

JANUARY 2026 COMPASS NEWSLETTER

EXPLORATORY STUDIES

Info on Taking Summer Courses at Other Colleges:

Purdue students often take summer courses at colleges outside of Purdue. However, there are important factors to consider.

If you take a class at a non-Purdue college, only the credits will transfer, not your grade. Therefore, you cannot raise your Purdue GPA by taking courses at another college. Likewise, you cannot replace a Purdue grade by taking the same course elsewhere.

To figure out how a specific course will transfer to Purdue, you may use the new [Purdue Transfer Credit Course Equivalency Website](#) or the [older version](#) of the website. Ensure that a course you take elsewhere will transfer to Purdue as the specific course you need.

After completing a course at another college, you must contact that college's transcript department and have them send your transcript to Purdue Admissions or electronically to receive credit.

Gaining Experience Over the Summer:

If you are thinking about applying for a summer internship or even just gaining relevant volunteer experience to bolster your resume, start thinking about your plans now. Applications for summer internships often open in January and February and are reviewed well before summer. Don't forget that the [Purdue CCO](#) offers free resume help, numerous online resources, interview practice, workshops, internship and job postings, and the Career Closet, which provides students with free work attire that they can keep forever.

Purdue Summer Registration:

Interested in taking summer classes at Purdue? Summer registration is now open. Check your Purdue email for more information from your academic advisor on how to enroll in summer classes. Note that Purdue summer classes are offered in-person and fully online as well as in 4-week, 5-week, 8-week, and 12-week modules. Contact your academic advisor with any summer questions you may have.

To learn more about summer course offerings, financial aid, scholarships, and how to register, go to the [Office of Summer and Winter Sessions webpage](#).



Add/Drop Deadlines:

Add: January 17 - March 12

Need advisor and instructor approval. Submit request using Scheduling Assistant.

Drop: January 27 - April 16

Advisor approval is required. Dropped course is recorded with a grade of "W". Submit drop requests using Scheduling Assistant.

Remember you can always reach out to your advisor with add/drop questions.

EXPLORERS



Major of the Month: Food Science:

Do you enjoy biology, chemistry, and eating food? If so, consider majoring in Food Science! Students in Purdue's Food Science major learn how to transform raw ingredients into nutritious, tasty, and accessible food through classroom and hands-on experiences. This major allows students to explore topics from food microbiology to product development, preparing them for a wide range of careers in the food industry, including flavor chemists, food safety specialists, and research and development scientists. With a 100% job placement rate and an average starting salary of \$64,000, Food Sciences gives students excellent post-graduate opportunities.

Tunnel Maps:

Did you know that parts of Purdue's campus are accessible by underground tunnels? Beat the cold and rain by checking out the complete map of campus sub-walks and sky-ways by [clicking on the full map here](#). Please keep in mind that campus construction may impact some of these walkways.

Upcoming February Career Fairs:

Purdue's CCO hosts over 30 career fairs each year, and the spring semester is a great time to visit one. Below are some being offered this February that are open to all Purdue students; however, visit the CCO website to get more information about the below fairs (including registration, if needed) and to see a complete list of all spring career fairs.

AEROSPACE SPRING CAREER EXPOSITION
February 2, 2026

SIGMA INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING SPRING IN-PERSON CAREER FAIR | February 2, 2026

PESC ENGINEERING SPRING HYBRID EXPO
February 3 & 4, 2026

BOILERMAKER CIRCUIT Hosted by Electrical and Computer Engineering | February 4, 2026

PURDUE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE IN PERSON CAREER FAIR | February 4, 2026

DANIELS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS CAREER FAIR
Hosted by the School of Business Career Council (SBCC) | February 5, 2026

SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY (SCMT) IN PERSON FAIR | February 13, 2026

ENGINEERING, SCIENCE, & TECH CONNECT: PURDUE UNIVERSITY IN INDIANAPOLIS CAREER FAIR | February 17, 2026

PURDUE HEALTH & HUMAN SCIENCES CAREER CONNECT CAFE | February 18, 2026

PURDUE HEALTH EXPO | February 23, 2026

PURDUE AGRICULTURE IN PERSON SPRING CAREER FAIR | February 25, 2026

E2E CAREER FAIR: Engineering to Enterprise
March 6, 2025

TEACHER RECRUITMENT EVENTS | March 11 & March 12, 2026

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES CAREER FAIR | March 31, 2026

JUST IN TIME IN-PERSON JOB FAIR | April 15, 2026

Name: Sara Prokop

Hometown: South Bend, Indiana

Where is your favorite place to go on campus and why?

The Co-Rec, there's so much to do and it's a great place to de-stress.

What was your biggest takeaway from your time in Exploratory Studies?

My biggest takeaway is that it's okay to slow down and take your time! Exploratory studies has allowed me to stay on track while still being able to explore all my options. Life gets pretty hectic, which makes it easy to forget that it's okay to slow down, take your time, and really consider your options!

What are some rewarding, enlightening, or just plain cool experiences you've had during your time at Purdue? (Consider internships, study abroad, organizations, research opportunities, volunteer opportunities, etc.)

One of my favorite clubs that I'm a part of is the Purdue Run Club and it has been so much fun meeting new people, running with them, and also competing.

What piece of advice do you have for students currently in Exploratory Studies?

Really take your time to truly explore- take some diverse classes you have a slight interest in and don't be afraid to try something completely new. I've discovered some areas that I'm really good in and really enjoy that I wouldn't have known about had I not decided to just give them a shot.



If you are interested in becoming a Peer Mentor for The Office of Summer and Winter Sessions, please click this [link](#) to review the job description and apply today using the QR below! The application closes February 7th.



Early Start Peer Mentors - Now Hiring!



Early Start wouldn't be the same without our incredible Peer Mentors —

which means we need you!

Early Start Peer Mentors guide and empower incoming Boilermakers, helping them build confidence, community, and a strong start at Purdue.

West Lafayette Campus

DATES

- Spring Training: April 18th
- Move-in: July 8th
- Summer Training: July 8th - 10th
- Early Start: July 11th - Aug. 14th

BENEFITS

- Up to \$2,500 in tuition
- University Residence Housing and
- Meal Plan



Scan the QR code for more info and to apply!



Now Hiring - Peer Mentors for Summer College for High School

We need YOU

Help High Schoolers as they experience Purdue while, getting **PAID** to live on campus this summer



learn more and **apply here**

Training: April 18th + June 15-19
Programming: June 21 - July 31st