The FOP Logistics Sheet 2019

Please bring this sheet, the equipment list, parking information, some money for food, and a government-issued ID, with you to Cambridge.

Travel and Arrival Information: If you are traveling by plane, bus, or train, you can take the T (Boston’s subway system, see mbta.com) or a cab to Harvard Square. Check-in for the program will be behind Matthews Hall in Harvard Yard—look for seventy FOP leaders wearing matching T-shirts! The program runs from Tuesday, August 20th, through Monday, August 26th. We expect you to arrive on campus on Tuesday, August 20th, between 11am and 3pm. If you have requested a switch-canoe trip, plan to arrive on campus between 10:30am and 2pm on August 20th, as you will need to participate in a 100-yard swim assessment on arrival. Please do not be late. We have a lot in store for you, and there is an important organizational meeting early Tuesday evening that can’t be missed. Your group will depart for the wilderness early Wednesday morning. If for some reason you cannot arrive in Cambridge by 3 pm on August 20th, make sure that we know! Vital information is exchanged during check-in, and miscommunication can create difficult situations for everyone involved.

Health and Safety: For your own safety, we need to be aware of any medical conditions that have changed between the time you submitted your medical form and the beginning of the trips. If you become ill or get injured shortly before the trips, you must let us know. Though you may be healthy enough to participate, it still may make sense for us to place you on a less demanding or less remote route. Please call us with any medical concerns and food or dietary restrictions at any point throughout the summer—no problem is too small! If you have food allergies or dietary restrictions, we must know about them by July 1st to accommodate you.

Weather & Equipment Preparation: The weather can be harsh up in the New England mountains. You absolutely need every item on our clothing/equipment list. It will rain, and you can count on a few wet, chilly, windy days and nights with temperatures near freezing. Although it is summer, a wool hat and mittens are required. There is no such thing as bad weather—only poorly prepared people.

Trip Placements: For those of you who requested to be on a switch-canoe or a switch-service trip, we will let you know whether you are on one of these trips or whether you are an alternate for one of these trips by July 31st. Other than that, final touches on group assignments are not completed until the day students arrive, so we ask that you do not phone us with specific questions about your group or itinerary. We are always happy to answer general questions and to discuss your concerns.

Returning to Campus and Move-In Day

After groups return on Monday afternoon, August 26th, and all equipment has been cleaned and returned, you will be able to access your dorm room. We will let you know where you may pick up your Harvard ID card and your room key on August 26th. Bring a form of government-issued ID so that you can pick up your keys and Harvard ID cards. After you have showered and changed into a clean set of clothes, you will reconvene with your FOP trip and spend the evening wrapping up your FOP experience. Two important notes about students arriving back on campus:

1) Family members should refrain from arriving on campus until Tuesday, August 27th. FOP activities will not end until late in the evening on August 26th. Family members of FOP participants can expect to meet their students on the morning of Tuesday, August 27, and are expected to follow the regular Move-In Day procedures, as detailed by the First-Year Experience Office mailings.

2) Students may not claim a particular room or bed prior to all of their roommates being present. This is strictly forbidden by Harvard.

That’s all for now. Enjoy the rest of your summer! We look forward to meeting you on August 20th! If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to call us.

See you in August,

FOP Summer Staff