

PARENT & FAMILY

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE HILL

Spring on the Hill has certainly kept us guessing this year — sunshine one day, sweaters the next — but one thing is certain as the semester comes to a close: It's a season of well-earned celebration. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the families of the **Class of 2026!** Your encouragement and support helped guide your student through their McDaniel journey, and we're thrilled to celebrate their accomplishments at Commencement. We look forward to cheering as they cross the stage, receive their diplomas, and head confidently into their next chapter. Please encourage your graduate to stay connected to McDaniel as an engaged and proud young alum.

For our returning families, we hope you'll take time to recognize your student's hard work as they complete another successful semester. Whether they're heading home for the summer, working a part-time job, taking summer courses, conducting research, completing an internship, or simply catching their breath, this is a meaningful time to reconnect, reflect, and recharge before fall arrives.

Wishing you brighter days ahead — whatever the weather may bring — as you enjoy the remainder of spring and the start of summer.



Christine Moran
AVP of Student Success



Heidi Reigel '97
AVP of Constituent Engagement

P.S. We also want to share some exciting news! As a follow-up to the announcement shared a few months ago about the creation of a new School of Business and Technology here at McDaniel College, the college has selected the school's inaugural dean following a national search. Leonard Arvi, Ph.D., will be joining the college on Aug. 1 in preparation for the fall 2026 semester and brings expertise and experience in finance, entrepreneurship, and AI, along with a background in IT. He has also been recognized for his role in mentoring students and guiding them through their undergraduate studies and beyond graduation. [Read more on](#)

[the McDaniel College website](#). Save the date and plan to meet Dr. Arvi this fall at Parent & Family Weekend, Nov. 6-8!

IMPORTANT ACADEMIC DATES

Friday, May 22

Senior Investiture and Honor Convocation

Saturday, May 23

Commencement

COMMENCEMENT 2026



Celebrate your favorite graduate!

Saturday, May 23, at 2 p.m.

Please visit our [Commencement webpage](#) for up-to-date information.

Need a personalized gift to commemorate Commencement or another special occasion in your Green Terror's life? Check out the following special collections:



Sunburst McDaniel College necklace.

Be sure to shop the exclusive [McDaniel College jewelry collection](#) for bracelets, necklaces, cufflinks, and more.



McDaniel College personalized illustrated map.

Celebrate their years on the Hill with a [customizable print featuring McDaniel landmarks](#).

CAPTURE THEIR SMILE!



Official Photographer of the

McDaniel College 2026 Commencement

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**Scan to
View
Photos**
.....



.....
or Text
CPMCD26
to 90738
.....

Live in the *moment*. Let us handle the photos.

Powered by **PhotoDay**

Help us cheer on the Class of 2026!

Grab the images on our [Senior Week/Spirit Kit page](#) to update your Facebook cover, X/Twitter header, and Instagram feed or story with downloadable images.

Don't forget to tag your photos with #McDaniel26!

RESOURCES

Our calendars are online! Visit the [calendar page](#) to select from the following options:

- Public Events
- Academic Calendar
- Alumni Events
- Athletics Events
- Camps & Conferences
- Student Events
- Institutional Events

The [Parent & Family Resources page](#) is updated frequently with information just for you! Have suggestions for additional page content? Let us know by emailing pfc@mcdaniel.edu.

The [Academic Success & Support page](#) is a wonderful resource to help you better understand what we offer students as they work toward their academic goals. Be sure to read through it and ask your student if they take advantage of any of the resources we offer!

HAS YOUR STUDENT CONSIDERED A SUMMER COURSE?



McDaniel College student learning on a laptop.

Taking a summer course allows students to get ahead, catch up on credits, meet general education or program requirements, and/or focus on and master a challenging subject. In some cases, they can get into popular or high-demand classes more easily. [Summer session classes](#) are 100% online!

Summer 2026 Sessions

- Session I: May 26 - July 2
- Session II: July 6 - Aug. 14

If your student needs assistance with their summer or fall 2026 schedule, they can visit the Student Success Center during Walk-in Wednesdays in Hoover Library or contact studentsupport@mcdaniel.edu so a staff member can assist them directly!

