Commuter Student Tips

As a commuter at IUPUI, be prepared for the challenges that come with driving to your classes each day. Acknowledge that you will spend time driving to campus, searching for parking, or waiting for buses. We know it can be stressful and because of this, we put together these commuter student tips.

Make use of your time between classes:
Stay on campus between classes when possible. While you’re on campus consider attending campus events. Students have a higher success rate and enjoy their time on campus more when they participate in activities and share their experiences with other students. You can also make connections with other students, faculty, and staff members.

Find an on-campus job:
These positions generally will work around class schedules, and you won’t have to worry about leaving campus and moving your car. Visit the JagJobs.com website to learn more about on-campus positions.

Join an organization:
Joining a student organization is a great way to establish a social circle of people who share your interests. IUPUI has over 400 registered student organizations, including anything from sports and recreation to religion to major-specific organizations. There is bound to be something that you will enjoy. Visit the Office of Student Involvement to learn more.

Take advantage of social media:
There is almost always a “Class of 20__” page on Facebook. Join in and learn more about events going on around campus. You will be in the loop even when you aren’t on campus. By “liking” student organization pages you can find out more about the organization and meet more people who have the same interests as you. This is a great tool to connect with classmates in case you miss a class or want to set up a study group.

Exam days:
Arrive early to campus as often as possible. There is always a chance of a challenge popping up that will cause you to be late. Learn two to three different routes to get to campus. Sometimes roads are closed or traffic is backed up. Be prepared and try to leave early to allow for that lost time.

If you get to campus just fine without any troubles, you will have that extra time to look over the material for the exam or just relax.

Check your bag:
Students living in residence halls or apartments near the campus have quick access to any papers or books they may forget and leave behind. Make sure to check that you have all of your materials ready to go for the day on campus. Getting your bag ready the night before may help eliminate the chance of you forgetting any items.

Make sure to bring snacks, pack a lunch, or bring money to buy food on campus in between classes so you don’t have to go off-campus to get food. There is a microwave and refrigerator for student use in the back of the cube area, located in the Office of Student Involvement, and one in the Citizens Commons food court area.

Parking:
IUPUI has a handful of shuttle buses that stop near many of the school buildings and parking garages. If you find yourself parking on Indiana Avenue, hop on the Purple line to get to campus. Learn more about IUPUI parking and shuttle services.
IndyGo transportation:
The IndyGo bus is a great option to get to campus from various parts of the city. Learn more about the IndyGo routes here.

Computer labs:
There are many buildings on campus that provide students access to computers. Learn more about the locations, hours, and available seats at the student technology labs on campus http://uits.iu.edu/page/amcg.

Student lounges:
Need a place to relax or spend that extra hour you have between classes? Students are able to visit a number of lounge spots on campus. There are couches, chairs and tables designed by IUPUI students on every floor of Cavanaugh Hall, on the first and fourth floor of the Campus Center, the second floor of Taylor Hall, the second floor of the business building, the first floor of the science building, and there is a newly renovated cozy spot in the basement of Cavanaugh. The IT building also houses a quiet lounge in the back of the building similar to the quiet lounge on the third floor of the Campus Center.

Food options on campus:
One option for students is to purchase an on campus meal plan. Meal plans are available for purchase during enrollment each semester and can also be purchased after enrollment. Learn more about obtaining a meal plan through IUPUI Food Service.

There are several nearby dining options for students who choose to eat off campus. Indiana Avenue is very close to campus and offers anything from pizza to subs to salads to pasta to grab between classes. Many of these restaurants accept Jagtag.