

Welcome Weekend 2026

PennWest
CALIFORNIA

Move-In Day (Friday)

All Offices Open

8 a.m.-4 p.m.

New Student Move-In for Last Names A – M

9 a.m.-noon | All Residence Halls

New Student Move-In for Last Names N – Z

Noon-3 p.m. | All Residence Halls

Move-In Day Picnic

11 a.m.-3 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Gold Rush Dining Hall

The annual Move-In Day Picnic provides a welcome opportunity for students and their families to take a break in a comfortable, air-conditioned setting. The picnic gives parents and family members a chance to have last-minute questions answered, meet other families, gather important information and enjoy lunch with their students before departing campus.

Welcome Weekend Table Fair

11 a.m.-3 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Outside Gold Rush Dining Hall

FIRST Night

FIRST Night Dinner

4:30-6 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Gold Rush Dining Hall

Don't miss out on the First Night Dinner. ALL new students are welcome!

Commuter Social

5:30-6 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Gold Rush Dining Hall

Come learn more about your “home away from home” and connect with fellow commuter students.

Residence Hall Meetings (MANDATORY)

5:45 p.m. | Steele Hall (meeting locations will be posted in your assigned residence hall)

All on-campus residents will be required to meet with their residence director to go over rules, hall-specific materials and conduct.

FIRST Night Registration for Commuters

6 p.m. | Steele Hall

FIRST Night

6:30-8:30 p.m. | Steele Hall

- Meet campus representatives and receive a warm welcome as the newest members of the PennWest family!
- FIRST Night Trivia. Put your PennWest California knowledge to the test! Enjoy a fun evening of friendly competition, prizes and opportunities to learn more about campus.
- The BIG Connect! This interactive experience is for everyone joining the PennWest family for the first time and is a perfect way to make new and lasting campus friendships. You won't want to miss out on the action!

FIRST Night Late Night Snack

8 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Performance Center Lobby

Enjoy a late-night snack of walking tacos, courtesy of Student Engagement

FIRST Night Entertainment

8:30 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Performance Center

Student Activities Board presents Free Money Game Show

Day 2 (Saturday)

Breakfast

9-10 a.m. | Natali Student Center – Gold Rush Dining Hall

Limited Campus Offices Open

10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Open offices include Admissions, Financial Aid, Student Accounts, Office of the Registrar, Wellness Services, Office for Students with Disabilities, Information Technology Services, Parking, Residence Life and Housing, Student Success and One Card (ID) services.

PennWest Campus Essentials

10 a.m.-noon | Duda Hall – Rooms 103, 202 and 303

Key resources, services and information that will support your success at PennWest:

- **Career Services** – Explore student employment opportunities, learn how to use Handshake and discover career coaching resources.
- **Mental Wellness** – Learn about services that support personal, emotional and social well-being, as well as the PennWest Bystander Intervention Team (BIT) and how students can help foster a safe and supportive campus community.
- **Dean of Students** – Review the Student Code of Conduct
- **Office of Community, Opportunity, Responsibility and Engagement (CORE)** – Connect with campus traditions, resources and opportunities while being welcomed into the PennWest community.

Lunch

Noon-2 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Gold Rush Dining Hall

Take a Break!

2-3 p.m.

Take a minute to relax, set up your room, call home or explore campus. Keep an eye out for pop-up activities and opportunities happening throughout the afternoon.

Returning Student Move-In

9 a.m.-3 p.m. | All Residence Halls

Meet Your Welcome Weekend Leader (first-year students)

3-5 p.m. | Duda Hall – Rooms 103, 202 and 303

Our Welcome Weekend leaders are experienced PennWest students who are here to help you navigate your transition to campus life. Take advantage of this opportunity to ask questions, learn from their experience and connect with fellow first-year students. All students attending this event will receive a free T-shirt.

- Student lead Top 10
- Getting involved
- Campus connections
- Dining Services – Learn how to use your meal plan
- Tie-dye T-shirts

Dinner

4-7 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Gold Rush Dining Hall
Open to all students.

Welcome Weekend Table Fair

4:30-6:30 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Outside Gold Rush Dining Hall

Late Night Entertainment

7:30 p.m. | Duda Hall Lawn

4th Annual California Block Party

9:30 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Performance Center

Student Activities Board presents Grocery Store Bingo immediately following the fireworks.

Day 3 (Sunday)

Sunday Brunch

10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Gold Rush Dining Hall
Your meal plan officially begins.

Non-Denominational Spiritual Services

10 a.m.-noon | Natali Student Center – Vulcan Theatre

Choose Your Adventure!

10 a.m.- 2 p.m. | Various Locations

Have some fun shooting hoops on the outdoor courts, challenge friends to a game of cornhole, or relax with a beginner yoga class. Please note that some activities are offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Zipline

10 a.m.-2 p.m. | Keystone Lawn

Club and Organization Fair

2-3:30 p.m. | In front of Natali Student Center on 3rd Street

Dinner (Meal Plans)

4-7 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Gold Rush Dining Hall

Explore Campus

3:30-5 p.m. | Natali Student Center – Information Tent

Find classrooms, finalize schedule details, ride the bus and more.

PennWest Celebrates

8 p.m. | Steele Hall

Wrap up Welcome Weekend and celebrate the start of your PennWest journey.

Sponsored by the Student Government Association.

All Weekend:

- Information Tent – Located in front of Natali Student Center
- Bookstore open
 - Friday: 9 a.m.-4 pm. / Saturday and Sunday: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Pop-up events
- Bus service to shopping locations