THE WRITING CENTER

On behalf of the entire staff at the Writing Center, thank you for another great semester! We'll be closed during the summer, but we're excited to return in the fall for more tutoring, workshops, and writing!

HAVE YOU HEARD? EXCITING NEWS SHARED AT THE ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM

During the Academic Symposium, it was announced to our campus community that the college is launching three new STEM majors through our Department of Physics: Astrophysics, Astronomy, and Engineering Mechanics. [You can view the official announcement here.](#)

These new programs have received approval from the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) and will begin in fall 2027.

If you have any questions or know any students who would be interested in learning more, please feel free to contact McDaniel's Admissions Office at admissions@mcdaniel.edu.

RESIDENCE LIFE



Students walking up the hill with Whiteford Hall in the background.

We hope everyone is having a great start to May and that you're preparing for your student's return home. If this is your first time welcoming a college student back after they've lived away for the year, please know that a period of readjustment is completely normal. Summer life at home

may feel a little different. After living more independently, students often return with new routines, schedules, and habits. If you're interested, [here is a great article](#) that can help you think about welcoming your student home for the summer.

Our [Residence Hall opening and closing schedule](#) is typically updated in June. Dates for the upcoming academic year will be shared on that page once finalized.

OFFICE OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (OSE)

While the spring semester has just wrapped up and your student is settling into summer, planning for fall is already well underway on campus! We're excited to welcome students back in August and look forward to another engaging and activity-filled Welcome Week.

Make sure your student marks their calendar with these **Welcome Week dates**:

- Aug. 24 - Welcome Back Celebration
- Aug. 25 - Bingo for Books
- Aug. 26 - Involvement Fair
- Aug. 26 - Greek Life Showcase
- Aug. 27 - SGA Stop By
- Aug. 27 - Panhellenic Mixer

For full event details and updates as they become available, make sure your student visits the Office of Student Engagement page on [What's Up McDaniel!](#)

ATHLETICS

The last few weeks have been busy for the [Green Terror!](#) The McDaniel College baseball team clinched a spot in the 2026 Centennial Conference Baseball Championship for the third consecutive season, a first in program history.

In men's golf, senior Charlie Dolan finished in second place at the 2026 Centennial Conference Men's Golf Championship and earned his second-straight All-Conference honor, leading the team to a third-place finish.

The outdoor track and field teams hosted two meets during the month: the Green Terror Invitational on April 3 and the Carpenter-Case Invitational on April 24. Senior Jack Sears also set a program record in the 10,000-meter run at the Messiah Invitational on April 11. His time of 32:06.11 won the event and defeated the record previously set by Paul Hugus '06 in 2005.

Thirty-eight senior student-athletes were selected for induction into the college chapter of Chi Alpha Sigma on April 9 as a part of Division III Week. Six seniors from the McDaniel College

football team were named to the 2026 class of the National Football Foundation (NFF) Hampshire Honor Society on the same day.

CAMPUS SAFETY



As the spring semester ends, the Department of Campus Safety wishes our students and families a safe and enjoyable summer. We appreciate your partnership in supporting a safe campus community throughout the year.

Looking ahead to the 2026-27 academic year, parking registration will open on Aug. 3. Students will receive registration instructions via their McDaniel email account. Please note that all vehicles parked on campus must display a current parking permit, which must be renewed each academic year.

Information regarding BWI Airport and BWI Amtrak station shuttle registration will also be shared with students via their McDaniel email during the summer.

We look forward to welcoming students back to campus in August!

PARENT & FAMILY COUNCIL

The [Parent & Family Council](#) is looking to grow! Are you interested in serving in an advisory capacity to college leadership? Let us know by [submitting this form](#). Interest forms received by July 1 will be considered for terms starting at the beginning of the 2026-27 academic year.

