WHAT TO EXPECT

ALL NEW STUDENTS - FRESHMEN AND TRANSFERS - ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND ALL OF THEIR ORIENTATION ACTIVITIES. Although family orientation takes place on the same two days as student orientation, the requirements and schedules are different. We encourage families to attend as many of the presentations as are available to them on both days so that they can take full advantage of the orientation experience.

We also strongly encourage you to download our mobile guide to enhance your experience at orientation. You’ll be able to create a personalized schedule, review campus resources, see maps and read LOTS of information that is relevant for new students. The app is compatible with iPhones, iPads, iPod Touches, and Android and Blackberry devices. Download instructions: go.cofc.edu/guidebookapp.

During orientation, your son/daughter will attend interest sessions, meet current College of Charleston students and explore the campus. Orientation will also be the first opportunity they’ll have to learn about the academic process at the College, meet with an academic advisor and register for courses.

While they may go online and use my.cofc.edu to check the availability of courses, there will be an orientation hold on their account that will keep them from registering for courses until they attend orientation. This means that they will not be able to register until they have attended orientation.

Please read this information carefully. If you still have questions, go to cofc.edu/parents or contact the Office of New Student Programs at orientat@cofc.edu or 843.953.2017.

FEES

Be advised that the College charges every new student a $100.00, non-refundable, new-student-programs fee to help cover the expenses of orientation. This fee does not include housing during orientation. There is also a family orientation fee of $35 per family member. This fee, along with the new student fee, is due with tuition in August.

ORIENTATION CONFIRMATION

Only students can check their orientation-session confirmation. They do this through my.cofc.edu, where they log into their MyCharleston account and click on the “academic services” tab. From there, they go to the orientation box and click on “orientation registration confirmation.”
SPECIAL INFORMATION
FOR SESSION 9 (AUGUST 14 AND 15) AND SESSION 10 (AUGUST 17 AND 18)
PARTICIPANTS ONLY!
Students who attend Session 9 or 10 will be moving directly from orientation into the fall semester and will pay an early move-in fee. So, if you are looking for instructions regarding moving into a residence hall, information about shipping items to campus, or details and due dates for tuition payments, go to orientation.cofc.edu, and under quick links, look for “Session 9 and 10 newsletter.”

Please note: If your student has been confirmed for the 9th or 10th session in August, and he or she has been assigned on-campus housing for the 2017-2018 school year, they may move into the assigned room on the night before their orientation begins.

PRE-ORIENTATION PLANNING

FINDING YOUR WAY | DIRECTIONS
You can find directions to campus under “driving directions” at cofc.edu. Maps of the campus are available at cofc.edu/visit/index.php.

PARKING DURING ORIENTATION
The closest parking garages to campus are:

1. St. Philip St. Garage (89 St. Philips St.):
   located on St. Philip St. between Vanderhorst and Calhoun streets
2. George St. Garage (34 St. Philips St.):
   located on St. Philip St. between George and Liberty streets
3. Wentworth St. Garage (81 Wentworth St.):
   located at the corner of Wentworth and St. Philip streets

The approximate fee for all-day parking is between $10.00 and $16.00. If you have a valid South Carolina state-issued handicapped placard, you can park in a garage free of charge. Upon exiting, you must present your drivers license for verification.

Note: Do not park in College of Charleston student or faculty/staff lots because you will be ticketed. The Office of New Student Programs does not validate parking.

WHERE WILL YOU STAY DURING ORIENTATION?
OFF CAMPUS | You can find a list of hotels and motels at cofc.edu/visit/index.php.

ON CAMPUS (FOR STUDENTS ONLY) | Students who would like to stay in a campus residence hall during orientation should follow the instructions below. Space is limited and housing is not guaranteed. This option is only available to students who attend a session in June or July.

To reserve space, they must fill out the residence life summer-orientation housing form under “quick links” at orientation.cofc.edu ($30/night* with a two-night maximum).

Note: Students must bring their own linens and toiletries.

*Rates are subject to change.

HEALTH FORMS | Due on August 15. (studenthealth.cofc.edu)
WHAT SHOULD STUDENTS BRING TO ORIENTATION?

- pen and paper
- transcripts or course descriptions from other universities if student has transfer credits that have not been evaluated yet
- some type of government-issued, picture ID
- College of Charleston student ID number
- MyCharleston login (username and password)
- campus email address and password information
- spending money
- an umbrella
- comfortable clothes/shoes
- sweater or sweatshirt (sometimes the classrooms can be chilly)
- alarm clock and bedding (if staying in a residence hall)

ORIENTATION

CHECK IN | PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE BETWEEN 7:30 AND 8:15 A.M. AT COUGAR MALL (165 CALHOUN STREET), which is the open space between Maybank Hall (No.26 on campus map) and Robert Scott Small Building (No.23 on campus map).

At check-in, you and your son/daughter will receive your individualized schedules. During check-in, you will also receive a free lunch ticket for Liberty Street Fresh Food Company, where you and your student can try campus dining on either day of orientation.

YOU’LL BE OFFICIALLY WELCOMED TO ORIENTATION PROMPTLY AT 8:30 A.M.
WHAT TO DO

DAY 1 | (approximately 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., depending on your student’s schedule)

• Check in at Cougar Mall
• Official welcome
• College’s tuition payment policy
• Information on student health, the bookstore, dining services and paying the bills
• Meet with representatives from the offices of Greek life, residence life and housing, Center for Student Learning, Center for International Education and many others.
• Counseling services information
• Campus technology information
• Parents as career coaches
• Campus tour

Note: In June, we will post a more detailed schedule on our website (orientation.cofc.edu).

DAY 2 | (approximately 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., depending on your student’s schedule)

Activities for students and their families are separate throughout the entire day. Campus offices will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. throughout orientation.

The following will be part of the family orientation schedule:

• Small discussion groups consisting of faculty, staff, student interns and the family members of new students
• Campus tours
• Financial aid information
• Information fair
• How to get involved

ORIENTATION SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Our office is trying to help the children in the Charleston tri-county area start their school year with the supplies they need. If you would like to make a donation, please go to orientation.cofc.edu/community-service/index.php for a list of items.

Contact Us:
Office of New Student Programs
843.953.2017
orientat@cofc.edu
orientation.cofc.edu
66 George Street
Charleston, S.C. 29424-0001
JOIN THE CONVERSATION

We regularly post information about orientation on the New Student Programs Facebook page and tweet @cofcnsp. Our parent listserv provides a forum where families of College of Charleston students can ask questions and share information with one another.

To become a member, go to cofc.edu/families and select “parent listserv and blog,” and follow the instructions to sign up. You’ll receive a confirmation email and you will need to click on the embedded link in order to confirm your subscription to the listserv.

TIPS

For information that will help you adjust to your son/daughter leaving home, visit orientation.cofc.edu/orientation/family-orientation.php.

Look for the Parents A to Z Guide, Tips for Families, a summer reading list and Like Clockwork.

CALENDARS AND CHECKLISTS

Check out the fall calendar (orientation.cofc.edu under “quick links”) for reminders about things to do before move-in and the beginning of classes. You might also want to bookmark registrar.cofc.edu/calendars/index.php to keep track of academic calendar information, and calendar.cofc.edu to see what’s happening on campus throughout the year.

Note: Dates are subject to change.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions pertaining to orientation, contact the Office of New Student Programs, Monday through Friday, any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (orientat@cofc.edu or 843.953.2017).

Note: The College is a tobacco-free campus. For information regarding this policy, please go to tobaccofree.cofc.edu.

PHONE NUMBERS

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<td>admissions</td>
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