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RNC prompts cancellation of Freshmen Convocation, other changes

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Tropicana Field at night

Restrictions put in place for the Republican National Convention will have an impact on USF St. Petersburg, prompting the following changes.

- * Freshmen Convocation is canceled.
- * Residential students will move in on a single day, Saturday, Aug. 25.
- * Watercraft at the USFSP [Waterfront](#) will not be available all day on Sunday, Aug. 26.

The changes have been made to avoid potential conflicts on Sunday, Aug. 26, when 20,000 people are expected to attend the official kickoff of the [Republican National Convention](#) at [Tropicana Field](#).

The entire campus falls within a 7.4 square-mile [RNC event zone](#) that extends from 22nd Street to Tampa Bay and from 5th Avenue North to 7th Avenue South. Temporary rules for the "event zone" will be in place Aug. 26 through Sept. 1. USFSP will remain open throughout that period and most of the restrictions will have little impact on the campus. The biggest impact will likely be the expected closing of Interstate 175 on Sunday, Aug. 26.

Many downtown streets that will be closed for that Sunday event, so getting into and off of campus will be difficult that day. The street closures will begin late Saturday afternoon after the [Tampa Bay Rays](#)-Oakland Athletics game.

All classes will begin as scheduled on Monday, August 27.

Move-in for residential students had been planned for Aug. 25-26, with freshmen arriving on Saturday and returning students on Sunday. Now, all residential students will move in on a single day, Saturday, Aug. 25.

The potential conflicts on Sunday also prompted the cancellation of the annual Freshmen Convocation, originally scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 26 at Harbor Hall.

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