

## ***JUNE 2021***

## **GREETINGS FROM NEW ULM!**

All of us at MLC – faculty and staff– are looking forward to seeing you in August as, together, we start a new school year. Yes, I understand that beautiful summer weeks still stretch out in front of us, but I'm sending this letter to help you start thinking about August and the return to your studies! Plenty of information is included for you in this letter, but if you find, after reading through these materials, that you still have questions, please contact me.

Upon admission to MLC you were emailed directions from Network Services regarding online forms you need to complete. Please make sure that you have completed these forms. You were also snail-mailed the health and financial aid forms (or perhaps you needed to download and print them.) It is very important that you complete these forms and send them back to MLC (1995 Luther Ct., New Ulm, MN. 56073.) If you didn't receive this mailing, or have questions about the forms, **please phone as soon as possible. Call 507-354-8221, ext. 280 – the Admissions Office.**

**NEW STUDENT CHECKLIST** You are probably familiar with the MLC New Student Check List. Please make sure that your boxes are all checked! If you aren't familiar with this Check List, again, call MLC Admissions at 507-354-8221 ext. 280.

**REGISTRATION** You will be able to register for your courses online beginning the week of July 12<sup>th</sup>. You will receive a letter shortly with more detailed instructions. **You have already received an MLC email address. Please access this email account immediately, because this is how the college will communicate with you from this point forward.** If you have problems accessing it, please call our Network Services Office at 507-233-9100.

**PAYING YOUR STUDENT BILL** Most students should already have received their financial aid award letter. If you were contacted because additional verification information was needed from you, please return the information requested as soon as possible!

As you know, the MLC payment plan requires all new and returning students to choose the payment method they prefer. The financial statement you receive will reflect the choice you made and will remind you of payment dates:

- If you chose to pay on a monthly basis, your first payment will be due August 10.
- If you chose to pay for the semester in two installments, your first payment is due August 10 and the remainder is due October 10.

If your loans and financial aid package is in order your statement should reflect a lowered or adjusted payment amount. Please remember that payment is due upon receipt of your statement. It is very important that your first college payment is received before your arrival on campus! A copy of the pertinent pages from the 2021-22 MLC Catalog, which detail the payment policies of the college, are provided for you in this letter. Please take the time to read through these important policies so that you are fully aware of payment procedures and options. If you have any questions concerning your bill, please contact the MLC Financial Services Office at 507-354-8221, ext. 217.

**Credit and debit card payments are subject to a 2.5% convenience charge assessed to the card holder. We also offer an e-check option online for a \$3 fee per transaction fee.**

**FINANCIAL AID ON THE INTERNET** MLC Financial Aid communications are electronic and are relayed to you via email and your personal Net Partner account. If you haven't already set up your Net Partner account, please contact our Financial Aid Office and find out how to do so ... 507-354-8221, ext. 293.

**ARRIVAL** We are asking all incoming students to plan their arrival on campus for Thursday, August 19 or Friday morning, August 20 using Sign-Up Genius. The Admissions Department will be in contact with you regarding how to do this. **Please make sure to arrive before noon on Friday, Aug. 20!** Please do not arrive earlier than Thursday the 19th unless you are involved in fall athletics and have been asked to arrive at an earlier time. If you have questions about your arrival time, please contact the Admissions Office at 507-354-8221, ext. 280.

**STUDENT PHOTO ID** Photo ID's will be scheduled within the first few days you are on campus—taking your ID picture is part of the orientation process.

**ONLINE TECHNOLOGY MODULES** Professor Rachel Feld has provided all of our new students with an online way to orient themselves to the computer network, the MLC portal, the Moodle Online Course Management System, etc. Please complete these modules before you arrive on campus.

**AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION** You should also be aware of a very useful shuttle service that operates between Mankato/St. Peter MN and the Minneapolis airport. The service is called "Land to Air Express" and their website address is: <http://landtoairexpress.com/>. Students are expected to make their own shuttle arrangements. **Additional information about shuttle service is included in this packet of information. Make sure to book your flight in coordination with the appropriate shuttle times or arrangements!!! Note: the college will be able to pick you up from the shuttle drop-off spot in St. Peter, Minnesota. Please notify the Student Life Office and let us know about your shuttle plans—the sooner you inform us, the better!! (507-354-8221, ext. 289)**

**WHEN YOU GET ON CAMPUS** Our Dorm Staff members (a.k.a. "RAs" or Resident Assistants) will help you unload. MLC personnel will meet with you at various times during the orientation weekend to discuss the common sense policies intended to guide your lives on and off campus, in the classroom, and in the dormitory.

