
College Life



COLLEGE LIFE

Student Development

Part of Rockhurst's unique strength lies in the network of student development opportunities that contribute to the well-rounded development of the individual outside the classroom. The Student Development department consists of the following areas:

- **Access:** Rockhurst University welcomes qualified students from diverse backgrounds and strives to maintain an atmosphere of respect and sensitivity toward the ultimate dignity of every person. Rockhurst University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, disability or any other status protected by applicable law in the administration of its educational policies and other University-administered programs. It is the policy of Rockhurst University to provide reasonable accommodations for students defined as disabled in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other applicable law.

The Access Office assists Rockhurst University in complying with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students interested in a reasonable accommodation must identify themselves to the Access Office, request reasonable accommodation and provide documentation as the Access Officer may direct. The Office then is able to facilitate reasonable accommodation for equal access to academic and other University-administered programs. The Access Office is located in Massman Hall, Room 7, (816) 501-4689.

- **Administration/Dean of Students:** Students with general questions and concerns as well as in need of guidance about opportunities and responsibilities are invited to come to this office. It also publishes the *Student Handbook* annually that provides additional information about campus life as well as all policies that affect students. Students in crisis can also receive assistance and consultation about campus and community resources. In addition, the office coordinates international and domestic service trips over spring break and the summer in conjunction with several academic programs at the University.
- **Campus Ministry:** Rockhurst is a proudly Catholic and Jesuit university. The campus ministers strive to serve that community of faith and to support people of other faith traditions as well. We embrace Jesuit traditions, especially "developing the whole person and becoming a person for others."

To help our students strengthen their spiritual life, we provide daily and weekly Eucharistic liturgies at which students act as the liturgical ministers. A variety of retreats are offered each semester, such as the "Frosh Get-A-Way," the Retreat on the Rock, the Busy Person's Retreat, the 5th Week Retreat, the SuperNatural Christians (backpacking) Retreat, and the Next Step: Senior Retreat. Each year students are selected to be Campus Ministry Student Leaders in the areas of liturgy, music, social justice, social events, and spiritual life.

Students may also choose to join a small faith sharing group, bible study group, or Catholic inquiry classes. The Campus Ministry staff is always available to students and faculty and staff who wish to discuss issues relating to their faith journey in an open, honest, and confidential manner. The offices are located on the lower level of Massman Hall.

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- **Career Services:** The mission of Career Services is to assist students in assessing their talents and interests, identifying their career goals, and learning career planning and job search strategies. The professional staff provides individual career advising, Strong Interest Career Inventory, the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, Holland Self-Directed Search, SigiPlus (a computerized career exploration tool), and career planning classes for credit (CT 1120 for sophomores and CT 4220 for seniors). Also, opportunities are available for assistance with choosing a major, networking, interviewing, resumes and cover letters, and job search strategies.

Students are encouraged to establish a relationship with Career Services early in their academic career by establishing their individualized web-based RU Career Account. Opportunities for work-study, part-time, intern, co-op, and full-time work opportunities are available for student review, along with the opportunity for students to electronically post their resumes. Many employers visit campus each year via career fairs and campus interviews, or directly request student resumes through the Career Services web resume books. In addition, the web page provides links to career resources, job listings, employer sites, and career search tips.

- **Goppert Cooperative Education Program (Co-op):** This Career Services program provides an excellent opportunity to apply skills and knowledge in a professional work environment before graduation. Participants are able to make more informed decisions on their career direction after experience in their field of study.

Co-op is a paid, structured internship program with work periods corresponding in length to a semester or a summer break. Academic credit is earned for each work period based upon the number of hours completed. Undergraduate students can earn up to six (6) hours of elective credit toward degree requirements. In addition to academic credit, a letter grade is awarded based on the employer's evaluation of the student's work performance and an assigned work project paper submitted by the student.

To be eligible for the program, students must have completed 60 hours prior to the work period and maintained a minimum 2.0 GPA. Transfer students must complete one semester of full-time classes at Rockhurst University prior to starting a co-op work position.

CP 3910, 3920. Co-op Work Projects I, II (1-3)

Work experience that is off-campus, paid, and provides students exposure to employment in various organizations. Ideally, employment will be in an area as closely related to the student's major as possible. Students must have completed 60 hours of college work prior to the first work period, and have a minimum 2.0 GPA. Transfer students must complete one semester of classes at Rockhurst before their first work period. Each course can be taken only once for a maximum of three hours per course.

- **Conference Services:** Conference Services organizes summer conference programs for internal and external groups holding camps and overnight conferences on campus. Conference Services coordinates room reservations, meal arrangements, and audio-visual needs for special events and meetings for summer conference groups.
- **Counseling Center:** The college years contain exceptional opportunities for intellectual discovery, as well as personal growth and development. Students are faced with multiple decisions regarding their individual behavior and identity development, relationships with peers and family, and academic progress. Taken together, the academic, social and psychological challenges encountered by students can be stressful and demanding. Students often seek assistance in developing useful skills and coping strategies as they navigate through the transitions inherent in this period of their lives.

