

AΣΦ

Indiana University
Student Handbook
2026-27

2026-27 Calendar

1st Semester

Move in Dates	Aug 19 - Aug 21
Required All-House Meeting (time TBA).....	Aug 23
Classes Begin	Aug 24
Meals Begin.....	Aug 24
Labor Day (classes do not meet).....	Sep 7
Fall Break (classes do not meet).....	Oct 9
Thanksgiving	
- Last Meal (lunch).....	Nov 20
- House Closes (6pm).....	Nov 20
- House Re-Opens (11am).....	Nov 29
Classes/Meals Resume	Nov 30
Final Exams	Dec 14 - Dec 18
Christmas/End of Semester	
- Last Meal (lunch).....	Dec 18
- House Closes (6pm).....	Dec 18

2nd Semester

House Re-Opens (11am).....	Jan 9
Classes Begin.....	Jan 11
Meals Begin.....	Jan 11
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (classes do not meet)	Jan 18
Spring Break	
- Last Meal (lunch).....	Mar 12
- House Closes (6pm).....	Mar 12
- House Re-Opens(11am).....	Mar 21
Classes/Meals Resume	Mar 22
End of Semester	
- Final Exams.....	May 3 - May 7
- Last Meal (lunch).....	May 7
- House Closes (6pm).....	May 7

NOTE: These dates based on the Indiana University Registrar's Proposed Calendar as of Feb 20, 2026 and are subject to change.

Have a Great Year!

We stand ready to help you have a safe, successful, and fun school year. Mike Pipher is the Property Manager and is responsible for such things as bricks and mortar, health and safety, and overseeing the kitchen staff. He can be found in the house nearly every weekday and some other odd hours. His office is in the southwest corner of the basement, through the exit door in the Wilcox Room (aka “Pool Room”).

Ongoing open communication and mutual respect will pay big dividends as we journey through the coming school year. We’re glad you’re here and we’re looking forward to creating a bushel basket full of success stories between now and next May.

This handbook can’t possibly cover every possible issue that you will face this year, but it is a useful resource intended to help you and your parents get a good feel for what to expect as you prepare to move back to campus this fall and progress through the school year. It provides information and suggestions that touch on many aspects of living in the house.

Our mailing address is:

**Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity
720 East Third Street
Bloomington, IN 47406-1202**

Delivery services are notorious for leaving packages on the front porch or outside the back doors. It’s important for residents to be vigilant and bring any packages into the house.

Emergencies

From time to time, the need arises for active chapter members to know what to do in cases of emergency. The following telephone numbers should be kept handy:

Police/fire/ambulance – 911

IU Police Department - (812) 855-4111

IU/Bloomington Hospital is located at 2651 East Discovery Parkway.

Should an emergency arise, a few guidelines ought to be followed:

- 1) Never assume an injury to be minor
- 2) CALL FOR HELP!
- 3) Anyone who has fallen, been hit on the head, or is unconscious should not be moved
- 4) Remember, the first four minutes of a heart or diabetes attack may determine if that person survives or not
- 5) Notify an active chapter officer of any emergency
- 6) After an emergency passes, take time to write down details of the incident.

If the chapter house should have to be evacuated for any reason, proceed IMMEDIATELY to the first floor of the Henderson Street Parking Garage (across Fess Street from the Beta Sig House) so that chapter leaders can get a head count and assess chapter members' needs.

Dealing with the Covid Pandemic

We used to think the 2019-20 school year was the most unusual year in the history of Indiana University. Then, along came 2020-21 and said, "Here, hold my beer!" Thankfully, we are starting this school year with almost no rules and restrictions like those that were in place a few years ago. But we must be ever watchful and ready to implement changes in our ways of doing things should conditions on campus and throughout the country dictate it.

An important word we will live by in the coming months is the word SAFETY. Your safety is more important to us than even your academic rigors. We are proactive in terms of cleaning efforts and healthy lifestyle practices. If we err it will be on the side of safety. We want to make sure we are doing what we can to minimize the spread of germs and illnesses. From an operational standpoint that means close attention to cleaning details. From a fraternal standpoint this situation gives every member of Alpha Sig an opportunity to show the best side of a fraternity, being your brother's keeper and dealing with health-related requirements that might limit social events and other fun things if called for. Before coming to school, you and your parents should discuss and plan for what you will do if you test positive for the Covid virus or any other serious illness.