A special note for **Married Students or Non-traditional students --please come to the Student Life Office before noon on Friday, August 20th to receive your orientation packet. Please plan on attending an orientation session on Friday at 4:00pm in WCC 258.**

**OPENING SERVICE** The Opening Worship Service for the 2021-22 school year will be held on **Monday, August 23**. We will celebrate our forgiveness and fellowship in Christ during that opening service and new faculty members will be installed or ordained. Classes will also begin on Monday morning according to the special schedule prepared for this day. The schedule will be given to you when you arrive on campus.

**MEALS DURING ORIENTATION** The regular food service meal plan for all students begins on Saturday, August 21. When you arrive on campus you will find an "orientation meal pass" for new students in the folder of information given to you. This pass will admit you to the cafeteria for meals during the orientation days. Your parents may also want to eat some of their meals in the cafeteria and may purchase them there. *A campus picnic/meal is planned for Friday evening, August 20, in the air-conditioned cafeteria and is free of charge for you and your family!*

**THE STUDENT HANDBOOK** While a student planner is printed and available in the bookstore at no charge, the college also publishes *The Student Handbook* on our website at... <https://mlc-wels.edu/student-life/handbook-home/>. Our policies are broken down into easy to navigate categories. I encourage you to read through the policies prior to your arrival on campus so that you know all about housing & parking policies, campus services, college policies, etc.

Please note that by enrolling at MLC you accept the campus guidelines detailed in *The Student Handbook*. These guidelines serve to help the 800+ students, faculty and staff members live and work together in a God-pleasing, sensible, careful and courteous manner. **Read through the Handbook, know what is expected of you as an MLC student, and understand what you can expect from the people around you.**

## **TRANSFER STUDENT INFORMATION**

**ORIENTATION SESSIONS FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS** Transfer students are asked to attend the same orientation sessions as the traditional freshman on Saturday and Sunday. In addition, you have an abbreviated orientation on Friday at 4:00pm in WCC 258 which is designed for those students who have attended college previously. During this time we will also help with getting your student ID picture taken.

**COURSE REGISTRATION FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS** Your course registration is taken care of by the Records Office. You do not have to register for classes now or when you arrive—it's done for you! **Your class schedule will be mailed to you soon (perhaps you have already received it.) However, you will need to check it again once you arrive on campus to make sure no changes have occurred.**

**Married and students living off-campus need to register their car if you intend to drive to campus! Contact Student Life for assistance. Please note that if you do bring your vehicle to campus you will need to purchase a parking permit.**

**Your School Address** Your mailbox number is printed on the sheet of paper which indicates your housing assignment. Mail boxes for on- and off-campus students are located in the LSC. During orientation you will receive your mailbox combination. Letters and packages



**ROOMS AND ROOMMATES** Please remember that dorm rooms are small. Consciously limit the amount of “stuff” that you bring to the dormitory. Too many items too large for dorm rooms are finding their way into the dormitory!

**Concord Hall residents may want to consider the purchase of additional plastic storage shelving or drawers.** There are two shelves in each student’s closet for folding clothes. Some of the desk drawers were also intended for socks and underwear. Nevertheless, you might decide that you need more drawer storage space and may want to bring some with you to the dormitory.

**MATTRESS SIZES** Many of you will be purchasing bedding over the summer. To assure your sheets will fit, we recommend buying the XL twin size.

**ROOM FURNISHINGS: BEDS, DRESSERS, DESKS & CHAIRS** MLC has furnished sturdy, long-lasting furniture items for you to use in the dormitory room. We provide this sturdy furniture in an effort to be wise stewards and managers of the Lord’s resources. With this in mind, please note that **you may not disassemble any of the furnishings provided by MLC**. In addition, the beds in Concord and Centennial Halls are not designed to be moved around or rearranged in the room. It should also be noted that the furniture which the college has placed in a room should never be moved out of that room. Your dormitory supervisor will help you understand and apply these stewardship-minded principles.

