



BRIDGTON A C A D E M Y

Message From Student Life

The Student Life Office is delighted to welcome you to Bridgton Academy! As you begin preparations for the upcoming school year, you may have questions about the start of school and campus life. The information below provides an overview on topics such as orientation, housing, attendance, vacation, transportation, and more. The Student Handbook will also be available on our website in the near future, which will provide further details on what to expect during your year at the Academy.

Orientation

All students participate in an extended orientation program, which spans several days, including an “Academy Weekend,” in which they must remain on campus. Orientation is designed to quickly immerse students into campus life and provides the foundation for the rest of the year. During orientation, students will meet their peers, faculty, and staff; participate in community-building activities; attend academic, athletic, college counseling, and residential life information sessions; and become familiar with their home away from home.

Housing

Most Bridgton Academy dorm rooms are doubles; however, some students may also be housed in a triple depending on their room assignment. All rooms have the same amenities, including a desk, chair, chest of drawers, bed, mattress, and wastebasket. Students may bring a refrigerator (3.2 cubic feet or less) and a monitor limited to 32” or smaller. Access to cable TV is not provided in student rooms.

The dormitories are where the community lives—teachers and their families, students, and coaches. Living in a residential community setting requires full understanding and cooperation by all. Students are expected to keep the bathrooms, common rooms, hallways, and stairways tidy. Weekday housekeeping service is provided for the public areas, however; housekeeping services are not provided in students’ rooms. Students are expected to keep their rooms clean and neat. Dorm parents supervise room inspections for damage and cleanliness regularly; any damage incurred will be assessed and charged to the student’s account.

Room assignments will be announced in early August.

Attendance and Vacation

Bridgton has a stringent attendance policy designed to uphold the Academy’s commitment to academic excellence and to reinforce the notion that being present and timely for all classes leads to success. Unexcused absences are cumulative and will result in academic warnings and a negative impact on grading. More specifics regarding the Bridgton Academy attendance policy will be shared at the Class of 2024 Welcome Reception in July as well as in the Student Handbook.

When making transportation plans, including air, train, or bus travel, please take the attendance policy and its ramifications for academic grading into consideration. The [school calendar](#) provides the framework by which transportation plans for vacations should be established. When scheduling departure and return transportation, parents are urged to pay close attention to the school calendar, and to book transportation that does not place the student in academic jeopardy.

Campus Closures

The Academy campus and dormitories are closed and cannot accommodate students during Thanksgiving break (11/17/23 – 11/26/23), winter break (12/14/23 – 1/8/24), and March break (3/1/24 – 3/18/24). Please plan accordingly.

Transportation

At the beginning and end of the three major breaks (Thanksgiving, winter, and March), Bridgton Academy provides transportation to and from the Portland Jetport, bus, and train stations at [set times](#). Students are asked to sign up in advance.

Each weekend, the Academy provides transportation (free of charge) to the town of Bridgton; church services; the Bridgton Highlands Golf Course (from August-October and), where greens fees and rentals are available free of charge; and Pleasant Mountain ski area (during ski season), where lift tickets and rentals are complimentary for students. As a part of planned weekend activities, students may be transported to such places as Portland, Freeport, movie theaters, etc. Students can sign up for a school-sponsored outing in the Student Life Office.

Cars on Campus

Students may have a car at Bridgton Academy. Students are able to use their vehicles during open weekends and breaks only, unless they've been granted permission from the Dean of Students for use outside of those times. To have a car on campus, students must:

- Complete a Motor Vehicle Permission form *Please note: Parents assume complete responsibility for their son's use of the vehicle on and around the Academy campus.*
- Park in the student parking lot. Cars parked outside of the student lot will incur violations, including fines (\$75 - \$150).

Car privileges may be revoked for:

- Excessive parking violations;
- Driving the car during the school week without permission from the Dean of Students Office;
- Unwise use of the vehicle, such as speeding, when departing from or returning to campus;
- Inappropriate use of vehicle;
- Conviction of driving while intoxicated or any other traffic violation;
- Vehicle involvement with an alcohol or drug violation; and
- Major school rule violations or probation.

Stay Safe, Keep Valuables Secure

Bridgton is a community of respect, trust, and honor and we expect all students to abide by our code of conduct. With that said, we encourage students to lock their dorm rooms when vacant. A lockable trunk or secure box may also be useful to store items such as gaming systems, electronics, and anything else you may want to keep safe. All personal property should be clearly marked with the student's name; we advise students to make a list of such property (including serial numbers when appropriate) prior to arriving at the Academy; this list should be given to the dorm parent upon arrival to campus.

Please note: The Academy does not carry insurance on students' personal property and is not responsible for loss or damage of students' property from any cause. Parents are advised to check with their insurance company regarding coverage of student property while at school or in transit to and from school.

Mail

Please note: that students will be notified by the Student Life Office when mail or packages have arrived. Sometimes it may take 24-48 hours for a student package to be delivered to the student after initial delivery to the Academy.

Student mail sent via USPS should be addressed to:

Student Name

[Residence Hall]

% Bridgton Academy

P.O. Box 292

North Bridgton, ME 04057

Mail sent through other carriers should be addressed to:

Student Name

[Residence Hall]

% Bridgton Academy

11 Academy Lane

North Bridgton, ME 04057