Tips & Tricks to Surviving Your First Year

UAirizona Resources

A SOL's Survival Guide

Hello Wildcat! You might be thinking, "Do I really need a survival guide?" Maybe not, but coming from my experience at UArizona, I really wish I would have had these tips when starting! Think of it more as a resources guide. UArizona has so much to offer that it can sometimes get overwhelming, so these newsletters are here to break it down and give you some extra pointers! Be on the lookout for a new one each week!

What's On Campus?

Take a Tour

The University of Arizona offers a unique experience where students can explore campus virtually. This is great because you can familiarize yourself with our beautiful campus directly from your computer!

Click here to access the virtual tour!

Student Unions

There are two Student Union on campus: The UArizona Global Center located on Park Ave, and the main Student Union Memorial Center which is located on the Mall next to Old Main!

There is a movie theater, game rooms, a computer lab, and the UArizona BookStore located at the Main Student Union! The UArizona Global Center houses the Study abroad offices; ThinkTank, a tutoring resource, and a computer lab!

CALS Career Center

Need help spicing up your resume or creating a LinkedIn? Want to do some career exploration? Need some help perfecting your interview skills? The CALS Career center does it all and they are special resources just for CALS students (YOU)!

CALS Career Center

Click here to learn what the unions have to offer!
What's On Campus? (continued)

**Women and Gender Resource Center**
The Women and Gender Resource Center focuses on changing the narrative in response to sexism and misogyny. They offer post-classroom learning opportunities, events and engagement opportunities on campus!

[Click here to see what else the Women and Gender Resource Center has to offer!](#)

**LGBTQ+ Center**
The office of LGBTQ+ center is a safe space for all UA students. This resource offers trainings, programs, workshops, and events! It is located at the Main Student Union.

[Click here to see what else the LGBTQ+ Center can provide you!](#)

**Student Centers Focused on Diversity**
Our centers are an important part of building a community. They foster a sense of cultural identity, encourage student leadership, facilitate critical reflection, and so much more. These centers include (but are not limited to): African American Student Affairs, Asian Pacific American Student Affairs, Disability Resource Center, and many many more!

[Click here to learn more about what other resources are available.](#)

**Campus Recreation Centers**
There are two UA Campus Recreation Centers located on campus. The main one is right across the street from campus on Highland and 6th street. The second is the new Recreation Center on the North side of campus. Some of their many features include basketball courts, swimming pools, and workout centers. They also offer group training and even have activity classes! The recreation center offers a wide variety of events activities you will have to check out. You can also rent out amenities such as camping gear for a small fee!

[Click here to learn more about what you can do at the campus rec!](#)
Transportation

SafeRide
SafeRide is a free transportation service available to all UArizona students. This provides a nighttime alternative to walking alone on campus or around the Tucson community. They even have a helpful app called TapRide that lets you request a ride and track the car!

Click here for app instructions!

CatTran
The CatTran is provided transportation that takes students to multiple spots located around campus. There is even a map that tracks the buses in real time! They take about 15 minutes to arrive at each stop.

Click here to check out the routes!

Biking
Biking is very popular on campus and there are many resources to help! Need a repair? You can visit the bike repair shop. Additionally, if it's just a quick fix, like pumping air into your tires, there are little stations around campus with bike pumps. Bike valet services are offered as well as lockers.

Click here for all things bike related!

Parking Passes
Bringing a vehicle to campus? There are many parking lots and garages to choose from. After reviewing locations, you'll purchase a parking permit that allows you to park in a designated area for the year. All prices, options, and locations are located on the Parking and Transportation website.

Click here for more information!

What is a CatCard?
There are 3 main reasons to use your CatCard. For your Meal Plan, Bursars Account, and CatCash.

Meal Plan
UArizona offers different meal plans depending on how much you think you will eat in a day. I recommend looking at the website and evaluating how often you will use your own meal plan. It can be used at the Main Student Union and at UArizona Global Center. All you do is tell the cashiers that you are using your meal plan then you hand them your CatCard! Super simple!

Click here to learn which Meal Plan is right for you!

Bursars Account
Bursars, in a sense, is like a credit card. You are given a $1,000 limit for the first couple months of the semester and you pay it off within a month. You can use bursars to buy your semester books and UArizona Bookstore merchandise. Just be cautious with it and treat it like a real credit card, depending on who pays for your bursars charges the bill will go to them!

Click here for payment options for your Bursars account!

CatCa$h
Having CatCa$h on your CatCard is similar to a debit card, you can put money into your CatCard whenever you want!

For example I like to put $25 on my CatCard in the beginning of every semester so I can use it to pay parking garage prices, snacks on campus, and printer fees.

Click here to see what your CatCa$h can pay for and how to upload money!