

Allegheny College

Office of Spiritual, Religious and Personal Wellbeing

August 2026 – May 2027

Student Accommodation Holidays are marked Yes where the observance is widely recognized in academic accommodation policies.

Event	Time	Tradition	Significance	Student Accommodation Holiday
Hopi Snake Dance	Sat., Aug. 1 – Sun., Aug. 16, 2026	Indigenous American	A sixteen-day purification ceremony involving the gathering and blessing of snakes.	No
Mawlid an-Nabi	Mon., Aug. 24, 2026	Islam	Celebrates the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad.	No
Raksha Bandhan	Thu., Aug. 27, 2026	Hinduism	Hindu festival celebrating brotherhood and love, observed on the full moon of Sravana.	No
Iroquois Green Corn Ceremony	Tue., Sep. 1 – Wed., Sep. 30, 2026	Indigenous American	A time of renewal involving fasting, dances, offerings, and readings from the code of Handsome Lake.	No
Jicarilla Apache Ghost Dance	Tue., Sep. 1 – Wed., Sep. 30, 2026	Indigenous American	A spiritual ceremony observed in New Mexico.	No
Krishna Janmashtami	Thu., Sep. 3, 2026	Hinduism	Celebrates the birthday of Krishna, eighth incarnation of Vishnu; worship expressed through dance and song.	No
Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos	Tue., Sep. 8, 2026	Christianity-Orthodox	Celebrates the belief that Mary, mother of Jesus, was born without sin.	No
Paryushana Festival	Tue., Sep. 8 – Wed., Sep. 16, 2026	Jainism	The holiest period of the year for Jains, marked by fasting, meditation, prayer, and public readings of the life of Lord Mahavira.	Yes
Rosh Hashanah	Fri., Sep. 11 – Sun., Sep. 13, 2026	Judaism	The Jewish New Year and anniversary of the creation of the world; begins the Ten Days of Awe leading to Yom Kippur.	Yes
Gahambar Paitishem	Sat., Sep. 12 – Wed., Sep. 16, 2026	Zoroastrianism	Celebrates the creation of the Earth and the harvesting of the summer crop.	No
Ganesh Chaturthi	Mon., Sep. 14, 2026	Hinduism	Celebrates the birthday of Ganesh, the elephant-headed God of Success.	No
Das Laxana Festival	Tue., Sep. 15 – Fri., Sep. 25, 2026	Jainism	A 10-day holy convocation involving fasting, meditation, and prayer, concluding with requests for forgiveness.	No
Yom Kippur	Sun., Sep. 20, 2026	Judaism	The holiest and most solemn day of the Jewish year, characterized by repentance, fasting, and forgiveness.	Yes
Mabon	Tue., Sep. 22, 2026	Wicca/Paganism	Autumnal Equinox and second harvest festival, celebrating the balance of light and dark.	No

Event	Time	Tradition	Significance	Student Accommodation Holiday
Sukkot	Fri., Sep. 25 – Fri., Oct. 2, 2026	Judaism	An eight-day fall harvest festival of booths, giving thanks for God's presence and provision.	Yes
Cherokee Great New Moon Festival	Thu., Oct. 1 – Sat., Oct. 31, 2026	Indigenous American	Marks the beginning of the Cherokee new year in October.	No
Shmini Atzeret	Fri., Oct. 2, 2026	Judaism	The Eighth Day of Sukkot, considered both its conclusion and a distinct festival.	Yes
Simchat Torah	Sat., Oct. 3, 2026	Judaism	Joyous festival completing the annual Torah reading cycle and beginning it anew, celebrated with singing and dancing.	Yes
Navratri	Sun., Oct. 11 – Tue., Oct. 20, 2026	Hinduism	A nine-night celebration of nine forms of the goddess Shakti/Devi; the most widely observed of four annual observances.	No
Gahambar Ayathrem	Mon., Oct. 12 – Fri., Oct. 16, 2026	Zoroastrianism	Celebrates the creation of plants, the sowing of the winter crop, and the return of herds from pasture.	No
Dusserah (Vijaya Dashami)	Tue., Oct. 20, 2026	Hinduism	Concludes a 10-day festival honoring Durga and Lord Rama; its central theme is the victory of good over evil.	No
Installation of Granth Sahib Ji As Guru	Tue., Oct. 20, 2026	Sikhism	Commemorates Gobind Singh Ji passing guru-ship to the Guru Granth Sahib in 1708 C.E.	No
Reformation Day	Sat., Oct. 31, 2026	Christianity-Protestant	Commemorates the start of the Protestant Reformation with Martin Luther's challenge to the Roman church.	No
Samhain	Sat., Oct. 31, 2026	Wicca/Paganism	The Pagan New Year and final harvest festival, celebrating the Earth's last gifts before winter.	No
All Saints Day	Sun., Nov. 1, 2026	Christianity-Protestant / Roman Catholic	Celebrates the lives of all saints, especially those without a dedicated feast day.	No
Shalako Kachina Ceremony	Sun., Nov. 1 – Mon., Nov. 30, 2026	Indigenous American	Held at Zuni pueblo (New Mexico); celebrates the New Year and blesses houses built during the year.	No
All Souls Day	Mon., Nov. 2, 2026	Christianity-Roman Catholic	Catholic observance in memory of all faithful deceased; in some Latin cultures known as the Day of the Dead.	No
Diwali (Dipavali)	Sun., Nov. 8, 2026	Hinduism	The Festival of Lights honoring Goddess Kali or Lakshmi; a burning lamp symbolizes knowledge dispelling ignorance.	Yes
Diwali/Mahavir Nirvana	Sun., Nov. 8, 2026	Jainism	Celebrates the attainment of Moksa (liberation) by Lord Mahavira; also known as Mahavira Nirvana.	Yes
Birth of the Bab	Tue., Nov. 10, 2026	Baha'i	Marks the anniversary of the birth of the Bab, herald of the new age for Baha'is.	No
Birth of Baha'u'llah	Wed., Nov. 11, 2026	Baha'i	Commemorates the birth of Baha'u'llah, founder of the Baha'i faith. Work is suspended on this day.	Yes

