

CATS ACADEMY BOSTON

Essential Pre-Arrival FAQ

2026-27 Academic Year | Updated August 3, 2026

This streamlined FAQ highlights the information families are most likely to need before arrival. Please use it alongside the Residential Life Pre-Arrival Guide and your student's welcome materials.

Arrival and Induction

When should new students arrive?

New students may complete induction and move-in on either Thursday, August 27, or Friday, August 28. Check-in is available from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM on both days.

What happens during induction?

Students complete registration, document verification, a health and medication check, technology setup, housing check-in, and a campus tour. Families may attend orientation sessions throughout the day.

What if my student will arrive after August 28 or outside the published hours?

Contact Student Services and Residential Life as soon as possible to coordinate an alternate plan. A \$300 fee applies to arrivals after 9:00 PM.

Do athletes follow the same arrival schedule?

Not always. Student-athletes have predetermined move-in dates set by their teams, which have already been communicated directly to those families; students should follow the arrival instructions provided by their coaches.

How do airport transfers work?

School transportation from Boston Logan International Airport is available for \$200 each way when arranged in advance. Airline Unaccompanied Minor service requires advance coordination and carries an additional \$200 school fee. Send flight details to Student Services at least 48 hours before arrival and, whenever possible, 72 hours before travel.

When do orientation and classes begin?

Student orientation begins August 31. Classes begin Tuesday, September 8, 2026.

Housing and Move-In

When will students receive their housing assignments?

Housing information will be shared before arrival. Because assignments may change as the residential community is finalized, the final room assignment is confirmed during check-in.

What is provided in each room?

Each room includes a Twin XL bed and mattress, storage, a study desk, and an en-suite bathroom. Most rooms are single-occupancy; shared rooms are assigned only when necessary.

What should students do after moving in?

Within 24 hours, record a short video showing the room's condition and any existing damage. Do not record a roommate, their belongings, or personal documents. Send the video or a shareable link to residentiallife@catsboston.com using: MOVE-IN CONDITION | CEG Number | Last Name, First Name | Dorm | Room.

May families help students move in?

Yes. Parents, guardians, extended family members, and educational agents are welcome during induction and move-in.

Packing, Laundry, and Deliveries

What bedding and personal items should students bring?

Bring Twin XL sheets, pillows, a comforter or duvet, a blanket, towels, washcloths, toiletries, a laundry bag, and laundry supplies. The Pre-Arrival Guide contains the complete packing list.

How do cleaning and laundry work?

Housekeeping cleans student rooms weekly. Students are responsible for washing their own clothing and linens. Laundry facilities are free, and an optional wash-and-fold service is available.

May families ship items before arrival?

Yes. Deliveries are accepted Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Address packages to the student's formal name, dorm, and room number at: CATS Academy Boston, 2001 Washington Street, Braintree, MA 02184, USA.

Which appliances are permitted?

Students may rent a mini refrigerator; personally owned refrigerators require approval. Televisions up to 32 inches and hair dryers are permitted. Personal cooking appliances—including microwaves, kettles, air fryers, hot plates, and toasters—are not permitted in student rooms. Shared microwaves and approved appliances are available in common areas.

Technology and Communication

What device should students bring?

Bring a Windows laptop, MacBook, or capable tablet such as an iPad. A Chromebook should not be used as the primary device because it may not support standardized testing and required school applications.

Why is a device needed if it is not normally used during class?

Students need a suitable device for homework, assignments, research, printing, school systems, and standardized testing. Teachers may authorize device use during instruction when appropriate.

Does a student need a U.S. phone number?

Students must keep either a domestic U.S. mobile number or an active WhatsApp number on file with the school. The service must work reliably in the United States.

Academics, Health, and Student Life

What systems will students and families use?

PowerSchool provides schedules, attendance, grades, assignments, reports, and family communication. Canvas is used for coursework and assignments. REACH is used for activity and WOW Experience sign-ups and for weekend travel approval. Login and training information will be provided as the year begins.

How does course add/drop work?

Students review schedules during orientation and may request appropriate changes through a structured process with a firm deadline.

What health information is required?

All students must have completed medical and immunization records. International students are enrolled in the school-sponsored health plan. Domestic students must provide proof of active insurance. Medications are submitted to and securely stored by the Health Office.

How are trips, weekend travel, and curfew managed?

Activities and optional WOW Experiences are communicated through school messages and REACH. Off-campus weekend travel requires parent or guardian approval through REACH. Students must be on campus by 9:30 PM and signed in by 9:45 PM unless another arrangement is approved.

Essential Contacts

CATS Main Number

+1 (857) 400-9700

Student Services

studentservices@catsboston.com

Residential Life

residentiallife@catsboston.com

Health Office

healthoffice@catsboston.com

Academics

Christina Torns, Dean of Academics - ctorns@catsboston.com

Dorm and emergency numbers

Gardner: +1 617 842 1530

Wheatley: +1 617 842 1740

Kennedy/Emerson: +1 617 842 1791

Administrator on Duty: +1 617 610 5635

Please contact the appropriate school office when an individual circumstance differs from the general guidance above.