



HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS: 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

Coordinated by the New England Chapters of the Penn State Alumni Association

To: Parents of PSU students from New England (and parts of NY)

From: Dean Delach
29 Basswood Rd.
Farmington, CT. 06032

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Phone: (860) 678-7838
Internet: www.psuctvalley.org (Outreach tab)

I am pleased to announce that again this year the New England Chapters of the Penn State Alumni Association will coordinate charter buses between Penn State and New England. This will be the twenty sixth year the service has been provided and the nineteenth year I will be the coordinator. Last year over 400 students used this bus service for one or more of the breaks.

The charter bus service for Penn State students provides round trip transportation between University Park and New England. Fullington Bus Co., from State College, provides these coach charter buses.

Trips will be organized for the following holidays:

<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Depart PSU</u>	<u>Depart New England</u>
Thanksgiving	Saturday, Nov. 19 th 10:00AM	Sunday, Nov. 27 th
Winter Break	Saturday, Dec. 17 th 10:00AM	Sunday, Jan. 8 th
Spring Break 2017	Saturday, March 4 th 10:00AM	Sunday, March 12 th

Drop-off and pick-up locations in New England and cost per round trip are as follows:

<u>Drop off location</u>		<u>Cost per round trip</u>
1. Danbury, CT	I-84, Exit 2 @ commuter parking lot (Millstone Rd)	\$136
2. E. Hartford, CT	I-84, Exit 58@ the Ramada Inn, 363 Roberts St.	\$136
3. Newton, MA	Riverside MBTA Train Station, 390 Grove St.	\$164

Departures from Penn State: The buses depart from a driveway/alley between Eisenhower Auditorium and the Huck Life Sciences building. The alley is bounded by Shortlidge Road on the West and the Eisenhower Parking Deck on the East. Eisenhower Auditorium is to the North of the alley and the Life Sciences building is to the South.

Departures from New England: Departures for all trips are at the following times:
Newton, MA: 10:00 a.m. E. Hartford, CT: 11:30 a.m. Danbury, CT: 12:30 p.m.

All departures occur promptly at listed departure times. **STUDENTS WHO ARE LATE MUST FIND ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION.**

In locating the departure location on the University Park campus, the web address below will bring you to a map of the University Park campus. The pick up location is in the area of F-6 on the map. The building marked EIS is Eisenhower auditorium and the building marked HLS is the Huck Life Sciences building. As explained above the Fullington charter buses will be parked in the driveway between these buildings.

<http://www.geog.psu.edu/sites/default/files/2015%20VisGuide%20v1.pdf>

RESERVATIONS:

Reservation forms are attached. Please complete these very carefully and neatly (**especially email addresses**). An email address must be provided as reservation confirmations will only be provided via email. All reservations are on a first come basis, determined by date of receipt of check. Reservations will only be accepted through the mail and a check must accompany the form. You may reserve one trip at a time, or as many as you like at once. If reserving more than one trip at the same time, one check may be used to pay for all trips.

Make check payable to: Penn State Chapter of CT Valley

Mail check and reservation form to:

Dean Delach, 29 Basswood Rd, Farmington, CT 06032-1143

RESERVATION CHECKS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE, unless you cancel and there is someone on the waiting list to fill your spot. (Generally, if you cancel 3 weeks or more before the scheduled departure from PSU, refunds can be processed; the later you cancel, the more difficult it is to accommodate a refund request).

ONE-WAY RESERVATIONS: Payment must be made in advance for the cost of the round trip, even if the student will only be using the bus one-way. However, if interested in using the bus only one-way, please indicate that on the reservation form or on a separate note. If I can match you up with another student taking the other half of the trip, a refund check for ½ the cost will be mailed to you. The sooner I know this information the better the chances of providing a ½ refund.

Please note that any refund checks that are issued are typically sent no earlier than January or February.

