FIRST YEAR RESIDENT STUDENT PARKING

POLICY STATEMENT

First year resident students are not permitted to bring vehicles to Bryant University's campus for the duration of their first year (fall through spring semester). This policy does not apply to non-traditional first year students or first year commuter students. Please see the definition below for clarification.

RATIONALE

Parking restrictions have been applied to first year resident students, as it is our belief they will be least impacted by this policy. First year resident students live in residence halls with meal plans and on-campus employment options are readily available. They are supported by a wide array of special social activities in their residence halls and elsewhere on campus. We want first year students to stay on campus to become a vital and enthusiastic part of the University community and to enjoy and benefit from all the University has to offer. National research indicates that first year resident students who have cars on campus have lower GPAs than those who do not have cars. They are also less involved than students without cars, as indicated by the number of clubs and organizations they join.

DEFINING A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT

A first year resident is a student living on campus who is in their first year of college. Non-traditional first years are 21 years or older. Non-traditional first years do not fall under this policy. New applicants are first year resident students who are new to Bryant and are in their first year of college.

Pre-college credits, advanced placement credits, CLEP credits and the like are not relevant to this regulation. Any credit awarded for coursework taken prior to high school graduation, or during the summer following graduation, does not change student status as a first year college student.

Students entering their second semester that obtain "sophomore status" by virtue of their registration are still considered first year students. The student must complete two full semesters at a college or university to be exempt from the ban. Students entering their second year (i.e. third semester) at Bryant University are eligible to register a vehicle on campus even if they have not completed enough credits to obtain sophomore standing. They are no longer considered first year students.

ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

A number of options exist for first year students and other students without cars on campus:

- **On-campus Car Rentals – ZipCar** offers qualified drivers ages 18 years and up environmentally friendly vehicles to rent at a low rate – by the hour or by the day. Members access cars using either their mobile device or their Zipcard and only pay for the time they rent the car. The rate includes gas, insurance, GPS navigation, iPod adaptor, Bluetooth technology, 24-hour Roadside Assistance and in-car communication with the Member Care Center.

- **Bryant Transit Authority (BTA)** - a transportation service offered to Bryant University students that offers daily runs to local attractions such as the Lincoln Mall, Providence Place Mall, Providence
Train Station, Smithfield Crossing, and Kennedy Plaza. Trips to TF Green Airport (PVD) are also available when special schedules are issued. This service is offered to students at a minimal rate. BTA schedules can be found at Information Center located on the first of the Fisher Student Center or click here.

- Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) - is a quasi-public, independent authority. RIPTA operates 7 days a week, and operates 3,300 daily trips on 54 statewide fixed bus routes. It is free for Bryant University students with a Student ID. Schedules may be found at the Information Center located on the first floor of the Fisher Student Center or by visiting http://www.ripta.com/.

- Ridesharing – Uber and Lyft ridesharing services are available throughout the area. Students can request affordable rides on demand using the Uber and Lyft apps. Rides are cashless and convenient.

- Taxis – There are several options for taxi service in Smithfield and Providence areas including:
  - AA 24/7 Taxi Service: 401-521-4200
  - Corporate Taxi: 401-231-2228
  - Big Daddy Taxi & Coach: 401-274-1101
  - Genesis Transportation: 401-338-0772

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why are first year resident students unable to bring cars on campus?
Parking restrictions have been applied to first year resident students, as it is our belief they will be least impacted by this policy. First year resident students live in residence halls with meal plans and on-campus employment options are readily available. They are supported by a wide array of special social activities in their residence halls and elsewhere on campus. We want first year students to stay on campus to become a vital and enthusiastic part of the University community and to enjoy and benefit from all the University has to offer. National research indicates that first year resident students who have cars on campus have lower GPAs than those who do not have cars. They are also less involved than students without cars, as indicated by the number of clubs and organizations they join.

If I come in with enough credits to be classified as a sophomore student will I be able to bring a car?
No. This policy has nothing to do with credit hours earned, but rather has to do with “first year” admission status as defined by the Bryant University admissions policy.

May I bring a car anyway and park it somewhere else?
We ask that students comply with the spirit of the policy by not bringing cars to campus with the expectation that they can be parked on the streets or in public areas.

I’m a first year student, but I plan to live off campus and commute. May I park my car on campus?
Yes - Commuter students are exempt from this policy. Commuters may obtain a parking pass by registering online through the Department of Public Safety.

What if I have guests visit me?
A student requesting a Guest Pass must use the online Guest Pass form available on the DPS web page. The completed form is forwarded to the Entry Control Station (ECS) and is issued to the guest upon arrival. Informing the guest of the campus parking and traffic rules is the responsibility of the host student. Host students assume monetary responsibility for their guests parking fines. Guests must leave a copy of the Guest Pass in plain view on the dashboard of the vehicle. Additional rules pertaining to guests appears in the Student Handbook. It is the responsibility of the host student to be familiar with them.
To register a guest, follow the navigation path below.

- [http://DPS.bryant.edu](http://DPS.bryant.edu)
- To left of page click “Guest Passes”
- Click on “Login”
- Enter username and password
- Click “OK” for Guest Pass Form

**MEDICAL PARKING WAIVER EXEMPTIONS**

The University recognizes that in some instances there are medical needs that require students who do not otherwise qualify to have a motor vehicle on campus. To be granted a medical exception for a vehicle as a first year resident student, the student making the request must be formally accepted to the University.

If you have a permanent disability or medical condition that requires the use of a vehicle, we suggest you apply for a disability parking placard from your home state or from the Rhode Island Division of Motor Vehicles. First year students with this placard will be approved for a vehicle.

For other physical medical situations, the accepted student must send an email documenting the physical medical need, along with medical supporting documentation, to Health Services. If you have any other type of disability or accommodation, the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) will assist in determining your needs, including making a determination about the need for a vehicle on campus. The recommendation of ACE will be forwarded to the First Year Resident Parking Committee for a final decision.

Please note that medical exceptions will not be granted for the purpose of providing care for a family member or relative. The documented medical need must apply to the student filling out the appeal.