STUDENT ACCOUNTS/BURSAR

Congratulations to the Class of 2026! We wish them the absolute best in their future endeavors. Before your student closes out their time on the Hill, please be sure they do the following:

- Confirm their current mailing address
- Remove electronic consent for their 1098-T (this ensures their 2026 form is mailed to their home address)
- Review their account statement online to confirm their tuition balance is paid in full.

We also want to remind your student about the end-of-semester checklist. Please make sure they have done the following:

- Returned their room key
- Returned their mailbox key

Lastly, please be aware that charges from Residence Life, the Post Office, and Hoover Library may be added at the end of the semester. Students should monitor their account and pay any remaining balance by May 30.

Important Tuition Dates and Tasks:

- **June 1:** Summer tuition is due.
- **June 10:** Fall payment plan enrollment opens. (Installments are due on the first day of the month in July, August, September, October, and November. There is a \$75 enrollment fee per semester.)
- **July 15:** Fall tuition and health insurance waiver are due.
- **Nov. 15:** Spring payment plan enrollment opens. (Installments are due on the first day of the month in December, January, February, March, and April. There is a \$75 enrollment fee per semester.)
- **Jan. 5:** Spring tuition is due.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us at 410-857-2209 or at bursaroffice@mcdaniel.edu.

CENTER FOR EXPERIENCE AND OPPORTUNITY

We encourage you to talk with your student about joining the [McDaniel Career Network](#), a valuable resource designed to support their professional growth. The McDaniel Career Network is a LinkedIn-based community that connects current students with alumni to share career opportunities, build professional connections, gain industry insight, and participate in mentoring relationships. By fostering meaningful connections early, this network helps create a strong foundation of lifelong support for students as they explore and advance along their career paths as part of the Green Terror community.

The **Office of International and Off-Campus Programs** recently hosted the annual Jan Term Fair, and we are thrilled to announce four incredible faculty/staff-led programs for January 2027. These short-term, high-impact programs are designed to immerse students in new cultures, professional industries, and historic landscapes — all while earning credit during the winter break!

[Australia: Fashion Industry in Sydney](#) | Jan. 4-19

Program leader: Professor Kathleen Pratt

[Greece: Myths, Monks, and Monuments](#) | Jan. 1-17

Program leader: Dr. Thomas Falkner

[German Region: Culinary Culture](#) | Jan. 4-15

Program leader: Dr. Mohamed Esa

[Portugal & Spain: Color and Culture \(Students registered with SASS ONLY\)](#) | Jan. 6-18

Program leader: Kendra Heard

We encourage families to discuss these opportunities early to make them reality! Applications are open NOW at global.mcdaniel.edu and due on **Sept. 15**. With program costs due in full by **Oct. 1**, the summer months are the perfect time for students to work a summer job or internship to build their travel fund. If your student is pursuing study abroad for the first time, they are eligible for McDaniel Experiential Learning Grants, which provide financial assistance to help cover travel costs!

FINANCIAL AID

FAFSA and Financial Aid Renewal

If your student has not yet submitted the 2026-27 FAFSA and plans to continue their college journey next year, we strongly encourage them to do so as soon as possible at studentaid.gov. Completing the FAFSA remains an essential step in determining eligibility for both federal and institutional financial aid.

Scholarship Opportunities

Spring is an excellent time to explore additional scholarship opportunities. We encourage your

student to review available options through our [scholarship database](#).

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Reminder

To remain eligible for financial aid, students must meet the following SAP requirements:

- Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0
- Successfully complete at least 67% of attempted credits

The Financial Aid Office reviews SAP at the conclusion of each academic term. If your student is considering any schedule changes, we strongly encourage them to contact their student success coach or a member of our Financial Aid team beforehand. Even small adjustments can impact aid eligibility, and we're here to help them make informed decisions.

Preparing for Summer Courses

If your student is considering enrolling in summer courses, they may be eligible for financial aid. We recommend they connect with our office to review available funding options and enrollment requirements.

Graduating Seniors — Loan Repayment Preparation

For our graduating seniors and their families, we encourage you to begin planning for student loan repayment if your student has borrowed federal loans. These loans include a six-month grace period after graduation. Students are also required to complete Exit Counseling, which provides important information about repayment options and responsibilities.

