

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

International Student Orientation offers sessions that will help you learn more about your academic program, learn the norms and values of the Vanderbilt community, and get to know other international students. **All events are for students only, unless otherwise noted.**

Any changes to the event schedule will be shared at [vu.edu/orientationupdates](https://vanderbilt.edu/orientationupdates) and via Instagram [@ResColleges](https://www.instagram.com/ResColleges). You are strongly encouraged to visit the website frequently for updates. For questions about the schedule, contact [commons@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:commons@vanderbilt.edu).



## Wednesday, August 16: Welcome to Campus | MOVE-IN DAY

8:00 a.m.–Midnight	<b>International Undergraduate Student Move-In Day</b> <i>Families welcome</i> All new undergraduate students (including first-year and transfer students) will check-in at The Commons Center to move into the residence halls. International Orientation Leaders (IOLs) and volunteers will assist you.	The Commons Center, 1st Floor Atrium
1:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m.	<b>Assigned Check-ins with Student Health (Mandatory, if assigned)</b> Assigned check-in times will be emailed to you directly from Student Health.	Zerfoss Student Health Center
5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.	<b>Supply Shopping and Account Set Up</b> <i>Families welcome</i> Do you need to register a U.S. cell phone or bank account? Do you need to order supplies? Local cell phone providers and banks will be on campus at this time. IOLs will also be available to assist you in ordering supplies online, though you will be responsible for purchasing. Please bring your computer to participate in supply shopping.	The Commons Center, 1st Floor Living Room
7:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.	<b>International Student Dinner &amp; Game Night Social</b> Get to know other new students over dinner and games.	The Commons Center, 1st Floor Living Room

## Thursday, August 17: Preparing to Be a Student at Vanderbilt

8:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m.	<b>Breakfast Available</b> Stop by and pick up breakfast. Seating is not provided, as this is a grab and go event.	The Commons Center, 1st Floor Living Room
8:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m.	<b>Assigned Check-ins with Student Health Center (Mandatory, if assigned)</b> Assigned check-in times will be emailed to you directly from Student Health.	Zerfoss Student Health Center
10:15 a.m.–11:00 a.m.	<b>International Orientation Group Meeting (Mandatory)</b> Meet your IOL and the rest of your group before walking to the Student Life Center together for orientation. Look for the sign with your international orientation group number.	Amphitheater Lawn

11:00 a.m.–11:15 a.m.	<b>Getting to Know Each Other (Mandatory)</b> After a welcome from Residential Colleges and the International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) staff, you will get to know other International Student Orientation participants.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
11:15 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	<b>Welcome Address (Mandatory)</b> <i>Families welcome</i> University leadership will share opening welcome remarks to formally launch International Student Orientation.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.	<b>International Orientation Group Meeting (Mandatory)</b> Get to know the other members of your group and discuss expectations for orientation.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
11:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m. 12:30 p.m.–1:15 p.m.	<b>Groups 13-24</b> <b>Groups 1-12</b>	
11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.	<b>Lunch (Mandatory)</b> Experience Campus Dining as you enjoy lunch with your international orientation group.	Rand Dining Hall
11:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m. 12:30 p.m.–1:15 p.m.	<b>Groups 1-12</b> <b>Groups 13-24</b>	
11:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m.	<b>Parents and Family Reception</b> <i>For parents and family members only</i> Join Dean of Residential Colleges and Residential Education Melissa Gresalfi, representatives from Parents and Family Programs, university leadership, and campus partners for conversation over light refreshments.	Student Life Center, Board of Trust Room
1:30 p.m.–2:00 p.m.	<b>Why Does My Professor Go by "Jim"? (Mandatory)</b> ISSS will discuss U.S. culture and offer best practices for a smooth transition to Vanderbilt.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
2:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.	<b>Collegiate Academics in the U.S. (Mandatory)</b> Explore aspects of academic culture that are unique to the U.S. with staff from the English Language Center and learn more about the resources available to students on campus.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
3:00 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	<b>Day 1 Closing Address (Mandatory)</b> Residential Colleges staff will highlight key takeaways from the day and provide an overview of what to expect tomorrow.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
3:15 p.m.–5:30 p.m.	<b>Supply Shopping Trip with IOLs</b> Join IOLs on a trip to Target to purchase supplies. <b>If you ride the shuttle to Target, you must ride it back.</b> You will be responsible for purchasing your own supplies.  Prefer to shop online? Bring your computer and IOLs can assist you in placing orders (you must make your own purchases).	Student Life Center (Your IOL will give you the precise location.)
3:15 p.m.–6:00 p.m.	<b>Break Time &amp; Errands</b> Use this time to continue moving into your residence, picking up packages, or completing other transitional tasks as needed.	