The Counseling Center is a supportive resource for students to help address these life challenges and obtain maximum benefit from their college experience. Individual and group counseling are available with a licensed psychologist or counselor to address student concerns in a confidential setting. The Counseling Center is actively involved in promoting healthy development and overall wellness through sponsorship of PEERS (Positively Educating Each Rockhurst Student) and the Social Mentors programs. Additionally, workshops and other outreach activities are offered to those students wishing to enhance their personal skills and effectiveness with the help of Counseling Center staff. A range of consulting services is also available to all students, faculty and staff. The Counseling Center contributes to the Rockhurst mission of creating an environment within which students can develop not only intellectually but as whole persons.

- **Health Services:** Rockhurst University operates a Health Services clinic open during regular hours each week that is staffed by a nurse practitioner and a physician. Most primary and acute care services are available through the clinic. Most insurance plans can be billed for services received. A physician from the Goppert Family Care Center at Baptist-Lutheran Medical Center is available to Rockhurst students 24 hours a day should an urgent need arise outside of Health Services hours. Rockhurst has an admission policy requiring all incoming students to show proof of immunity to measles (rubeola), either by vaccination or history of the disease. Effective 2004, there will be a meningococcal disease (meningitis) education and vaccination requirement for all students who reside on campus. The requirements must be met either by providing documentation of the vaccination or by completing a waiver indicating that the student has received the information and decided not to have the vaccination.
- **Multicultural and International Affairs:** This service seeks to create a greater awareness of diversity of individuals through active involvement and interactions with the entire campus. The office is working toward a more diverse atmosphere on campus with administrators, staff, faculty, and students. International student services provide vital immigration services to international students, administrators, faculty, and staff with regard to non-immigrant visas and status.
- **Orientation/Retention Services:** Orientation/Retention Services facilitates new students' adjustment to Rockhurst by providing support, answering questions and assisting in problem solving. The goal of the office is to ensure that the new student's first year at Rockhurst is successful and satisfying, beginning with orientation.

On the Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday before regular fall semester day classes begin, all new freshman students are required to be present for a special orientation program. A brief program is also designed for transfer students. Freshmen and transfer students also complete the formal registration process at this time.

The series of orientation talks, discussions, a service project and social opportunities begun during these days is designed to introduce students to Rockhurst's mission of learning, leadership, and service in the Jesuit tradition. Students are introduced to the opportunities available for assistance in improving study habits, choosing careers, solving scholastic difficulties and interpersonal concerns. During these days students get acquainted with one another, with upperclass students, the faculty and staff. An orientation fee is required of each student.

- **Residence Life:** Residence Life considers a student's on-campus experience an integral part of the educational program. The group living situation is meant to enhance the student's classroom experiences and provide opportunities to make responsible decisions

which exercise self-discipline and concern for the needs of other students. There are different types of residential options available on campus. Incoming freshmen are housed in Corcoran and McGee Halls. The Town House Village and Xavier-Loyola Halls are for upperclassmen. Each of the housing options is staffed by a Resident Director with a staff of undergraduate resident assistants. Their main responsibility is to assist in developing an environment which is supportive of the educational mission of the University and conducive to the personal development of each student.

While the residence halls have traditionally served out-of-town students, Kansas City area students are encouraged to live on campus in order to experience campus life more fully.

Rockhurst University has a residency requirement that requires all full-time students to live with their parents or on campus unless students meet the following conditions:

- Students classified as juniors having completed 60 hours with at least a “C” grade point average.
- Students who have lived on campus for four semesters.
- Declared nursing students who reside in Research Housing Complex.
- Students who are age 23 or older.
- Students who have completed active, full-time military service.
- Students who have a spouse or dependents living with them.

Residency includes participating in the regular meal plan offered by the university food service for both fall and spring semesters, if the student resides in one of the traditional halls.

RL 2500. Resident Leadership Seminar

(2)

Fall semester

A two-credit seminar designed to provide Resident Assistants with in-depth discussion and training on topics concerning residential communities, including communication skills, confrontation, working with groups, critical issues, programming, and the importance of their role as a Resident Assistant. All Resident Assistant staff must take this course once and receive a C or higher to retain their Resident Assistant position. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.

- **Student Activities and Greek Affairs:** Student Activities and Greek Affairs provides guidance for all student clubs and organizations, supervises organized social activities, and assists those students who choose to affiliate themselves with a Greek organization during their campus experience.

