



2024-2025 Freshman Information New England

I. Communication

Students are also welcome to bring mobile phones. Among major carriers, Verizon offers the best on-campus coverage. To ensure they do not detract from the academic program, cell phones and other devices with cellular data are not allowed the classroom buildings, library, or Commons during class hours. More information is available in the Student Handbook. Telephone contact with students may also be made through common residence hall phones:

Wilson (Men)
413-846-1191

Merrill-Keep (Men)
413-846-1187

Gould (Women)
413-846-1195

In case of an after-hours emergency, please call 413-846-1200 and press 1.

Mail should be addressed as follows, and may be sent as early as the beginning of August. You may also wish to ship larger items 1-2 weeks ahead of your arrival. The items will be delivered to your room.

Name of Student, Freshman
Thomas Aquinas College, East Hall
231 Main St
Northfield, MA 01360

II. Computers

Computer and internet access will be available in the College Library. Students are also encouraged to bring their own laptops and may use the provided Ethernet cables to access the internet. (USB-to-Ethernet adapters are available for purchase in the College bookstore.) College email account access will be available through study room computers located in each residence hall.

II. Transportation

Freshmen should plan to arrive on campus between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Friday, August 23. While we encourage the majority of students to arrive at this time, students traveling farther distances may find it more feasible to arrive the evening prior and are welcome to do so. As College housing and food services will not be ready until then, please do not plan to arrive earlier than Thursday afternoon.

Students traveling by plane to the College typically fly into Boston Logan International Airport (BOS) or Bradley International Airport (BDL) in Hartford, CT. Shuttle transportation from BOS and BDL directly to campus will be available on both Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m., and on Friday at 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The cost of the shuttle is \$50 per person from BOS and \$40 per person from BDL and should be paid to the College no later than August 10. Should you wish to take advantage of one of these options, please complete the form at thomasaquinas.edu/shuttle. The College will provide a similarly scheduled service before and after the Christmas break, and at the end of the school year. Contact Sophie Carey at scarey@thomasaquinas.edu with any questions.

III. Freshman Orientation

On Saturday, August 24, freshmen will assemble for Convocation Mass and Matriculation Ceremony. Orientation meetings and activities will continue on Monday, and classes will commence on Tuesday, August 27, by which time all tuition and room and board charges for the first semester must be paid. See Freshman Orientation schedule for further details.

IV. **Clothing**

Massachusetts has a humid continental climate, with warm to hot (and often humid) summers and cold (sometimes very cold) winters. Winter clothing should include warm sweaters, winter coats, gloves, scarves, hats, and boots, as well as rain gear. Please do not hesitate to contact the Admissions Office (admissions@thomasaquinas.edu) with any questions.

For classes, meals, and Mass:

Men wear presentable khakis or slacks (jeans or similar casual pants, e.g. trousers with exterior pockets, are not acceptable), shirts with collars, and dress shoes. For more formal occasions men often elect to wear a suit or coat and tie.

Women wear dress shoes or sandals (not casual or athletic styles) and skirts or dresses with hemlines below the knee. Tops are not tight-fitting and have sleeves and modest necklines. Slacks are not worn at these times.

For sports, recreation, and casual wear:

Men may wear jeans or shorts. Shirts are required at all times on campus, except during men's sports on the athletic field and basketball courts.

In informal settings, students may wear jeans or longer shorts. Clothing is modest and not tight-fitting. For swimming, women may wear either a one-piece bathing suit or a tankini that covers the midriff.

V. **Important items to bring**

- Pens, pencils, notebooks, flash drive
- Pillow, blankets, bed linens (*extra-long twin recommended*)
- Towels and wash cloths
- Desk lamp
- Laundry detergent (*Washers and dryers are available for use in the residence halls at no charge.*)
- Personal toiletries, insect repellent

VI. **Additional helpful notes**

- All required books will be provided upon your arrival. There is no need to purchase them.
- Class and roommate assignments will be provided at move-in; please ensure that your registration forms have been completed and submitted!

The College cannot be responsible for the loss of personal valuables.