Stay Connected

For helpful tips, reminders, and updates throughout the year, we invite you to follow our Financial Aid Fridays on Instagram [@McDaniel_Financial_Aid](#).

Contact Our Financial Aid Team

Our team is here to support you and your students:

Students with Last Names A-F

Emma Sorrell | emma.sorrell@mcdaniel.edu | 410-386-4807

Students with Last Names G-M

Lerlene McAllister | lerlene.mcallister@mcdaniel.edu | 410-871-3311

Students with Last Names N-Z

Kenzie Elliott | melliott@mcdaniel.edu | 410-857-2255

WELLNESS CENTER

It's that time of the year again: College students are coming home for the summer!

We know you couldn't be more excited to have your student around, but you also probably know that there will be some challenges and adjustments along the way. To make the transition

smoother, here are a few tips to help you show your child the support they need while also taking care of yourself!

- Remember to communicate clearly with your college student. Let them know what expectations you have for them while they're home, such as chores or curfews, and be sure to discuss any issues that may arise.
- Give your child some space. College is a time of growth and independence, so it's important to let your student continue to develop these skills while they are home. Support them in taking the lead with decisions about how they want to spend their time. Brainstorm ideas with them and help them consider the impact of their decisions but let them decide.
- Don't forget about the little things. College can be stressful, so it's nice to come home to a familiar environment. Stock up on their favorite treats and cook their favorite comfort foods. Do some of the family activities you did while they were growing up.
- Finally, it's important to set aside quality time to just talk and listen to each other. This helps create an environment of understanding and connection, which will make their homecoming a happy one. Doing something special that celebrates their accomplishments can be a great way to show how proud you are.

It's a time of adjustment for both parents and children, so be gentle with each other. Having compassion and a sense of humor goes a very long way.

Wishing you a wonderful summer!

[The McDaniel College Wellness Team](#)

FUTURE STUDENT REFERRAL PROGRAM

Don't forget! The [McDaniel College Future Student Referral Program](#) allows parents and alumni (remind your Class of 2026 soon-to-be graduate!) to refer an unlimited number of high school students who will graduate in 2027 to the Hill. Because these referrals have YOUR vote of confidence, we reward them by doubling their [Visit Incentive Grant](#).

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

Our future as an innovative liberal arts college focused on student achievement and professional success lies in us reaching new heights — together. Thank you to the following donors for their recent gifts to the college in support of [the strategic plan](#) and [Reaching New Heights: The Campaign for McDaniel College](#). We can't do what we do without you!

- \$580,100 from the Sherman Fairchild Foundation to purchase scientific equipment for research and teaching in the Biology, Chemistry, and Health Science departments.
- \$200,000 from Mark W. Carter '86 and Nancy Hutchinson Carter '86 to support The Mark '86 and Nancy '86 Carter Endowment.
- \$60,000 from Philip Enstice '71 and Gail Chance Enstice '73 to support The Chance/Enstice Family Scholarship Fund.

- \$35,859.42 from Leon Cronce '71 to support The Leon Cronce '71 and Betty Endowed Wrestling Fund.
- \$25,000 from Lois Chilcoat Meszaros '64, M.Ed. '72 to support The Catherine Schaffer Endowed Scholarship Fund.

[Make your gift online today](#) or contact Justin Forget, director of annual giving, at 410-386-4801 or jforget@mcdaniel.edu.

Conversation Starters: Questions to Connect with Your Student About the Hill



Student riding a bicycle near Hoover Library.

- What's a conversation you've had that's helped you grow?
- As you prepare to come home for the summer, what are your expectations, and what topics should we talk through in advance so that our summer is successful?
- How are you different now than a year ago?

Let's Get Social



Follow McDaniel College social media accounts to be in the know! Don't forget to join our McDaniel College Parent & Families Facebook Group. All accounts can be found on the [Parent & Family Resources](#) page.

Update Your Contact Information

McDaniel College

[Unsubscribe](#)