6:00 p.m.–7:30 p.m.	<b>Welcome Dinner for Undergraduates (Mandatory)</b> Join Dean of Residential Colleges Melissa Gresalfi, faculty heads of house, ISSS staff, IOLs, and university administrators for dinner.	Commons Lawn Tent
7:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m.	<b>Dessert and Game Night with Faculty Heads (Mandatory)</b> Get to know your faculty head of house better as you enjoy a sweet treat.	Commons Lawn Tent
<b>Friday, August 18: Navigating Systems in the U.S.</b>		
8:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m.	<b>Breakfast Available</b> Stop by and pick up breakfast. Seating is not provided, as this is a grab and go event.	The Commons Center, 1st Floor Living Room
9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.	<b>Campus Tours (Mandatory)</b> Tour campus under the direction of your IOL.	Amphitheater Lawn
10:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m.	<b>Day 2 Welcome Address (Mandatory)</b> Residential Colleges staff will provide an overview of the day.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
10:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	<b>Maintaining Your Status (Mandatory)</b> Maintaining your legal student status in the U.S. is essential to your success at Vanderbilt. ISSS will guide you on the requirements and considerations tied to your non-immigrant status.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.	<b>International Orientation Group Meeting (Mandatory)</b> Continue to build community with your group and discover more about life at Vanderbilt.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
11:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m. 12:30 p.m.–1:15 p.m.	<b>Groups 1-12</b> <b>Groups 13-24</b>	
11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.	<b>Lunch (Mandatory)</b> Experience Campus Dining as you enjoy lunch with your International Orientation group.	Rand Dining Hall
11:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m. 12:30 p.m.–1:15 p.m.	<b>Groups 13-24</b> <b>Groups 1-12</b>	
1:30 p.m.–2:00 p.m.	<b>Healthcare and Health Insurance in the U.S. (Mandatory)</b> The healthcare system in the U.S. varies widely from other countries. Representatives from Student Affairs and the Student Health Center will explain seeking healthcare in the U.S. and using the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP).	Student Life Center Ballrooms
2:00 p.m.–2:45 p.m.	<b>Student Employment (Mandatory)</b> Discover resources and eligibility requirements for on-campus student employment opportunities with ISSS.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
2:45 p.m.–3:00 p.m.	<b>Refreshment Break</b>	Student Life Center Ballrooms
3:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.	<b>Community Standards and Academic Integrity (Mandatory)</b> Each Commodore has a part to play in maintaining a culture of integrity on Vanderbilt's campus. Join Student Accountability, Community Standards, and Academic Integrity for a discussion on the Honor Code and other community standards.	Student Life Center Ballrooms

4:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m.	<b>Safe and Healthy Personal Relationships (Mandatory)</b> Join the Project Safe Center and the Office of Title IX for a discussion of campus support resources, university expectations and U.S. laws regarding sexual harassment, rape and assault, and other forms of intimate partner abuse and misconduct that are prohibited and preventable.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
4:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.	<b>Student Involvement Panel (Mandatory)</b> Hear from a panel of IOLs about ways to get involved on campus.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
5:00 p.m.–5:15 p.m.	<b>Day 2 Closing Address (Mandatory)</b> Residential Colleges staff will highlight key takeaways from the day and share remarks to close out International Student Orientation.	Student Life Center Ballrooms
5:15 p.m.–6:00 p.m.	<b>Free Time</b>	
6:00 p.m.–7:30 p.m.	<b>ISO Closing Dinner (Mandatory)</b> Join your IOL for dinner and meet your student VUceptor or Transfer Student Leader.	Commons Lawn Tent
8:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.	<b>Meet &amp; Greet with Transfer Student Leaders (Mandatory; for transfer students only)</b> Get to know your Transfer Student Leader and other members of the new transfer cohort by participating in fun activities at this reception. Refreshments will be served.	Student Life Center Ballrooms

International Student Orientation officially concludes on Friday, August 18. From that point forward, students will commence with either Transfer Student Orientation (for new transfer students) or CommonVU Orientation (for first-year students). **Please consult those schedules** for mandatory events and additional opportunities for optional engagement.