



# Your DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

December 2019 Parent e-Newsletter

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DECEMBER GRADUATES!

Congratulations to all of our December Hamline graduates! We are proud of you, Pipers, and hope that you and your loved ones will join us as we honor your academic achievements during Commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 23rd, 2020. For more information about Commencement, please visit Hamline's website at [hamline.edu/commencement/](http://hamline.edu/commencement/).

## SEMESTER BREAK AND J-TERM DATES TO KNOW

Fall semester final exams run through Thursday, December 19th. Please be aware that the University will be closed (except for key offices such as Residential Life and Public Safety) from Tuesday, December 24th through Friday, December 27th. The University will also be closed on Wednesday, January 1st.

Students who are taking a J-term (January term) course will begin classes on Monday, January 6th. The University will be closed in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 20th. J-term classes run through Thursday, January 30th. Spring semester 2020 classes begin on Wednesday, January 5th.

## J-TERM AND SPRING SEMESTER REGISTRATION REMINDER

Parents, did you know that there is still time for your student to enroll in both J-term and Spring semester courses? Taking a J-term course is a great way for students to satisfy one or even two of their Hamline Plan requirements with just one class, to explore by delving into an entire new topic of study, and to stay connected to the campus. The best part? J-term tuition is discounted 50% for undergraduate students! If you or your student would like more information about the J-term courses available at Hamline this January, please visit [www.hamline.edu/j-term/](http://www.hamline.edu/j-term/).

## FAFSA PRIORITY DEADLINE IS APRIL 20th, 2020

Winter break is a great time to work on completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) if your student plans to take classes during the 2020-2021 academic year. The priority deadline for submitting the 2020-2021 FAFSA is April 20th, 2020, and the earlier your student applies, the more grant money they are likely to receive, depending on their eligibility. Early filing also helps ensure that your student doesn't miss important deadlines for state-based funding, as state-based funding may have different deadlines than federal funding.

## WINTER BREAK PARKING

Hamline Public Safety requests that all students who plan to leave their cars on campus over winter break please move their cars to the outer edge of the parking lots in case the lots need to be plowed. If your student has any questions about parking over winter break, they are welcome to contact Public Safety at 651-523-2100.

## WINTER BREAK FINANCIAL PLANNING

With fall semester in the books and students headed home for the holidays, winter break is a great time to do some financial tidying up with your student before J-term and spring semester begin. Maybe they have questions about tuition, the cost of living on campus, or the hidden costs of living off-campus in an apartment. Do they know how to figure out how much financial aid they should take out for the upcoming semester? If they are using loans to help pay for school, do they have a sense of how much they have borrowed so far? Are they continuing to apply for scholarships and other assistance while they work on their degree?

If you or your student have questions about financial planning while attending college, you are welcome to reach out to the Hamline Financial Aid Office at 651-523-3000 or 800-888-2182.

## WINTER BREAK RESIDENTIAL LIFE REMINDERS

### Winter Break Closing Information

During this busy time of year, Residential Life needs the cooperation of all residents to successfully close their rooms for the break.

### Residential Halls:

**Residents who will not return as students must move out on or before December 20th to avoid spring term charges.** Spring term housing charges begin accruing on January 5th. Students who are not checked out by December 20th will be charged a daily rate from January 5th until the date they officially check out of their rooms.

**Residence Halls close for winter break on December 20th at 5:00 p.m. and reopen on January 5th.** A check list will be attached to each student's door outlining exactly what each resident needs to do prior to leaving campus. Students will not have access to their halls and rooms during this time period and should take all items they will need at home with them.

### Apartments/Hamline Houses:

The apartment building and Hamline houses will remain open over winter break. If your student will not be returning for spring semester, please ensure that they have submitted their contract release request to the Office of Residential Life on or before December 29th. The contract release request form is online and can be found by clicking on this [link](#). Students will need to make an appointment with an RA to check out at least 48 hours in advance of their desired check-out date. Apartment residents who are released from their housing contract must move out on or before January 15th to avoid late charges.

### J-Term Housing Information for Residence Hall Students:

Spring semester's housing contract dates are January 5th through May 22nd, 2020. J-term classes begin on January 6th.

Students may live on campus during J-term even if they are not taking a J-term class. Students who are released from their contract and move off-campus any time during spring semester will be charged for housing from January 5th until the day they officially check out with an RA. If your student is withdrawing or graduating at the end of fall semester, please note that they must check out prior to 5:00 p.m. on December 20th to avoid spring term housing and meal plan charges. Housing credits are not issued to students who choose not to live on campus during J-term.