Event	Time	Tradition	Significance	Student Accommodation Holiday
Guru Nanak's Birthday	Tue., Nov. 24, 2026	Sikhism	Celebrates the birth of Guru Nanak (1469 C.E.), founder of Sikhism and poet whose hymns are in the Guru Granth Sahib.	Yes
Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji	Tue., Nov. 24, 2026	Sikhism	Commemorates the martyrdom of the ninth Sikh Guru, remembered for defending religious liberty.	No
Day of the Covenant	Thu., Nov. 26, 2026	Baha'i	Celebrates the appointment of 'Abdu'l-Baha as the Center of the Covenant.	No
Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Baha	Sat., Nov. 28, 2026	Baha'i	Commemorates the passing of 'Abdu'l-Baha, son of Baha'u'llah and head of the Baha'i faith.	No
Advent	Sun., Nov. 29 – Thu., Dec. 24, 2026	Christianity-Protestant / Roman Catholic	A four-week season of preparation for Christmas; its first Sunday marks the start of the Christian liturgical year.	No
Hanukkah	Fri., Dec. 4 – Sat., Dec. 12, 2026	Judaism	The eight-day Feast of Lights commemorating the rededication of the Temple in 165 B.C.E.	Yes
Bodhi Day (Rohatsu)	Tue., Dec. 8, 2026	Buddhism	Marks the anniversary of the Buddha's enlightenment (ca. 596 B.C.E.) in the northern Buddhist tradition.	No
Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary	Tue., Dec. 8, 2026	Christianity-Roman Catholic	Celebrates the belief that Mary, mother of Jesus, was conceived without original sin.	No
Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe	Sat., Dec. 12, 2026	Christianity-Roman Catholic	Commemorates the apparition of the Virgin of Guadalupe to San Juan Diego in Mexico.	No
Yule	Mon., Dec. 21, 2026	Wicca/Paganism	Winter Solstice celebration marking the longest night and welcoming the rebirth of the sun.	No
Native American Church Prayer Meeting	Thu., Dec. 24 – Fri., Dec. 25, 2026	Indigenous American	A sacred overnight prayer meeting observed by members of the Native American Church.	No
Christmas	Fri., Dec. 25, 2026	Christianity-Protestant / Roman Catholic	Celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, observed on December 25 by Roman Catholic and Protestant Christians.	Yes
Feast of the Nativity of Jesus Christ	Fri., Dec. 25, 2026	Christianity-Orthodox	Orthodox celebration of the birth of Jesus; some Orthodox churches observe this feast on January 7.	Yes
Death of Prophet Zarathustra	Sat., Dec. 26, 2026	Zoroastrianism	Marks the anniversary of the death of Zarathustra, founder of the Zoroastrian faith.	No
Gahambar Maidyarem	Thu., Dec. 31, 2026 – Mon., Jan. 4, 2027	Zoroastrianism	Celebrates the creation of animals; Zoroastrians are encouraged to practice equitable sharing of food.	No
Laylat al-Isra'wa al-Mi'raj	Tue., Jan. 5, 2027	Islam	Commemorates the Prophet Muhammad's miraculous night journey from Mecca to Jerusalem and ascension to heaven.	No