A Beautiful, If Old, Fraternity House

The fraternity house you are moving into has been on the IU campus in one form or another for 100 years and many thousands of members have resided within its walls during that time. This beautiful English Tudor chapter house has been at its present location on East Third Street since 1925. The wood trim throughout the first floor of the house was imported from South America's Amazon Jungle; priceless and irreplaceable today. The black and white marble on the foyer floor was cut from the same Italian rock quarry that supplied Michelangelo. Our dining room parquet floor is composed of thousands of hand-cut, hand-set solid oak planks and is still mostly the original floor after 60 years of use. The three doors on the front of the house are hand-carved walnut.

The roof is all stone slate. Much of the guttering around the building is still copper. Window frames throughout the building are blacksmith hand-forged iron. The Trophy Room on the first floor has been seen in national magazine publications. Furniture throughout the main floor is original Rom Weber Viking Oak, many pieces are certified antique and very valuable as well as sturdy. The dining room tables are also custom-made Rom Weber Viking Oak pieces. Why brag about the sticks, bricks, and mortar? We want to instill a sense of pride in chapter members so they will treat the building with respect and will want to see it handed down in good shape to succeeding generations. An important note about the furniture: it should not be moved around and must never be taken outdoors. This includes dining room chairs.

Keeping the House Clean

One of the trade-offs of living independently is the need to live responsibly. The chapter house doesn't clean itself. For the most part, you must clean it -- repeatedly. It is the responsibility of everyone who lives in the house to clean up after himself and help maintain the house. If you spill something or cause a mess somewhere in the house, it only makes sense that you should clean it up rather than leave it for someone else to clean up. If you spot trash that's left lying around, please take a moment to pick it up. Hopefully, everyone will take pride in their home on campus and will want to keep it well maintained. You are responsible for discarding the trash from your own room. You need to take it out to the dumpster in the parking lot. **YOU MAY NOT** simply drop your trash bags in the hallway or in the bathrooms and expect someone else to take care of them. All supplies and tools you will need to clean and disinfect your room and other parts of the building are provided. A cleaning service has been hired to clean and disinfect important areas, **BUT THE MEMBERS OF ALPHA SIG** are responsible for keeping much of the building clean.

We have been very busy in recent months deep cleaning, literally, every square foot of the building. In addition to scrubbing and sanitizing walls and floors and applying germicidal paints in important areas, we have utilized additional germicidal tools throughout the house. As the landlord, we will continue to take responsibility for regular deep cleaning activities and specialized sanitizing in the bathrooms, the dining room, and other common areas where it's needed.

A Word About Damages

In addition to the cost of room and board, everyone who lives in the house pays a damage deposit. Everyone's damage deposit payment is held in a large pool that covers expenses when something gets broken/damaged/stolen. The Property Manager takes a photo (if possible) and the item is logged along with the actual or estimated repair/replacement cost. The Property Manager regularly shares the damage list and photos with the chapter president and alumni leaders. In turn, the chapter president is expected to share that information with the chapter so that members have an opportunity to go to the person(s) responsible and have them pay for the damages they caused. If they do not pay, or if it cannot be determined who is responsible, the costs of any such damages are deducted from the pool of damage deposits. It is an unfortunate truth that the vast majority of damages inside the house are caused by people who don't live in the house. Just as unfortunately, it is those who live in the house who get stuck with all the unpaid damage costs each year.

Move-in Do's and Don'ts

Here are a few things to consider when planning your move into the house this year. First, a lot of students make the mistake of thinking their room upstairs is their entire world. Our fraternity house is more than 20,000 square feet of ample dining, recreational, living, and sleeping spaces. Students should think of their room as a place to sleep and keep books, clothes and a few other items. **THERE ARE NOT AN INFINITE NUMBER OF POWER OUTLETS NOR AN INFINITE AMOUNT OF AMPERAGE IN THE ROOMS UPSTAIRS.** You and your roommates need to communicate and coordinate in advance to decide whose small appliances (e.g. TV, refrigerator, computers, etc.) and what furniture needs to come to school...or stay home. Microwave ovens are not allowed. There are Ethernet ports in all rooms upstairs and throughout the house. All areas of our house have access to an excellent WiFi system. Do not bring pets of any species. Animals are not welcome. No exceptions. Don't bring anything you can't take with you when you leave in the spring. We do not allow summertime storage in the building.

