

ELMIRA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF CAMPUS LIFE

August 10, 2023

Dear Returning Residential Students,

The Residence Life staff has received numerous requests this year for **early move in** to the residence halls from returning students. Our policy is, **and has always been**, that returning students do not move back to campus until the Sunday just prior to classes beginning, unless you are a pre-season athlete, resident assistant, orientation leader, or have other college-related activities that mandate you returning to campus early. Exceptions may have been made in the past few years; however, we are returning to upholding our dates/times for returning to campus moving forward. The dates for returning to the residence halls are always published on the [Elmira College Academic Calendar](#), as well as sent out via campus email from the Office of Residence Life.

The only exceptions being made this year include students returning from another country, traveling a great distance from another state, medical reasons, or other case-by-case extreme extenuating circumstances (and very few are being approved). Stating that it is an inconvenience to your family (e.g., parents work on Monday), is not an extenuating circumstance. Please understand that our Fall Welcome for first-year and transfer students is taking place on Saturday, and our staff are very involved in those activities. We have a small professional staff of only four people in Residence Life, and we have policies and procedures in place to be sure that our move in process is streamlined and managed well (documents to complete, keys given, etc.). There is so much more that goes on behind the scenes than just "moving in." Each exception disrupts that process. Also, meal plans for the dining hall do not begin until Sunday, so no food is available prior to that date for returning students.

Thursday to Saturday is the time period for our new, incoming students to experience their transition to college without other students on campus, unless they are involved in Fall Welcome activities. I'm sure you can remember back to when you first started at EC and how special it was to have the campus all to yourself to acclimate before everyone else returned. That is our tradition, and we want to uphold it. Thank you for understanding that we are not trying to be punitive in any way, there are reasons why we ask you to move back to campus **during your assigned time**.

I will be sharing another email soon with important information about Term I, and I look forward to welcoming you back to campus on Sunday, August 27. Please plan accordingly, and do not request early move in **unless you have extreme extenuating circumstances** (not for convenience). Thank you so much for your understanding and compliance.

Sincerely,
Liz

Dr. Elizabeth A. Lambert
Vice President of Campus Life
Dean of Students