**WI-FI ON CAMPUS** Virtually all of the MLC campus has wi-fi coverage. This will mean that students are asked to not bring their own wireless routers to campus and instead make use of the campus wireless network for their connectivity needs. Up-to-date instructions on which wireless networks are available along with how to connect can be found at <https://kb.mlc-wels.edu/network-services/wireless>. If you have any IT questions or concerns, you can always reach MLC Network Services by visiting <https://mlc-wels.edu/support> or by calling Network Services at 507-233-9100.

**LAUNDRY FACILITIES** MLC contracts with a Laundry Service vendor and that vendor maintains all the dormitory laundry machines. The machines are connected to the internet and students can find out what machines are available and when their loads are completed, etc. **The washing machines require the use of HE detergent only!** Using other detergents will cause the machines to malfunction. More information about using the laundry facilities will be available when you arrive in August.

**HEALTH INSURANCE** The college strongly encourages all students to carry health insurance. In fact, this is now the law of the land.

**SMOKING/VAPING POLICY** In light of medical evidence and for the comfort of our campus family, MLC urges students not to smoke or chew tobacco or to vape. A small number of students, nevertheless, do choose to smoke or chew or vape. Please understand that **smoking/vaping and any other tobacco use will only be permitted within the confines of college parking lots. This means that there should be no smoking/vaping next to building entrances whatsoever and no smoking/vaping on the Summit Hall “porch.”** Adherence to this simple guideline shows concern and love for fellow students and campus family members who are sensitive to smoke and who wish to eliminate contact with second hand smoke. Those students who use chewing tobacco should always dispose of it in a responsible and proper way – **and never use drinking fountains, sinks, urinals or toilets**. Vaping and electronic cigarettes are included in this policy – only permitted in parking lots and nowhere else.

**CLASS ATTENDANCE AT MLC** The faculty expects full attendance from students—a reasonable policy considering that one of the chief qualifications for service in the public ministry is faithfulness. Below you find the faculty’s policy and procedure:

**What is the institutional philosophy in regard to class attendance?**

- Class attendance is an important and valuable part of education and, as emphasized in our catalog, is also one training ground for learning the practical application of faithfulness—certainly one of the chief requirements of those serving in the public ministry of the Gospel.
- A policy that expects full attendance reflects the real world adults live in and students need to acquire this mature understanding. Inherent in this understanding is the recognition that every variety of selfish thinking comes from the sinful nature and not from faith. Similarly, an eagerness in attitude and a carefulness in practice are the beautiful fruits of the Holy Spirit who works in us through the Gospel of Jesus Christ and empowers us to serve and respect one another.
- MLC recognizes the value of student participation in athletic, dramatic, musical and service activities and acknowledges that students participating in MLC sponsored and sanctioned activities will be absent from class. In this regard, students and faculty will look upon participation in these sponsored activities as a privilege, one that carries with it a higher standard of academic responsibility.

- Absences and absence issues are best handled within the relationship that exists between instructor and student.

**What are the Attendance Responsibilities of MLC Students?**

- MLC expects students to attend class and, in this regard, to adhere to the published academic calendar, the class schedules assigned to them, and the policies outlined for them in their instructors’ syllabi.
- Students who participate in MLC sponsored athletic, dramatic, musical and service activities have the responsibility to complete coursework in a timely, proactive manner in view of their absence from class. Students will likewise recognize that being absent from class for athletic, dramatic, musical or service activities means that no other absences should occur during the semester.
- Instructors have the prerogative to determine attendance policy in their courses and will outline and explain their policies in the course syllabus. Instructors are able to excuse absences as well as to impose consequences for absences from class. Students will address attendance issues with their instructors.

**What are the Attendance Responsibilities of ... the VP for Student Life?**

- Serve as the liaison between students and professors in cases where multi-day absences occur (e.g., funerals, adverse traveling conditions, prolonged illness, family emergencies, etc.)
- Will post information concerning students involved in dramatics, musical activities and MLC sponsored or sanctioned service activities that take students out of class. Instructors and students will still be responsible for resolving absences resulting from these activities, however.