We supply mostly STANDARD twin bunk beds and mattresses. You need to bring your own sheets and bedding.. Alpha Sig is supplying mattresses for all bunk beds this year. We are often asked if a student may bring his own bed. Yes...if...that bed is set up in the common/living room. Bunk beds MAY NOT be removed to make room for other beds. Do not disassemble any bunk beds. There is a \$100 charge for taking apart any of the bunks.

The fraternity provides built-in armoires that have a shelf, a drawer and space to hang clothes. We have also constructed shelves in each room for storing schoolbooks/etc. There is space in the attic for you to hang seasonal clothing. There is also some limited space up there that you are welcome to use for neatly storing large items like boxes and luggage. The attic is kept locked after everyone has moved in, but is easily accessed simply by contacting Mike Pipher.

Students **MAY NOT** construct anything in the rooms upstairs or anywhere else in the house and you must NOT put nails in any walls. Nothing may be nailed or screwed to any walls, floors, or ceilings. There are plenty of ways chapter members can make their rooms attractive and comfortable without physically altering them. Past experience has shown that construction of items in the rooms upstairs has created objects that damage existing walls, floors, electrical wiring and water pipes. Also, they will probably violate fire and safety codes and even university regulations covering Greek housing (bars). Students are not allowed to construct any kind of structures, risers, platforms or

anything else in rooms throughout the building.

Students **MAY NOT** have cooking devices in their rooms upstairs, especially not microwave ovens. There are several microwaves available for use 24/7 in the Dining Room.

Students **MAY NOT** be out on any roof at any time, especially the sun deck outside of Room 202, The roof outside of Room 204, and the flat roof outside of Room 311.

If you bring a bicycle, it must be kept outside or in the basement. State law says bicycles **MAY NOT BE KEPT IN ROOMS UPSTAIRS.**

COVID-RELATED NOTE: Most rooms upstairs include a “dormer” where we have traditionally located two bunk beds to accommodate all four roommates. During the pandemic, because of county health department and university mandates, we had to change our sleeping arrangements by dismantling many bunks and moving beds into living room spaces. As we start the 2026-27 school year, the county and the university have not reinstated distancing requirements for sleeping arrangements, so the bunks are once again built into the “dormers” and that’s where they must stay. You must not attempt to disassemble any bunk beds because they will very likely be damaged in the process. Should the campus experience a Covid outbreak that prompts a return to distance-related sleeping rules, we are prepared to expeditiously return to the sleeping arrangements that were required of us during the height of the pandemic.

Prior to Move-In

You need to go online and schedule your move-in day and time in advance. Go to www.720east3rd.org and click on the Chapter Move-In Page. From there you can download a copy of this Handbook as well as select your move-in day/time. To access the move-in schedule, you’ll first need to fill out and submit your online Emergency Contact Form which is also found on the web page.

Move-in Days

This year’s move-in schedule will be simple: Everyone needs to go to our online portal at **www.720east3rd.org** and sign-up for a specific move-in day and time that begins on Wednesday, August 19 and ends Friday, August 21. When you arrive at the house, and before you move anything into the building, you must come inside to the living room check-in table. There is paperwork that must be completed before you may move anything into the building.

Before you move in, we’ll be sure:

- your lease was properly filled out and signed
- your damage deposit payment was made
- your initial housebill payment was made (*or arrangements made prior to your arrival*)
- your Emergency Contact Form was filled out and sent in prior to your arrival (see **www.720east3rd.org**)
- you provide a photocopy of your driver’s license
- you fill out a room inspection form
- you get your room key, exterior door key fob, and the Internet password

Once the paperwork is in order, you will go to your room so you can inspect it to make sure everything is in order. If anything in the room is amiss, you’ll note it on your inspection form so we can make it right. The inspection form is important because you’ll be held responsible for everything being in good order when you move out of the house. Once the form is signed, we’ll give you your room key and exterior door key fob. Everyone’s room upstairs

is provided a bottle of disinfectant, a bottle of hand sanitizer, and a package of disinfectant wipes. Please use these health-promoting items often. If you run out, we'll replace them. Disinfectant spray bottles and bottles of hand sanitizer are also located in the bathrooms and throughout the building for your use and the use of guests. Please use them freely and often.

