa campus.

Closings

Parents, families, and friends are encouraged to attend the Closing for the program. Time and location will be provided for each program.

Daily Schedule

Daily Schedule

Each day of the program will include a variety of academic and co-curricular activities. Weekdays will be structured with classes in the mornings, and workshops, labs, and special events filling the afternoons. Evenings and weekends will be more flexible with a variety of cultural, social, and recreational activities.

7:00-7:30 AM – Wake up! Students are responsible for setting their own wake-up time.

7:00-8:45 AM – Breakfast All meals will be served in the Burge Dining Hall.

9:00-12:00 PM – Morning Academic Session

12:00-1:00 PM – It's back to Burge Hall for lunch.

1:00-4:00 PM – Afternoon Academic Session

5:00-6:00 PM – Dinner is served in Burge dining hall.

6:00-9:30 PM – Evening activity Check the daily schedule located on your RAs door for details.

10:00-10:30 PM – Curfew All students must be on their floors by the time designated.

10:30 PM – Bed check Students must be in their own rooms ready for bed check.

11:00 PM – Lights out You may be used to staying up later, but with the busy schedule you will need your sleep.

Visitation and Weekends

Visitation

Parents are encouraged to visit the campus any Sunday morning during the residential program. Students may leave the campus with their parents and/or guardian(s) during this time. Each student and his/her parent should sign a release form before the student leaves the residence hall. A staff member will be on duty Sunday mornings to facilitate this process. The student should report to the staff member on duty when he or she returns to the residence hall. If the student will be leaving with anyone other than a parent or guardian, the program office must have written permission from a parent or guardian before the student will be allowed to leave. If you have further questions, please contact the Belin-Blank Center at 1-800-336-6463.

Weekend Schedule

Saturdays will be spent on field trips, cultural events, and recreational activities for the entire group.

Finishing Up

Check-out Procedure

You may check out of the residence hall after the Closing on the final day of your program. Once you have all of your belongings out of the room, lock the door behind you and return your key to the Burge Hall front desk, where Burge desk staff will officially check you out of your room.

Stay Connected

After you leave for home, be sure to stay connected with all of the happenings at the Belin-Blank Center. Follow us on [Facebook](#), read our [Vision Newsletter](#), or catch up on our [blog](#). You can also find the slideshow from the Closing and group photos on our [@BBC](#) link.