**UNANSWERED QUESTIONS** Reading through this letter and its enclosures may help to answer some of your questions. But if you have questions that remain unanswered, please ask!

You may write to me.... c/o MLC, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm, MN 56073

You may call my office at ... 1-507-354-8221, ext. 289 or call/text my cell phone at 507-217-9764

You may email me at ... [schonejl@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:schonejl@mlc-wels.edu)

If you have access to the Internet you might wish to visit the MLC Web site for additional information. The address is: [www.mlc-wels.edu](http://www.mlc-wels.edu)

**IMPORTANT! If you are led not to attend MLC in the fall, please let us know right away. Your notice will help us make better and more timely plans for the new school year.**

New Ulm—and MLC’s campus—is a lush, green garden in the summertime! But what makes this an especially beautiful place are the people God brings and gathers here as he works with us and through us to prepare candidates for the Gospel ministry. I am also looking forward to welcoming you to college...and to the beginning of your college education. You are a gift to God’s people and all of us at MLC are thankful for the opportunity to work with you. See you in August!

Your servant in Christ Jesus,



Pastor Jeffrey Schone  
Vice President for Student Life

## Finances

***2021-2022 Tuition, Room and Board***

	<u>Cost per semester</u>	<u>Cost per year</u>
Tuition (in-state or out-of-state)	\$8,455	\$16,910
Room and Board	\$3,340	\$6,680

**Notes:**

- The actual cost of enrollment is reduced by a budgetary operating subsidy from the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).
- Tuition for part-time (fewer than 12 credits per semester excluding audits) is \$500 per credit.

- Because education students living off campus do not pay room and board to the college, they are assessed a fee to cover expenses for any room and board arranged by the college during their professional semester. For the 2021-22 school year, this amount is \$1,965.
- Because staff ministry and parish music interns living off campus do not pay room and board to the college, they are assessed a fee to cover expenses for any room and board arranged by the college during their professional semester. For the 2021-22 school year, the amount is \$3,340.
- The cost of audits for non-degree seeking students is \$120 per course (excluding private music lessons) or \$90 per course for senior citizens (60 or older).
- The MLC Governing Board reserves the right to revise charges and procedures as economic conditions warrant

### ***Graduate Fees***

The tuition for graduate courses is \$325 per credit.

### ***Variable Costs***

The cost of books, supplies, travel, laundry, personal and miscellaneous expenses varies with the individual. For 2021-2022 the estimate per individual is \$5,100.

### ***Automobile Registration***

Automobile registration is \$100 (\$120 after June 1 for returning students). This fee is paid directly to the Student Life Office.

### ***Payment Plans***

Students pay the cost of attending school through a combination of scholarships, grants, school arranged loans, privately arranged loans, work-study programs, private funds and jobs. Financial Aid and Financial Services counselors provide planning assistance to students upon request. Prior to the beginning of the school year (see details under Payment Policies), students are asked to select one of the following options for meeting their financial obligations:

- **TWICE-A-SEMESTER PLAN:** Payment in two equal installments for semester one by August 10, 2021, and October 10, 2021. Payment in two equal installments for semester two by January 10, 2022, and March 10, 2022.
- **MONTHLY PLAN:** Payment in ten installments through MLC's tuition management plan. Students enrolled in this plan make monthly payments (August-May) via automatic withdrawal on the 10th of each month (or the next business day) from a checking or savings account they have designated. There is no charge for participation, but students are required to provide appropriate bank account and routing information when enrolling in this plan. If two payments are returned for any reason (insufficient funds, account closed), the student will automatically be assigned to the twice-a-semester plan.

Students who believe that extenuating circumstances make the standard payment plans temporarily unsuitable may request an exceptional payment plan subject to the approval of the director of finance. Such plans are granted only in rare circumstances (loss of employment, mounting medical expenses, etc.) and are intended as a temporary measure that should not exceed a single school year.