Do not bring a window air conditioning unit. They are not allowed. We don't make this rule lightly and we will enforce it strictly. We have installed exhaust ports in room windows for those who bring floor standing air conditioners. Connect your floor standing air conditioner exhaust tubes to the available ports. Be sure you have an exhaust tube for your air conditioner. Most new air conditioners do not include the tube or the tube connection, and those are hard to find in Bloomington in August. We will have our support staff on hand from 10am to 4pm on move-in days, so if you have a problem in your room, please let us know.

BE VERY CAREFUL ABOUT BRINGING LARGE FURNISHINGS, ESPECIALLY COUCHES because every year someone brings a couch that does not fit through their room door and it must be taken back home. There are several rooms upstairs that are just not move-in friendly for furniture because of stairs and tight hallway corners. **YOU MAY NOT** take doors off their hinges or attempt to stuff in oversized furniture. You will damage the hinges and wind up paying a lot of money. Don't forget: no construction is allowed in the rooms.

You would be wise to avoid bringing in used furniture purchased locally. The City of Bloomington has a bedbug problem and used furniture like sofas, mattresses and padded chairs are common culprits.

Be Sure to Acquire Insurance

You are responsible for obtaining insurance for your own personal property. Neither the fraternity nor the landlord is responsible for losses to personal property. Ours is a beautiful home, but half of it is now 100 years old and the other half is 60+ years old. We experienced a burst water pipe in one room a couple of years ago and it ruined a student's electronic equipment. That same year, a water leak (caused by disallowed construction in the room above) damaged a student's new mattress. We do our best to minimize such problems, but they have been known to occur, and you should obtain insurance or make sure your personal belongings at school are covered under your parents' homeowner's policy.

You Brought It, You Take It Home

Whatever you bring to school this fall, you must take home with you next spring. We do not allow the storage of furnishings or personal items in the building during the summer months. One possible solution that has worked well in the past is for groups of students to get together and rent a storage garage in town for the summer.

Parking

Just about every student thinks he needs to bring his car to campus with him. Better think twice - the hassle could outweigh the benefits. There are only 24 parking spaces available to our students in our own parking lot. Aside from spaces allocated for staff, the chapter oversees deciding who will occupy those 24 spaces. Indiana University requires students to register any vehicle they bring to school. Parking space for student-owned cars and motorcycles is not always convenient. See www.parking.iu.edu for IU's regulations. It may be possible to park on off-campus streets near the fraternity house. The City of Bloomington sells parking permits for those spaces and some of our members have been able to purchase permits from the city in the past. The cost of leasing parking elsewhere is the responsibility of individual students.

Parking spaces marked “STAFF” may only be used by others after 6pm and before 6am any day of the week, unless there are special events. Those who park in STAFF spots outside those times will find their vehicles have been towed.

Smoke/Candle-Free Facility

Smoking is not allowed in our building. No candles or open flames are allowed anywhere in the building and especially are not allowed in individual rooms upstairs. Vaping is not allowed, either (yes, vape mist will set off the fire alarm). Common rooms and bedrooms upstairs are equipped with smoke detectors. Tampering with smoke detectors is illegal and will not be tolerated. A \$500 fine will be levied for tampering with any fire-related equipment in the house, along with the cost of repairing what has been tampered with.

New and Improved!

