

Moving to Marquette

Helpful tips from Nancy Leonard

The following guide has been prepared by a Marquette mom from California to help parents with this seemingly daunting task.

Getting to Milwaukee

Book flights early and often. As soon as the school calendar is published and when your student knows their schedule, book the air for mid-semester breaks, holidays and the end of the year.

Southwest is a good choice as there is no fee for checked bags (up to 2 bags per person) and no charge for changing tickets.

Getting to Marquette

Transportation

Marquette is about a 20 minute drive from the airport. For move-in week, renting an SUV is very helpful. You will be glad for the extra space if you choose to purchase bulky items in Milwaukee from Best Buy (TV, for example), Target and Bed, Bath & Beyond (drawers for extra storage, etc). Book your rental car early as SUV's book fast.

Another option is *Go Airport Connection*, a van service that provides transportation to and from the airport. Their website is www.goairportconnection.com. Students may book their rides online using a credit card and the service will determine when they will be picked up at their dorm based on the flight information provided. Flight status is monitored by the service so there is no need to contact them should there be delays.

Accommodations

Again, book early and often. Downtown hotels fill up fast. Remember the University of Wisconsin has a Milwaukee campus and Milwaukee has many other events including concerts, festivals and conventions. Book hotels as soon as you know the dates for move-in, Family Weekend, and any other time you plan on visiting.

There are many great hotels in Milwaukee. The school's website lists different options. The Ambassador Hotel is close to school and within walking distance. A Marquette alumnus owns the property and gives a discount to Marquette students and parents. Call the hotel to book the special Marquette rate. A big plus is that parking at the Ambassador is free. Other amenities include a good restaurant, bar and coffee shop plus coin laundry facilities.

Getting the “Stuff” to School

While you may send packages to your student during the year (more on that later), the university does not accept packages at the dorms during move-in.

There are a few options:

1. If you are staying at a local hotel, send them ahead to the hotel. Call the property to let them know they are coming and to check if it's OK. The Ambassador Hotel gladly holds them for you in a locked room.
2. USPS - If you are sending USPS, send them parcel post and allow at least 10 working days. It is much less expensive that way, especially for the big boxes. They also have Priority Mail flat rate boxes for smaller items. The boxes are a good deal if you fill them up.
3. UPS – You can ship ahead and have them held at the Milwaukee UPS facility or have them held at the hotel. Check with UPS first for policies and charges, if any, for holding at their facility.
4. Fed-Ex – Another, albeit, more expensive option. Packages can also be held for pick-up at the Fed-Ex facility or, again, at the hotel. Check with Fed-Ex first for policies and charges, if any, for holding at their facility.

Preparing the Room

Regardless of your student's Residence Hall, if you decide to loft the beds it is highly recommended that you pre-purchase the loft supplies via the information that is mailed to your home. The loft supplies are delivered to your student's dorm room and are waiting for you as early as the scheduled drop-off day. If you are able to construct the lofts during the drop-off period, do so. Move-in day then, can be for unpacking and running errands to get more stuff, activities that take up the entire day.

Shopping

Malls

The suburbs of Milwaukee have excellent malls, including the Bayshore Town Center (Glendale), Mayfair Mall (Wauwatosa), and Brookfield Square (Brookfield). Purchasing large items such as a television and DVD player may be done by telephone at some of the larger retailers, such as Best Buy. They will hold the item for you and you can pick it up when you arrive in Milwaukee. There is a Best Buy located across the street from the Mayfair Mall.

Milwaukee Neighborhoods

East Town, Brady Street, and the Third Ward Historic District also have boutiques and retail shops students and parents frequent.

The Office Max on Wisconsin Avenue downtown has an excellent selection of school, office and dorm room supplies, including the endless number of hooks you'll need to hang wet towels, purses, etc...You may park in the parking structure behind the store and get your parking validated.

Go online to www.visitmilwaukee.org for more information about the city and to order, free of charge, the Milwaukee Visitor's Guide.

Etc...

Walgreen's is across the street from McCormick Hall. If your student takes prescriptions on a regular basis you might consider getting them transferred to this pharmacy.

Target and Bed, Bath and Beyond are a close driving distance from campus.

Mail

Mailboxes and a mailroom to hold larger envelopes and packages are located in each dorm and are opened with the student's room key. Fed Ex, UPS and other mail services also deliver to the dorms: Address mail to:

Student Name
Marquette University
Dorm Name; Room Number
Dorm Address
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Dorm names and addresses are found on Marquette's Office of Residence Life on the webpage. See www.marquette.edu/ORL for more information.