### ***Payment Policies***

- Students not enrolled at MLC in the prior year are required to select one of the two payment plans by June 10 (or December 10 for students matriculating the second semester). Each student is responsible for meeting his or her obligation for tuition, room and board according to the plan selected. If a student does not choose a plan prior to the deadline, the student will default to the twice-a-semester plan. A student that selects the monthly plan but fails to provide banking information by the above deadline will be assigned to the twice-a-semester plan.
- Students enrolled at MLC in the prior year will default to the same payment plan that applied to their account in the prior year. Students on the monthly payment plan are responsible to notify MLC of any changes in their banking information prior to the next monthly withdrawal.
- Students may not charge their bookstore purchases to their student account unless a credit exists on their student account. Only books and supplies are allowed to be charged to a student account.

- Parking tickets, fines for dormitory infractions or past-due library books, and charges for the damage of school property are due immediately upon receipt. If these charges and fines are not paid within two weeks of receipt, they will be added to a student's account along with an administrative fee.
- The college will not confer degrees, issue diplomas or official transcripts to students with outstanding financial obligations.
- Graduates in arrears on their payment plan will not be eligible for a call or assignment until their account is current. They are, however, eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony.
- Past due financial accounts must be paid in full before a student can complete course registration or return to campus for the following semester unless an exception has been granted by the college administration.

### ***Billing Procedures***

- All billing statements will be sent to students via the campus email address assigned to the student. The initial billing statement will be emailed the first week of July. Additional statements will be issued on a monthly basis going forward. The first payment is due August 10 for all payment plans and considered past due if received after that date.
- MLC reserves the right to email additional statements to the student. MLC also reserves the right to send a printed paper statement to the student's permanent address at opportune times (such as semester breaks, etc.).
- Billing statements can be emailed to multiple email addresses. The student cannot remove the assigned campus email address from the tuition statement recipient list. It is the student's responsibility to update the campus portal with the additional addresses to where the student intends additional statements be sent.
- If a student chooses to have statements sent to multiple email addresses, the student is authorizing MLC to share billing and payment information with the owner of that email address.
- For students matriculating the second semester, the initial billing is emailed the first week of December. The first payment is due January 10 for all payment plans and considered past due if received after that date.
- Each payment includes a prorated portion of tuition, room, and board charges for the year. The payment amount varies according to the plan selected.
- Failure to meet payment deadlines places a student in delinquent status. Failure to make appropriate payment by the due date will result in a hold being placed on the student's records. If the delinquent status is not addressed in a timely manner, it may result in termination of enrollment. Students dismissed have the right to appeal. The appeal process/grievance procedure must be initiated within 30 days of the initial payment deadline. The appeal must be made in writing on the Student Appeal/Grievance Form located on the MLC website ([www.mlc-wels.edu](http://www.mlc-wels.edu)). The Student Appeal/Grievance Form and any supporting documentation are submitted to the vice president for administration.
- Individual past due notices will be sent via the student's campus email address. A student with a significant past due balance as of the midpoint of a semester will be assessed a \$25 administrative fee due to additional time required of MLC personnel to repeatedly address the collection issue with the student.
- A \$50 fee will be applied to the student's account when a payment is returned for any reason. This includes insufficient funds, incorrect account numbers, account closed, etc...
- A student with two returned automatic withdrawals will be removed from the monthly payment plan for the remainder of the school year. In the following year, one additional returned payment will remove them from the monthly payment plan permanently.
- Initial billing statements reflect financial aid allotments (if application and other deadlines have been met); loans or aid received after these deadlines will be reflected on later statements. If a student expects additional financial aid that is not reflected on the statement, it is the student's responsibility to address the discrepancy with the Financial Aid Office before the next payment is due.
- Scholarships will be allocated evenly to all payments for the semester to which they apply. Students are not allowed to reduce tuition payments based on anticipated scholarships that have not been confirmed in writing by the organization providing them.
- The college accepts credit and debit card payments as well as echeck payments on student accounts under the twice-a-semester payment plan. Card payments and echecks are not allowed under the monthly payment plan.
- Credit and debit card payments are subject to a 2.5% convenience charge assessed to the cardholder.
- Payments made online via echeck (maximum of \$10,000 per transaction) are subject to a \$3 per transaction charge, assessed to the account owner.

### ***Refunds/Withdrawals***

- All refunds due to students will be issued via check from the Financial Services office, regardless of payment method.