We’ve made some nice improvements in recent years. In addition to fresh paint and, quite literally, hundreds of repairs and tweaks around the building this summer, here are some recent highlights:

Upstairs Carpeting

Most rooms upstairs hallways on both floors have brand new carpeting this fall. It’s now up to you to make sure bad things don’t happen to it. If it does, you’ll be charged for replacement. Any burn marks or tears or spots that can’t be cleaned out of the carpet will result in total replacement of carpet in a room or a hallway, and the cost is deducted from the security deposit pool. To avoid tears and runs, **BE SURE TO PICK THINGS UP AND CARRY THEM – DO NOT DRAG ITEMS.** If you drag something (like furniture), it will very likely catch on the carpet and cause a nasty run. This is especially important when moving in and moving out. That’s the time when most tears occur.

2nd and 3rd Floor Bathrooms

We hope you will be pleasantly surprised, even amazed, at how nicely the 2nd and 3rd floor bathroom renovations have turned out. At a cost of more than a half million dollars, the two upstairs bathrooms are worth bragging about.

Attic Ladder

Upstairs bathroom work prompted us to install a new ladder leading up into the attic. It’s a heavy-duty model. The attic will be available during move-in for you to store seasonal clothing, luggage, boxes, etc. Once classes begin, the attic entrance is kept locked.

Projector Screen

A new 100” projector screen was installed last year above the front windows in the Dining Room, which makes a very useful tool for meetings and streaming events.

Technology

We made significant investments again this past year to modernize and keep the house WiFi network and internet service one of the best on campus. Some highlights include:

- All network wiring upgraded from Cat5 to Cat6E.
- IDF on 3rd floor to support 80+ wired ports; between 2-4 hardwired connections in each room.
- Upgraded router and security hardware to support more connections and faster internet service.
- We have an upgraded private fiber connection (300Mbps/300Mbps).

All residents are expected to use the Internet for legal, educational, and recreational purposes. Misuse of the provided network will not be tolerated and could result in blacklisting of certain web-enabled devices/websites, content filtering, content monitoring, bandwidth throttling, etc. One person had his laptop blacklisted last year because of a movie he downloaded illegally. Comcast threatened us with a costly lawsuit and nearly cut off service to our house over the incident. Nobody is allowed to alter the house Internet system or install his own router or create his own sub-network(s). All rooms upstairs have two or more operating Ethernet ports. Bandwidth intensive devices such as gaming systems must be plugged into Ethernet ports for the best performance and to prevent reduced WiFi performance for other users.

Laundry Room

Having our own laundry room downstairs in the basement is awfully handy. We will continue to provide you with free detergent and free softener sheets. The washer/dryer machines require you to download and use a phone app. Instructions for setting up the app can be found in the laundry room. The phone app lets you start machines and remotely see the status of your wash cycle and which machines are available. Costs depend on how long you want the machines to run. We were hit with a price increase mid-year last year. The laundry machine company says price increases are always possible because our lease agreement sets prices based on the volume of usage.

Mop Sink

The Laundry Room has a true mop sink that makes basement floor cleaning easier. Take care with what gets poured into the sink. The City of Bloomington has installed chemical sensors in its sanitary sewer system which can track disallowed chemical (fluorocarbons, caustic substances, paint, etc.). It's neither easy nor inexpensive to clean out that sewer line.

Vending

We have a candy vending machine in the basement. We're trying to arrange for a newer soda vending machine to replace the non-working one currently down there. Quarters work best. Crinkled bills tend to get stuck.

Ice Machine

Our ice machine was replaced last summer with a new one. The ice machine took quite a beating last year, so better care this year will keep the machine in fine working order.

Water Fountains

There are water fountains on the 2nd and 3rd floor hallways for drinking and for filling water bottles. We have experienced problems with people spitting tobacco and snuff into them, even scraping food substances into them last year. Please don't do that and don't allow others to do it.

Parking Lot #'s

Parking space numbers and staff spaces are painted on each slot and easy to see. They are re-painted periodically.

Kitchen

Every summer, the kitchen staff acquires some new toys, and this summer was no different. Anyone who has eaten at the house knows how Chef Justin and his staff are able to do wonderful things with the equipment and the skills they possess.

“Care Packages”

This is not exactly new, but it is something fairly unique within IU’s Greek community. In an effort to help our students when they’re not feeling well, we will once again provide a sort of “care package” that allows an individual to remain in bed when he is sick. The packages are put together by our kitchen staff and consist of things like vitamin drink packets, gentle foods, fruit, and bottled water. Not only does it allow a student to stay in his room and rest, but it also keeps him and his germs out of the Dining Room and away from everybody else for a day or two. This idea has paid dividends during the flu season in recent years.

