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Welcome to the University of South Carolina! It’s now time to prepare for your New Student Orientation. New Student Orientation is the first step in helping you successfully transition into our Gamecock community. Our office understands that while this may be an exciting time, you may also be nervous and have a lot of questions. Our goal is to ensure that you feel as comfortable and confident as possible as a student at South Carolina. **As an incoming transfer, you are required to attend New Student Orientation in order to prepare for your first semester at South Carolina.**

During Orientation, you will have the opportunity to connect with peers, university faculty and staff. You will also learn more about the university and the wide array of campus resources available. Your journey at South Carolina will encourage you to grow and reach your goals!

**Summer 2022 Orientation**

We are excited to return to fully in-person Orientation programs for 2022! In order to have in-person sessions, our office will be operating in accordance with university and local COVID-19 guidelines. At this time, all Orientation participants will be required to adhere to any and all campus policies related to COVID-19 during their attendance. Campus policies may include following social distancing protocols, wearing face coverings inside of all university buildings and forms of transportation, etc. To stay up-to-date on the latest information regarding COVID-19 guidelines at the University of South Carolina, visit [sc.edu/coronavirus](https://sc.edu/coronavirus) frequently.

Continue reading to learn more about New Student and Family and Guest Orientation, how to prepare and how to register yourself and a guest for a session.
Summer Term Orientation
If you are beginning classes in May or June (Summer Term), you will attend a Summer Term Orientation session. These are in-person, one-day sessions during which you will need to be available from 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. You will hear from university faculty and staff, meet with an Orientation Leader and peers, attend an academic college visit, learn about university resources and take care of several campus business items. In addition, this is when you will meet with an academic advisor and get registered for summer term courses. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Registration costs are $130 per student and $50 per family member and/or guest. More information regarding Summer Term Orientation will be shared via email.

Fall Term Orientation
If you are beginning classes in August (Fall Term), you will attend a Fall Term Orientation session in June or July. These are in-person, one-day sessions during which you will need to be available from 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. You will hear from university faculty and staff, meet with an Orientation Leader and peers, attend an academic college visit, learn about university resources and take care of several campus business items. In addition, this is when you will meet with an academic advisor and get registered for fall term courses. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Registration costs are $130 per student and $50 per family member and/or guest. More information regarding Fall Term Orientation will be shared via email.
Welcome to the Family!

While supporting students throughout their transition to college, our office understands this can be a time full of excitement, but also uncertainty for families. That’s why New Student Orientation is not just for students: it’s also for families and guests!

Whether attending Summer Term or Fall Term Orientation, our Family and Guest program runs concurrently with New Student Orientation and focuses on a wide variety of topics and subjects that families and guests should find helpful during their student’s first year.

Families and guests will have the opportunity to connect with administration, faculty and staff to discuss their student’s needs and upcoming experiences. They will also have an opportunity to learn more about their student’s academic college and major.

The registration cost for Summer Term and Fall Term Orientation is $50 per family member and/or guest.
Opting for Early Advisement Prior to New Student Orientation
As our office works to provide a meaningful New Student Orientation experience for all transfer students, we recognize the special academic needs of many within this population. In order to best meet these needs, we have partnered with the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the University Advising Center to offer the option for transfer students to get advised and registered for classes prior to attending a New Student Orientation session.

This opportunity will be shared by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions via the “Next Steps” email and is offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. Students taking part in early advisement will receive an individual advising appointment for which they can choose to attend virtually or in-person. Afterwards, they will be able to register for their first semester of classes.

Expectations During New Student Orientation
If you participate in early advisement, you will need to register for and attend one of our Summer Term Orientation sessions in May, or a Transfer Orientation in June regardless of the semester you are beginning classes. In addition, you will not be able to meet with an advisor during your New Student Orientation. Instead, you are encouraged to stay in contact with your them throughout the summer should you need any assistance prior to the start of classes. Please note: It is still required that you attend New Student Orientation, regardless of advisement status.