Student activities at Rockhurst are intended both to provide entertainment and to contribute to a well-rounded educational experience. As a member or officer of a student organization, the student is frequently exposed to situations that offer opportunities to develop or apply organizational and leadership skills. The involvement in student groups can also expose the student to new areas of interest or experiences that complement those encountered in the classroom.

Most student organizations and the events or programs they sponsor originated as a result of the initiative of interested students. Students are encouraged to further pursue their areas of interest through the development of new student organizations or

the introduction of new programs sponsored through existing organizations. A professional student activities staff is available to advise and assist students in the pursuit of these interests. The *Handbook for Student Organizations* provides information regarding guidelines and policies for existing groups as well as procedures for the establishment of new organizations. *It's All Greek to Me* provides information on the policies and procedures for all of Rockhurst's social Greek-letter organizations. More detailed information regarding specific student groups may be found in the Student Development Office.

Student Responsibilities & Community Standards of Behavior

Rockhurst University is a community that mirrors in many ways the strengths and weaknesses of the larger society. Within this community, students, faculty, administrators and friends interact for the mutual benefit of all. The University fosters high values, standards, and goals with the hope that every student will recognize these as opportunities for personal growth.

The student code of conduct conveys the minimum essentials that experience has shown necessary to provide an atmosphere conducive to the pursuit of "Learning, Leadership, and Service in the Jesuit Tradition." These essentials are normally articulated within the Student Handbook (student creed, accompanying guidelines, and judicial review process), this Catalog, and all official notices and bulletins. Rockhurst does not condone the possession, use or distribution of marijuana, hallucinogens, narcotics, or any other illegal drugs or controlled substances by any of its students. On-campus violations will be handled through normal counseling and/or disciplinary channels as far as possible. Students are warned that violations of this kind are subject to serious legal action and penalties. Students are not permitted to possess or use alcoholic beverages while on campus, except that resident students 21 years of age or older may keep and use alcoholic beverages in their own rooms in the residence halls, or in other designated areas in accordance with the regulations and subject to the limitations and sanctions contained in the *Student Handbook*.

In addition to illegal or unhealthy uses of alcohol and other substances, the University strongly opposes physical and sexual assault as well as other forms of discriminatory harassment. Policies specific to these issues can be found in the *Student Handbook*. It is within the University's rights and in the common interest to request the withdrawal of any student whose general attitude or personal habits are not in conformity with the aim and purpose of Rockhurst University.

University Communication with Students

Clear and timely communication allows students to receive information related to policies, programs, events, and other practical matters (i.e. billing, grades, etc.) affiliated with their education at Rockhurst. The University has established several key routes for communication with students including:

- **Rockhurst E-mail Account:** All Rockhurst students receive a University e-mail account. All e-mail communication from the University is directed exclusively to the Rockhurst electronic mailbox system. Students are expected to access their e-mail account on a regular basis (daily is recommended) in order to stay abreast of important and time-sensitive information. University departments, faculty, and staff will routinely use e-mail to communicate important campus, academic, and extra-curricular/co-curricular information. It is the responsibility of each student to clean their e-mail boxes to allow capacity for incoming messages (i.e. empty deleted items, keep a limited number of sent items, etc.).

For further information on your Rockhurst e-mail account, please see Computer Services (Conway Hall 413; x4357; www.rockhurst.edu).

- **Addresses and Phone Numbers:** Students are required to maintain accurate local, billing, permanent, and emergency contact information so that attempts to communicate by the U.S. Postal System as well as phone will not be impeded. To make changes to your addresses or phone numbers of record, please visit the Rockhurst website (www.rockhurst.edu; Oracleweb section under Registrar) or contact the University Registrar (Massman Hall 110).
- **Voicemail Boxes:** Students who live in Rockhurst's residence halls, Townhouse Village, or Theme Houses are required to set up and regularly check their voicemail boxes. For assistance please speak to a Residence Life staff member or the Switchboard Operator (Massman Hall, 1st Floor Entry).
- **Campus Mailboxes:** Students who live in Rockhurst's residence halls, Townhouse Village, or Theme Houses are assigned a campus mailbox located in Massman Hall where U.S. Postal Service mail and other University communications are delivered. For assignment inquiries please connect with Residence Life (Massman Hall 2) and for mailbox malfunctions please speak with the Mailroom staff (Massman Hall, Lower Level).

Students' failure to set-up, maintain, or update any of the above communication devices will not excuse them from being responsible for information and deadlines enclosed within the attempted communications by the University. Rockhurst strongly encourages students to communicate with relevant University offices regarding information needs, questions, and concerns, and welcomes new and innovative ideas for enhancing communication with the student body as a whole.

Athletic Programs

- **Intercollegiate Sports.** In keeping with our cultural heritage and American college tradition, Rockhurst offers a competitive intercollegiate athletic program. The primary purpose is to provide talented students opportunities to participate in team competition with other colleges and universities.