Vacuum Cleaners

The good news is that we have several new vacuum cleaners this fall that everyone is welcome to use (even encouraged to!). The less-than-good news is that we acquired these new machines because we had to replace the ones that were beaten up last year or turned up missing. They are good quality commercial grade vacuums. Just remember that even the best vacuums don’t like rocks, nails, wet oatmeal, or a lot of other things that common sense dictates should be picked up BEFORE running a vacuum.

Electronic Door Locks

All four exterior doors are kept locked 24/7 and are unlocked using key fobs. The fobs are issued to each resident at move-in. Residents receive only one key fob. If it is lost or stolen, that fob is deactivated and a new one is issued at a cost of \$75. Each key fob has a unique serial number. You will need to turn in your own fob at the end of the year, not someone else’s. This is a good security tool for everyone because it limits who gets access to the building.

Room Keys

All of the rooms upstairs have a deadbolt lock. Nobody can accidentally lock himself out of his room. Room keys are issued to each resident at move-in. It’s a really good idea to have one or more copies made of your room key and then hide it somewhere so it can be retrieved if you lose your key. Room keys must be turned in when you move out. Replacements cost is \$25.

Repairs

Accidents do happen and a building with a rich history like ours requires constant vigilance and the occasional repair. We need your help keeping an eye out for things that need repair. Repair Request Forms are available. Just let our Property Manager know about problems and he will see to getting them fixed. Of course, malicious damage is a different animal and not appreciated. Alpha Sig is responsible for taking good care of the building while residing here.

Meals

Our Executive Chef, Justin Jones and the kitchen staff are all looking forward to providing you with the best meals on campus again this year. Our kitchen staff members are all Serv-Safe certified. Kitchen protocols are planned in great detail, not only to provide delicious meals, but also to prevent Covid and other illnesses among chapter members themselves. If you have food allergies or special dietary needs, please discuss them with Justin at the time you move in. He will be available on check-in days and there is a question about food allergies on the Emergency Contact Form you must fill out and turn in (online) before arriving for move-in.

New recipe requests, mealtimes, and just about anything having to do with food operations should be addressed through the chapter’s Food Committee. Once the chapter sets up that committee, Justin can meet regularly with them to discuss food-related matters.

Mealtimes to start the school year will be:

Breakfast: Monday thru Friday from 7:30am to 9:30am

Lunch: Monday thru Friday from 11:30am to 1:30pm

Dinner: Monday thru Friday from 5pm to 6pm

Saturday Brunch: From 11am to 3pm

Sunday Lunch: From 11am to 3pm

Late plates are available Monday thru Friday only to those who have conflicts with a scheduled class – AND -- have signed up for them by the daily deadline (to be established during the first week of classes). Late plates are not available because of social conflicts with mealtimes. Everyone needs to provide Chef Justin with a printout of his Schedule of Classes at the beginning of each semester.

Bathrooms

We hire a cleaning company to clean bathrooms throughout the house. The frequency of bathroom cleaning and disinfecting will be enhanced again this year. Our service cleans seven days a week. While the hired cleaning personnel are responsible for cleaning and disinfecting sinks, toilets, urinals, showers, and floors on a **NORMAL** basis, they are not responsible for **UNUSUAL** messes that seem to be a fact of life in fraternity houses. Students have been known to leave toilets plugged and there will be the occasional vomit left on a sink, toilet, floor, etc. It is this type of **UNUSUAL** cleaning that is the responsibility of Alpha Sig members themselves. If the individual who caused the mess, or the chapter, does not clean these things immediately, we will have our cleaning company do it and the cost is then deducted from everyone's security deposit. It is **VERY** expensive to have the cleaning company do these kinds of cleanups. It's also incumbent upon chapter members to cooperate with the janitorial staff when they are trying to clean bathrooms and other areas. Each bathroom will need to be off-limits to everyone for a few minutes every day so the janitor can effectively clean and disinfect. Your cooperation will be appreciated, and the facilities will be cleaner for it.