Event	Time	Tradition	Significance	Student Accommodation Holiday
Epiphany	Wed., Jan. 6, 2027	Christianity-Protestant / Roman Catholic	Celebrates the visit of the Three Kings to the infant Jesus, marking the manifestation of Christ to the gentiles.	No
Theophany	Wed., Jan. 6, 2027	Christianity-Orthodox	Orthodox observance commemorating the baptism of Jesus and the manifestation of the Trinity.	No
Feast of the Nativity of Jesus Christ	Thu., Jan. 7, 2027	Christianity-Orthodox	Christmas observance for Orthodox churches following the Julian calendar.	Yes
Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Ji	Fri., Jan. 15, 2027	Sikhism	Birthday of the 10th and final Sikh Guru, who created the Khalsa and declared Scripture as the eternal Guru.	No
Tu B'Shevat	Fri., Jan. 22, 2027	Judaism	Mid-winter celebration of the new year of the trees; sometimes called the Jewish Earth Day.	No
Laylat al-Bara'ah	Sat., Jan. 23, 2027	Islam	A night when God grants forgiveness of sins; observed on the 14th of the lunar month of Shaban.	No
Sadeh	Sat., Jan. 30, 2027	Zoroastrianism	An Iranian mid-winter celebration marked by the kindling of fire, observed 100 days before Naw Ruz.	No
Imbolc	Mon., Feb. 1, 2027	Wicca/Paganism	The first fertility festival, celebrating the approach of spring and the growing light in the darkness.	No
Iroquois Midwinter Ceremony	Mon., Feb. 1 – Sun., Feb. 7, 2027	Indigenous American	A six-day curative rite in which false faces visit houses; old fires are extinguished and new fires are lit.	No
Yaqui Deer Dances	Mon., Feb. 1, 2027	Indigenous American	Sacred ceremonial dances performed by the Yaqui people.	No
Ramadan	Sun., Feb. 7 – Mon., Mar. 8, 2027	Islam	The holy month of fasting; Muslims abstain from food and drink from dawn to sunset in honor of the first Quranic revelations.	Yes
Ash Wednesday	Wed., Feb. 10, 2027	Christianity-Protestant / Roman Catholic	Marks the beginning of Lent; the faithful are marked with ashes as a sign of penitence.	No
Vasant Panchami	Thu., Feb. 11, 2027	Hinduism	Celebrates the advent of spring, especially associated with Saraswati, goddess of learning, in North India.	No
Nirvana Day	Mon., Feb. 15, 2027	Buddhism	Commemorates the parinirvana (final passing) of the Buddha in the northern Buddhist tradition.	No
Nineteen Day Fast	Tue., Mar. 2 – Sat., Mar. 20, 2027	Baha'i	A 19-day period of fasting immediately before the Baha'i New Year, serving as spiritual preparation and renewal.	Yes
Laylat al-Qadr	Fri., Mar. 5, 2027	Islam	The Night of Power commemorates the first revelation of the Quran to Prophet Muhammad in 610 C.E.	No

Event	Time	Tradition	Significance	Student Accommodation Holiday
Maha Shivaratri	Sat., Mar. 6, 2027	Hinduism	A feast honoring Shiva, whose cosmic dance creates and recreates the world; observed with fasting and song.	No
Eid al-Fitr	Mon., Mar. 8, 2027	Islam	One of Islam's two main festivals, celebrating the end of Ramadan on the first day of the next lunar month.	Yes
Sri Ramakrishna Jayanti	Wed., Mar. 10, 2027	Hinduism	Celebrates the birthday of Sri Ramakrishna, 19th-century mystic and teacher of Swami Vivekananda.	No
Great Lent	Mon., Mar. 15 – Sat., Apr. 24, 2027	Christianity-Orthodox	A 10-week period of fasting and repentance leading up to Orthodox Holy Week and Easter (Pascha).	No
Gahambar Hamaspathmaedem	Tue., Mar. 16 – Sat., Mar. 20, 2027	Zoroastrianism	Celebrates the creation of human beings and honors the souls of the deceased.	No
Eagle Dances	Sat., Mar. 20, 2027	Indigenous American	Pueblo peoples (Arizona) perform Eagle Dances at Spring powwows, dramatizing their relationship with the Sky-World.	No
Ostara	Sat., Mar. 20, 2027	Wicca/Paganism	Vernal Equinox celebration marking the balance of light and dark and the arrival of spring.	No
Naw Ruz (Noruz)	Sun., Mar. 21, 2027	Zoroastrianism	Zoroastrian/Persian New Year on the spring equinox; celebrates the renewal of the world and creation of fire.	No
Naw Ruz (Nowruz)	Sun., Mar. 21, 2027	Baha'i	The Baha'i New Year, falling on the spring equinox; symbolizes the renewal of the world after winter.	Yes
Palm Sunday	Sun., Mar. 21, 2027	Christianity-Protestant / Roman Catholic	Celebrates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, marking the beginning of Holy Week leading to Easter.	No
Holi	Mon., Mar. 22, 2027	Hinduism	A joyous spring festival dedicated to Krishna; celebrated by throwing colored water and powder.	No
Purim	Mon., Mar. 22, 2027	Judaism	Celebrates the rescue of Persian Jews from destruction as told in the Book of Esther; observed with costumes and feasting.	Yes
Holy Thursday	Thu., Mar. 25, 2027	Christianity-Protestant / Roman Catholic	Commemorates the institution of the Eucharist by Jesus at the Last Supper.	No
Birthday of Prophet Zarathustra (Khordad Sal)	Fri., Mar. 26, 2027	Zoroastrianism	Marks the anniversary of the birth of Zarathustra, founder of the Zoroastrian faith.	No
Good Friday	Fri., Mar. 26, 2027	Christianity-Protestant / Roman Catholic	Commemorates the crucifixion and death of Jesus Christ.	Yes
Easter Sunday	Sun., Mar. 28, 2027	Christianity-Protestant / Roman Catholic	Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ; the oldest and most important festival in the Christian year.	Yes