Rockhurst is currently affiliated with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II and the Heartland Conference. Conference sports are baseball, basketball, golf, tennis and volleyball. Rockhurst teams participate as independents in men's and women's soccer and softball. Rockhurst's primary athletic facilities on campus are Mason-Halpin Fieldhouse for basketball and volleyball; the renovated Bourke Field for soccer; and the new baseball field, softball field, and tennis courts in Loyola Park.

The Physical Education and Convocation Center, adjacent to the fieldhouse, hosts all intramural and recreational activities. The center houses facilities for handball, racquetball, basketball, volleyball, badminton and weight exercise.

- **Intramural Sports.** Students interested in recreational opportunities through intramural competition have a full program of activities including formal tournament competition in many different sports, leading toward the All College Intramural Championship. Competing organizations, teams and individuals are urged to contact the Athletic Office in the Physical Education and Convocation Center to obtain application dates and times to assure representation in the intramural program. Currently there are more than 30 activities to choose from, including basketball, softball, volleyball, hockey, football, tennis and soccer, among others.

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- **Club Sport Program.** The Rockhurst University Club Sport Program exists to provide additional opportunities in competition and recreation for students in those physical activities which are not funded through the intercollegiate athletic program. Although the department will provide encouragement and guidance for these various affiliated clubs, the emphasis is on student interest and leadership to initiate, organize, finance and conduct their respective clubs. Currently, club teams are sponsored by the students in rugby and LaCrosse (men). All club sport teams must be registered through the Student Development Office.

Campus Security

The Rockhurst University Safety and Security Department is a full service department, which operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The department supplies a full list of protective services.

These services include:

- a. A fully staffed dispatch operation with 24 hour per day, 7 day per week emergency/non-emergency telephone answering, radio dispatching of field personnel, alarm and access control monitoring, closed circuit TV monitoring as well as customer service at a walk-up window.
- b. Armed field personnel trained internally in the use of firearms and tested annually by the Kansas City, Mo. Police Department. These Officers respond to all calls for service, both emergency and non-emergency. They also do parking control duties, and perform self-initiated activity, designed to prevent crime. They do investigations, write reports, provide escorts on campus, maintain a close, positive contact with all members of the campus community and the surrounding neighborhood. Close ties with the city police are also maintained on a continuous basis.

The Safety and Security Department is assisted in its security efforts by an extensive on-campus Security telephone system. The department patrols the campus by motorized vehicles and on foot.

The Safety and Security Department participates in the educational mission of the University by sponsoring and presenting programs on a wide range of Security and Safety related issues.

The University follows the mandates of the Campus Security Act of 1990 (now known as the Jean Cleary Campus Security Act). Copies of the Cleary Act annual security report are available to all members of the University community, as well as all others who request it.

Registration of Vehicles

Any student, faculty member, or staff member who parks in a Rockhurst University Parking lot must display a current University Parking Permit. Two permits are issued, one for display on the left front of the vehicle, either on the windshield or bumper; the other permit is displayed on the left rear of the vehicle, either in the rear window or bumper. The permits are valid for one year, from August 31 to August 31. They must be renewed each year by September 1. The permits are currently free of charge.

Although this registration does not guarantee a University parking space, it does allow

the University to limit parking to students, faculty and staff. A limited number of visitor parking stalls are available on campus. There are some areas reserved on campus, i.e., handicapped parking, Jesuit parking, visitor, etc. These stalls are all marked for recognition. Illegally parking in the visitor lot (De Lubac) will result in a “boot” or wheel immobilizer being placed on the vehicle and the payment of a \$75 fine before it can be removed.

All parking areas are well lighted and equipped with Security telephones; and in most, closed circuit television.

Parking on a Rockhurst University Parking Lot without a current permit will result in a parking violation ticket being issued. The cost of a ticket is \$5.00. If not paid by a designated date additional monetary considerations will accrue. Tickets may be issued for other violations besides no permit. The same fine applies. Parking spaces are at a premium at the University, so if a student is able, he or she might want to arrive several minutes early for class.

Identification Card

Students, faculty and employees of Rockhurst are issued a Rockhurst photo ID, which gives access to services both on and off campus. All students are required to have the ID card. The “One Card” system, implemented by the Telecommunications Office in 1997, can be used for:

- Access control to student residences.
- Access control to the 24-hour computer lab.
- Track declining balance debit card for cafeteria use.
- Library card for the Greenlease Library, as well as other Missouri academic libraries.
- Athletic equipment check out.
- Admittance to Rockhurst artistic and athletic events.
- Age identification. Two different cards are issued to Rockhurst students, one for students under the age of 21, and one for students 21 and older.

The first ID card is provided free of charge. Replacement cost of lost or stolen cards is \$25. If a student has a history of losing their card, additional charges will be added.