Next Steps
If you are interested in early advisement, please stay connected to all future communication from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the University Advising Center for the most up-to-date information. The Office of New Student Orientation will be in contact with you after your advisement. Once again, this opportunity is first-come, first-serve. The last day to sign-up for early advisement will be April 15.
Veteran Student Orientation
The Office of New Student Orientation is proud to offer an award-winning Veterans Student Orientation program for veterans, active-duty military personnel and dependents beginning classes at the university. In partnership with the Office of Veteran and Military Services, attendees will learn more about utilizing VA benefits, as well as services and resources available to them as students. These sessions run concurrently with all transfer sessions. Our office will send out updates via email regarding Veteran Student Orientation and how to register.

International Students
International students are required to attend New Student Orientation, whether beginning classes in the summer or fall term. In order to have a successful experience during your session, we encourage you to stay connected with the contact person in International Student Services, as they may have specific instructions for you regarding New Student Orientation and advising and registration.

Students with Disabilities
We highly encourage our students with disabilities to register with the Student Disability Resource Center prior to the start of classes. Their team coordinates efforts to provide students with reasonable accommodations to support academic success. The application process is not processed immediately and can take 2-3 weeks to complete, so please register as soon as possible. During New Student Orientation, if you need any special accommodations related to vision, mobility, diet, technology, and so forth, please indicate this at the time of registration.
**NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION DATES**

### Summer Term New Student Orientation Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Summer Term I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 26</td>
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<td>Summer Term II</td>
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### Fall Term New Student Orientation Dates

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 17</td>
<td>Session A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>Session B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 8</td>
<td>Session C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 22</td>
<td>Session D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 29</td>
<td>Session E</td>
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If you are beginning classes in May or June (Summer Term), you will need to attend a one-day session in May. If you are beginning classes in August (Fall Term), you will need to attend a one-day session in June or July. Early advised students can attend a Summer Term Orientation, or a transfer session during the month of June. 

Registration is $130 per student and $50 per family member and/or guest.

Sample Student Schedule

7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Morning:
• Breakfast
• Program Welcome
• Academic College Visits

Afternoon:
• Breakout Sessions
• Lunch
• Academic Advising
• Resource Fair
• Campus tours
• Campus business items

Sample Family Schedule

7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Morning:
• Breakfast
• Program Welcome
• Partners in Transition
• Academic College Visits

Afternoon:
• Breakout sessions
• Resource Fair
• Lunch
• Campus tours
Your next steps moving forward are simple: Register for your New Student Orientation! You can do so beginning **Monday, May 9 at Noon ET**. Early advised students should already have access to Orientation registration. In order to begin your New Student Orientation experience, you will need to:

1. **Verify your session.**
   If you are beginning classes in May or June (Summer Term), you will need to attend a one-day session in May. If you are beginning classes in August (Fall Term), you will need to attend a one-day session in June or July. If you are participating in early advisement, you will attend a Summer Term Orientation, or a transfer session in June. Visit the “Find My Orientation” page on our website to learn more about verifying your session.

2. **Set up your account.**
   Using your VIP ID and USC ID, you will set up your account and log on to Self Service Carolina. You will be prompted to complete the following steps:
   - Add security questions for account verification.
   - Access your UofSC email and set up your email preferences.
   - Add emergency contact information.
   - Set Up Multi-factor Authentication.

3. **Make your reservation.**
   Using a laptop or desktop, device go to my.sc.edu and log in with your VIP ID and password. Click the “Admissions” tab and then the “Orientation Services” link. Select your campus from the drop down menu and follow the instructions on the screen. Only available session dates will appear on your screen. Please note: Registration is only accessible through Google Chrome or Firefox browsers.
Pay for your session.
Your reservation will not be complete until you have paid for your New Student Orientation session. The registration cost for Summer Term and Fall Term Orientation is $130 per student and $50 per family member/guest.

Prepare for your session.
Once you have registered, read through all of your session information and stay connected to your email for updates from the Office of New Student Orientation. You will receive an email confirmation for your registration. If you do not receive one upon registering for a session, please contact our office to ensure you have completed all steps.