Event	Time	Tradition	Significance	Student Accommodation Holiday
Native American Church Easter Prayer Meeting	Sun., Mar. 28, 2027	Indigenous American	A sacred prayer meeting held by the Native American Church in conjunction with Easter.	No
Hydesville Day	Wed., Mar. 31, 2027	Spiritualism	Marks the 1848 communication through the Fox sisters, heralding the birth of Modern Spiritualism.	No
Anniversary of the Founding of the Church	Tue., Apr. 6, 2027	Latter Day Saints	Annual World General Conference of the Church held on the Saturday and Sunday nearest to this date.	No
Navratri	Wed., Apr. 7 – Thu., Apr. 15, 2027	Hinduism	A nine-night celebration of nine forms of goddess Shakti; one of four annual Navratri observances.	No
Vaisakhi	Wed., Apr. 14, 2027	Sikhism	Celebrates the first day of the solar year and the 1699 founding of the Khalsa by Guru Gobind Singh.	Yes
Vaisakhi (Baisakhi)	Wed., Apr. 14, 2027	Hinduism	An agricultural harvest festival marking the first day of the solar year, especially important in North India.	No
Rama Navami	Thu., Apr. 15, 2027	Hinduism	Celebrates the birthday of Rama, seventh incarnation of Vishnu; the Ramayana is read during the preceding eight days.	No
Mahavir Jayanti	Mon., Apr. 19, 2027	Jainism	Celebrates the birthday of Lord Mahavira (ca. 599 B.C.E.), great spiritual hero and last of the Jain Tirthankaras.	Yes
Passover	Wed., Apr. 21 – Thu., Apr. 29, 2027	Judaism	Eight-day commemoration of the Israelites' deliverance from slavery in Egypt, beginning with the ritual Seder meal.	Yes
Ridvan	Wed., Apr. 21 – Sun., May 2, 2027	Baha'i	Commemorates the 12 days Baha'u'llah spent in the Garden of Ridvan, during which he proclaimed his prophetic mission.	Yes
Palm Sunday (Orthodox)	Sun., Apr. 25, 2027	Christianity-Orthodox	Orthodox celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, beginning Holy Week leading to Orthodox Easter.	No
Holy Thursday (Orthodox)	Thu., Apr. 29, 2027	Christianity-Orthodox	Orthodox commemoration of the Last Supper and institution of the Eucharist by Jesus.	No
Holy Friday (Orthodox)	Fri., Apr. 30, 2027	Christianity-Orthodox	Orthodox observance of the crucifixion and death of Jesus Christ.	No
Ghambar Maidyozarem	Fri., Apr. 30 – Tue., May 4, 2027	Zoroastrianism	Celebrates the creation of the sky and the harvesting of the winter crop.	No
Beltane	Sat., May 1, 2027	Wicca/Paganism	The final fertility festival, celebrating the Earth's fecundity and the approaching power of summer.	No
Hopi Kachina Dances	Sat., May 1 – Mon., May 31, 2027	Indigenous American	Ceremonial dances in Hopi pueblos (Arizona) where Kachina Dancers representing spirit-powers perform in open plazas.	No
Easter Sunday (Orthodox)	Sun., May 2, 2027	Christianity-Orthodox	Orthodox celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ; the most important festival in the Orthodox Christian year.	Yes

