

Snow/Inclement Weather Closings

The policy regarding University operations in the event of seriously inclement weather conditions (usually heavy snow or ice) is as follows:

The University will remain open, under most reasonably foreseeable weather conditions, especially during periods when classes are in session or during final examinations. If weather conditions make it impossible to maintain a reasonable level of academic activity in a safe environment on campus, the University will be closed or will either open late or close early until such time as it may reopen. An announcement will cancel all on campus classes and work obligations for everyone at the University except those personnel identified as essential such as physical plant, dining services, security and health services.

The President has delegated weather cancellation decisions to the Provost who makes this decision in consultation with the Assistant Vice President of Operations and the Director of Safety and Security.

Decisions to cancel or open late for day or evening classes are made independently of each other. Cancellation or late opening decisions will be made by 5:00 a.m. or earlier if possible. When it is decided that the University will open late, classes scheduled to meet before the decided upon, and announced, University opening time are canceled for that day. A specific opening time will be provided which coincides with the start of classes in a particular scheduling time block. Staff should plan to begin work at the specific opening time.

If day classes are canceled or a late opening decision is made, a determination regarding evening classes will be made no later than 3:00 p.m. that day (if possible). If the University is open during the day and the weather becomes progressively worse, a decision about evening classes will be made as early as possible.

The decision to close the University or to open late will be made as soon as possible during the morning. The Vice President of Public Relations or their designee will be informed of the decision and will contact the following radio station: **KYW Radio (1060 on the AM dial) will make an announcement of the following “snow numbers” for cancellation of classes:**

KYW “Snow Numbers”

Day Classes (8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. course start times)	112
Evening Classes (Start times after 5:00 p.m.)	2230
Bucks County Campus and Atlantic City Campus	2751

If inclement weather impacts campus operations, Public Relations will post a notice to <http://www.philau.edu> and the University will email an announcement to all PhilaU email addresses. Faculty, staff and students may also register to receive emergency text messages from security: <http://www.philau.edu/security/>. Weather information will also be made available on the University’s main telephone line (215) 951-2700.

This policy is understood as affecting the Philadelphia University Research Center (PURC) and the Main Campus unless otherwise stated in the information provided. Bucks County Campus and Atlantic City Campus cancellations or late openings will be separately announced and such decisions are made by the Provost in consultation with the Academic Dean of the School of Continuing and Professional Studies.

Faculty who are unable to safely travel to campus on days when the University is officially open are expected to make every reasonable effort to inform their students, as well as course coordinator, program director and/or Dean's Office, that they will not be holding classes. Faculty should not contact the Security Office to report canceled classes. This may be accomplished via e-mail distributions to students, phone calling trees or other appropriate methods and should be planned for prior to any closings and should be listed in the course syllabus. (See Syllabus Guidelines Section XII a.)

Inclement weather course policy

To ensure the continuation of student learning in time of emergencies, including severe weather, it the policy of Philadelphia University not to cancel classes. However, if on campus sessions are not possible, students are responsible for checking their university email and/or Blackboard for information from their faculty advising them of any immediate impact on the students' preparation for the next class meeting.

In this event, faculty members have several options including:

1. Holding class through asynchronous electronic means such as emailing the students or posting to Blackboard class lessons, discussion forums and/or additional assignments related to class content;
2. Holding class through synchronous online means.
3. Holding class at a rescheduled time acceptable to all class members. If there are students who are unable to attend a rescheduled class, the faculty should make reasonable accommodations for the student(s) to make up the work.