

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Bethel operates on an early semester calendar with two 15-week semesters and a three-week session in January that is part of the Extended Spring Semester. There is no support staff scheduled over breaks. Anyone wanting to stay on campus during break must email build-program@bethel.edu at least one week prior to the start of the break to detail why you are requesting to stay on campus. BUILD will consider whether it is possible to arrange for support staff to cover the break as part of determining whether the request can be approved. If your request is not approved then you can still come to campus during the day while campus is open from 6:00 am until 9:00 pm but cannot stay in the residence halls and will not have any support staff available to support you while you are on campus.

Fall Semester 2026

Fall Personal Learning Plan (PLP) Meetings	Monday, August 10- Thursday, August 25
Residence halls open (New first-year students)	Wednesday, August 26
Residence halls open (Returning second-year students)	Sunday, August 30
Classes begin	Monday, August 31
Labor Day (no classes)	Monday, September 7
Fall break (Students need to be checked out of their room by 9:00 pm on Thursday, October 1 and can return anytime after 12:00 noon on Sunday, October 4)	Thursday evening, October 1 - Sunday afternoon, October 4
Homecoming & Family Weekend	Friday, October 9 - Sunday, October 11
First Half Ends	Tuesday, October 20
Advising Day (No day classes, night classes are held) & BUILD Registration for January Session and Spring	Wednesday, October 21
Second Half Begins	Thursday, October 22
Thanksgiving break (Tuesday night classes are held. Students need to be checked out of their room by 9:00 pm on Tuesday, November 24 and can return anytime after 12:00 noon on Sunday, November 29)	Tuesday evening, November 24 - Sunday afternoon, November 29
Classes resume	Monday, November 30
Festival of Christmas (tickets required)	Thursday, December 3 - Saturday, December 5
Final examinations	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, December 14, 15, 17 & 18
Study Day & Internship Fair	Wednesday, December 16
Christmas Break (Students must check-out of their residence hall 24 hours after their last final or by 9:00 p.m. on Friday, December 18, whichever comes first)	Friday, December 18 - Sunday, January 3

Extended Spring Semester 2027

Students taking a January Session class return	Sunday afternoon, January 3
January Session Classes Begin	Monday, January 4
Spring Personal Learning Plan (PLP) Meetings	Monday, January 4 - Tuesday, January 26
Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No classes)	Monday, January 18

Academic Calendar 2

Last day of classes for January Term	Tuesday, January 26
January Session Break (Students need to be checked out of their room by 9:00 pm on Tuesday, January 26 and can return anytime after 12:00 noon on Sunday, January 31)	Tuesday, January 26 - Sunday, January 31
Students return	Sunday afternoon, January 31
Spring Session Classes Begin	Monday, February 1
Spring Break (Students who are not part of SMP trips need to be checked out of their room by 9:00 pm on Friday, March 5 and can return anytime after 12:00 noon on Sunday, March 14)	Friday evening, March 5 - Sunday afternoon, March 14
Students return	Sunday afternoon, March 14
Classes resume	Monday, March 15
Easter Break (Thursday night classes are held. Students need to be checked out of their room by 9:00 pm on Thursday, March 25 and can return anytime after 12:00 noon on Monday afternoon, March 29)	Thursday evening, March 25 - Monday afternoon, March 29
Students return	Monday afternoon, March 29
Classes resume	Tuesday, March 30
First Half Ends	Tuesday, March 30
Second Half Begins	Wednesday, March 31
Advising Day (No day classes, night classes are held) & BUILD Registration for Fall semester 2027	Wednesday, April 7
Final examinations	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, May 17, 18, 20 & 21
Study Day, Internship Fair & BUILD Spring Dinner	Wednesday, May 19
Exit Personal Learning Plan (PLP) Meetings	Monday, May 17 - Friday, May 28
End of year (First-year students need to check-out of their room 24 hours after their last final or by 9:00 p.m. on Friday, May 21, whichever comes first)	Friday, May 21
Commencement	Saturday, May 22
Residence halls close for second-year graduating students in BUILD, noon	Sunday, May 23