- Phone reservations will only be accepted 7 days before each trip, if seats are still available.
- Your cancelled check will act as your receipt. If all seats are reserved, a waiting list will be started. If you are placed on the waiting list your check will not be cashed and you will receive notification so that you can look for other transportation.
- A copy of this letter and the reservation forms can be located at www.psuctvalley.org. This is the website for the Connecticut Valley Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association. Click on the Outreach tab for info on the buses. Also, if severe weather causes a change in the bus departure, information will be posted on this website.
- Tickets are not issued for the bus. A list of students is provided to the bus company. Only those students whose names are on the list will be allowed to board the bus.
- **CONFIRMATIONS:** Parents and students will receive an initial, brief email confirmation of reservations, usually within 2-3 weeks of receipt of the reservation. A final email confirming departure and arrival times (along with directions to the drop off spots) and other details of each trip will be emailed to those with reservations approximately one week before the departure date from PSU.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES:

a. **Thanksgiving Trip:** Five to seven buses have been used in the past. These buses are usually fully reserved by late October. If possible you are encouraged to send your reservation for Thanksgiving so that I receive it before Oct. 8th. Reservations will be accepted after that date but you can expect a bit longer delay (at least 2 or 3 weeks) before receiving a confirmation.

b. **Winter Break:** Three to five buses have been used in the past. These buses are usually fully reserved by late November.

- c. **Spring Break:** Three to five buses have been used in the past for this trip. This trip seems to sneak up on everyone. You should send in your reservation no later than early February.
- d. **Luggage: Space for luggage is limited.** Each student will be limited to **ONE** large suitcase or duffel bag, and one carry-on (about the size of a backpack). If your student has additional packages, he/she must ship them via UPS or some other mail service. Skis cannot be carried in the luggage compartment. This is also a safety measure. Bus drivers have the right to disallow any luggage or package. Your cooperation is appreciated.
- e. **Meals:** A meal/rest stop will be made on all trips.
- f. **Non University Park Students:** If you want to use the bus service you are responsible for your own transportation between your campus and University Park.
- g. **Severe Weather:** Weather conditions in State College and/or New England may necessitate changes to the departure time/date (either earlier or later than scheduled). If severe weather is forecast, please check the website www.psuctvalley.org (Outreach tab) for updates on departures.

Any questions, please contact Dean Delach. E-mail is the best option: ddelach@gmail.com or you can call my home number (860) 678-7838 (evenings or weekends are best). If I am not available, please leave a message.

THERE WILL BE NO OTHER MAILINGS. PLEASE KEEP THIS INFORMATION FOR FUTURE USE.

Penn State Alumni Association, New England Chapters

These charter buses for PSU students are coordinated by the Penn State New England Alumni Chapters. These chapters are part of the Penn State Alumni Association and provide a number of activities and events not only for Penn State alums, but also current students, family, friends and fans of Penn State. Find out more about the Penn State Alumni Chapter in your area:

Maine-NH

Website: <http://mainenhpsualumni.wordpress.com>

Contact: John Pino pinoej@comcast.net

Vermont

Website: <http://directory.alumni.psu.edu/chapter-vermont>

Contact: Karen Edwards kedwardsvt@gmail.com

Boston

Website: <http://www.psuboston.org>

Contact: Katherine Huber president@psuboston.org

CT Valley

Website: www.psuctvalley.org

Contact: Kathryn Williams nittanykat2@gmail.com

Southern CT

Website: <http://directory.alumni.psu.edu/chapter-southernct>

Contact: Justin Stevens jas5687@gmail.com

SPRING BREAK (3/4/16 – 3/12/17)

Student Name: _____

Parents Name: _____

Home Address (Street/PO Box): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent's Phone (incl. Area Code) Day: _____ Evening: _____

Parent's Email Address: _____

Student's Email Address: _____

Drop off (circle one)	Danbury, CT	East Hartford, CT	Newton, MA
	\$136	\$136	\$164



WINTER BREAK (12/17/16 – 1/8/17)

Student Name: _____

Parents Name: _____

Home Address (Street/PO Box): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent's Phone (incl. Area Code) Day: _____ Evening: _____

Parent's Email Address: _____

Student's Email Address: _____

Drop off (circle one)	Danbury, CT	East Hartford, CT	Newton, MA
	\$136	\$136	\$164



THANKSGIVING (11/19/16 – 11/27/16)

Student Name: _____

Parents Name: _____

Home Address (Street/PO Box): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent's Phone (incl. Area Code) Day: _____ Evening: _____

Parent's Email Address: _____

Student's Email Address: _____

Drop off (circle one)	Danbury, CT	East Hartford, CT	Newton, MA
	\$136	\$136	\$164