

Information for students from Puerto Rico displaced by Hurricane Maria

Press Release

DSC offers assistance to students from Puerto Rico affected by Hurricane Maria

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (Sept. 28, 2017) - Daytona State College is offering students from Puerto Rico whose families are recovering from Hurricane Maria in-state tuition for the academic year. This initiative is in response to Gov. Rick Scott's call for Florida's colleges and universities to provide tuition assistance to the students.

"Many Volusia and Flagler County residents know well the devastation wrought by hurricanes," said DSC President Tom LoBasso. "While we, too, are still recovering from the effects of hurricanes Matthew and Irma, we are fortunate that our area did not receive the kind of direct hit from these storms that Puerto Rico did with Maria and the absolute destruction it left in its wake. We hope that adjusting the tuition for students from Puerto Rico will help mitigate their losses and inconvenience, and allow them to pursue or continue their programs of study."

As an institution that serves primarily local and in-state students, DSC records show only a handful who list their permanent residence in Puerto Rico, said Dick Pastor, vice president of enrollment services.

The college also is assisting Florida students affected by Hurricane Irma. Over two dozen in-state students sustained damage or were displaced from their homes due to the storm, according to Vice President of Student Development Keith Kennedy. "We've been reaching out to these students as well," he said. "Faculty are offering them grace periods for turning in assignments and referring the students to us. Additionally, our Center for Women and Men is providing books, uniforms, vouchers for laundry services, everything that can be done for each student based on his or her individual needs or circumstances."

For assistance with the in-state tuition offer, DSC students and future students whose permanent residence is in Puerto Rico should contact Isabel Candelas at (386) 506-3062 or Isabel.Candelas@DaytonaState.edu.

Local students impacted by Irma can contact Kennedy at (386) 506-3562 or Keith.Kennedy@DaytonaState.edu.

Frequently asked questions

1. How do I begin the process for becoming a student at DSC?

The first step is to submit an Admissions application at www.daytonastate.edu/apply. We strongly encourage students to meet with an Admissions Advisor located on any of our five campuses to discuss the steps to enrollment including applying for the out-of-state tuition waiver.

2. How do I qualify for the out-of-state tuition waiver?

The out-of-state fee waiver will be granted to students who were displaced by Hurricane Maria. Qualifying students will be billed the lower in-state rate for tuition. View our current tuition rates [here](#). Students will need to submit a self certification.

3. Can I register for classes without my final transcripts?

The College has extended the deadline for final official transcripts until the end of the second term of attendance for admissions purposes. In order for a financial aid award to be made the College must have final, official transcripts from all previously attended secondary and post-secondary institutions.

4. Do I need to take a placement test?

Each student will meet with an Academic Advisor during the enrollment process. They will assist in determine if the student will need a placement test for their desired program of study.

5. How long will out-of-state fees be waived?

The waiver program for student displaced by hurricane Maria will be in effect through the Summer 2018 term.

6. Will I be eligible for Federal Financial aid?

We encourage all students to submit a FAFSA. If you have already completed a FAFSA for the 2017-2018 academic year you will need to add our school code (001475) to your FAFSA. Final, official transcripts from high school and all previously attended post-secondary schools are required in order to make a financial aid award. Financial aid awards are contingent on verification and satisfactory academic progress.

7. Does Daytona State college offer payment plans?

Yes, Daytona State College offers payment plans. Visit our [Office of Student Accounts page](#) for more information.

Affected students seeking the in-state tuition rate will be required to sign a notarized affidavit, attesting that they are residents of the Disaster Areas and that they have been displaced as a result of the devastation caused by the hurricanes. Additionally, students displaced from their schools will be required to show some form of documentation verifying enrollment in an effected institution of higher education.