Please contact the Office of New Student Orientation if you need to make any changes to your reservation. We can be reached by phone at 803.777.2780, or by email at orientation@sc.edu.
As you begin to prepare for your New Student Orientation, it is important that you complete the items on the checklist below. Several components of your New Student Orientation are guided by your major, as well as advising and registration (incompletion of any of these items may impact your ability to register for classes during your session, or before if you are participating in early advisement).

☐ **Complete all items in Your Admissions Portal**

Your Admissions Portal contains information that must be completed before you attend your New Student Orientation and enroll for classes at South Carolina. It is essential you complete all items in the Admissions Portal.

☐ **Submit your Citizenship Verification**

Log on to your UofSC Admissions Portal to check if your status was previously verified based on information provided on your FAFSA. If you have not submitted a FAFSA, you will be required to complete the Citizenship Verification Form.

If your citizenship has not been verified, complete the Citizenship Verification Form. Visit sc.edu/registrar for more information on the citizenship verification process.

☐ **Submit your Residency Verification (For SC residents only)**

Students claiming South Carolina residency for tuition purposes are required to verify residency. Log on to your UofSC Admissions Portal to check if your South Carolina residency has been verified. We will use the information provided on your FAFSA to determine whether or not you need to complete the South Carolina Residency Certification Form. If you have not submitted a FAFSA, you will be required to complete the form.

If your residency has not been verified, complete the S.C. Residency Certification Form through your portal. Visit sc.edu/registrar for more information on the residency certification process.

☐ **Submit your Immunization Form**

Submit your completed Immunization Record Form no later than two weeks prior to your New Student Orientation. Upload your records to sc.edu/myhealthspace portal under Immunization.

Login with your network username and password and your birth date. Forms may also be faxed to 803-777-3955/803-777-3960 or mailed to the Allergy, Immunization & Travel Clinic, 1409 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29208.

☐ **Confirm your major**

If you are considering a major change prior to attending Orientation, make a “New Student Major Change Interest” appointment to speak with an Exploratory Advisor in the University Advising Center. Your Exploratory Advisor will make sure you have all of the correct information. Make an appointment.
Register for your Foreign Language Placement Exam

Every student at South Carolina has to take the Foreign Language Placement Exam before taking a foreign language course to determine whether or not they meet course prerequisites. For further information, please visit the Language Placement Testing Website.

Register for your Math Placement Exam

All students are required to take the online Math Placement Test no later than two weeks before your New Student Orientation. You will record your test score on your Pre-Orientation Advising Worksheet. For more information including practice tests and instructions for completing the test online, visit math.sc.edu/assess.

Complete your Pre-Orientation Advising Modules and Worksheet

You will access and view your Pre-Orientation Advising Modules in your Orientation Portal after registration. Please complete all modules, as well as your Pre-Orientation Advising Worksheet in order to prepare for your advising and registration appointment during New Student Orientation.

Request your CarolinaCard Online

Go to my.carolinacard.sc.edu and read and complete the Cardholder Agreement and Account Access Information. Review the list of acceptable photos and upload your photo. If your photo is accepted, you may pick up your card during New Student Orientation.

Have copies of your unofficial Transcripts and any AP/IB score reports

Have copies of your AP/IB/Cambridge (AICE) scores and dual enrollment transcripts available during your New Student Orientation. If your scores do not arrive before your scheduled advising session, make a list of the test(s) you have taken and share this with your advisor. If official transcripts are not available, you may use an unofficial transcript during your session. Your advisor may also ask you to email copies of these documents prior to your meeting.
Once again, welcome to the University of South Carolina! Our goal is to make the preparation and transition to college as smooth as possible. If you have questions at any time, we encourage you to contact the Office of New Student Orientation! We also recommend frequently checking your email and our website for updates regarding your Orientation session. Until then, go Gamecocks!

**New Student Orientation**
Russell House University Union
1400 Greene Street, Suite 345
Columbia, SC 29208

[sc.edu/orientation](http://sc.edu/orientation)
803-777-2780
[orientation@sc.edu](mailto:orientation@sc.edu)

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