- Credit balances on student accounts generated by Title IV Federal Financial Aid funds will be refunded within 14 days of receipt funds unless the college has received an authorization form from the student or parent borrower (in the case of a PLUS loan) to hold excess Title IV funds on the student account.
- Credit balances on student accounts generated by Minnesota state financial aid funds will be refunded within 14 days of receipt unless the college has received an authorization form from the student to hold excess Title IV funds on the student account.
- A flat fee of \$105 per day on campus is charged when a full-time resident student discontinues prior to midterm of a semester. A flat fee of \$75 per day is charged when a full-time student living off campus discontinues prior to midterm of a semester. Any account overpayment will be refunded during this period. Students discontinuing after midterm of a semester will not receive a credit for tuition, room, and board. Dropping a course after midterm of a semester will not result in a credit for tuition.
- A prorated fee will be used when a part time student discontinues prior to midterm of a semester. The tuition charge will be calculated as the number of credits x \$500 per credit / 17 weeks per semester x number of weeks before withdrawal. A fee of \$30 per day times number of days on campus will be charged for board students living on campus. Students that drop courses between the two-week mark and midterm (which changes a student's status from full-time to part-time) will receive a prorated credit for the courses dropped. The credit will be calculated as follows: the number of credits dropped x \$500 per credit / 17 weeks per semester x number of weeks remaining in the semester after dropping the course.
- A professional semester is defined as a semester in which student teaching or an internship occurs. A professional semester is considered one complete semester, regardless of when individual courses start or are completed. Refunds during the professional semester are made in the same manner as other semesters.
- Students may have medical issues (including but not limited to COVID-19), family issues, or personal issues for which the best course of action is to travel home for a period of time (this may include circumstances in which the college requests a student to return home temporarily.) Refunds or account adjustments are not issued in cases of temporary absence from campus.
- A \$110 severance fee is charged for early termination of enrollment.
- A portion of any withdrawal refund may be used to repay financial aid programs.
- Students who withdraw during the first thirty days of a semester will not receive any institutional grants or scholarships administered by Martin Luther College.
- In the case of a withdrawing student who received scholarships, refunds will be granted under the intent of the donor organization. The donor organization will be consulted as to the application of the scholarship between semesters.
- Refunds will be issued after all departments have been given adequate time to report any additional charges that need to be applied to the student's account, such as parking fines, dorm fines, etc.
- Federal regulations require that a percentage of Title IV funds be returned if withdrawal occurs before completion of 60% of a semester.
- The Minnesota Office of Higher Education Refund Calculation Worksheet is employed to determine any Minnesota State Grant or SELF loan funds that need to be returned to the State of Minnesota upon withdrawal from MLC.

### ***Federal Title IV Funds Policy***

Title IV is a term that refers to federal financial aid funds. Federal regulations state that any federal funds disbursed to a student's account in excess of allowable charges must be returned to the student (or parent in the case of an undergraduate PLUS loan).

If other non-allowable charges (such as vehicle registration, bookstore charges, etc.) are on the account, an outstanding balance due may exist after the Title IV excess has been returned.

To prevent an outstanding balance due, students or parents (in the case of a parent PLUS loan) may authorize the college to apply excess funds to the student account for non-allowable charges by signing an authorization form. These forms are found on the *Finances* section of the MLC website under *Tuition and Payments, 2021-2022*.

- Federal Title IV Student Authorization Form
- Federal Title IV Parent Authorization Form

Students (or parents in the case of an undergraduate PLUS loan) will be notified via email from the Financial Services Office when there are excess Title IV funds on the student account. The appropriate Federal Title IV Student/Parent Authorization Form will be included in the email. If the student (or parent) chooses to complete the Authorization Form and replies to the email, Title IV funds will be applied to non-



allowable charges. If a reply is not received by the due date listed within the email, the excess Title IV funds will be returned to the student (or parent) within 14 days of receipt of the Title IV funds.

Please see the *Tuition and Payments 2021-2022* section found under *Finances* on the MLC website for more information.

**Questions regarding payment policies or procedures should be directed to the  
Financial Services Office.  
(507) 354-8221**