AS A NEW COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON STUDENT – EITHER FRESHMAN OR TRANSFER – YOU ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND ALL ORIENTATION ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE TWO-DAY PROGRAM. (Keep in mind that your schedule will be different from that of your family.) You’ll attend interest sessions, meet current College of Charleston students and explore the campus.

We strongly encourage you to download our mobile guide to enhance your experience during orientation and throughout your first year. You’ll be able to personalize your schedule, review campus resources, look at maps and check out LOTS of information relevant to new students. This app is compatible with iPhones, iPads, iPod Touches, and Android devices. Download instructions: go.cofc.edu/guidebookapp.

This will also be your first opportunity to learn about the academic process at the College, meet with an academic advisor and register for courses. While you may use my.cofc.edu to check the availability of courses, you can’t register until you attend orientation. There will be an orientation hold on your records that will prevent you from registering; it will be removed when you attend orientation.

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

Note: If you have decided not to attend the College of Charleston, or cannot start in the fall semester, you must notify the Office of Admissions in writing at Office of Admissions, College of Charleston, Charleston, S.C., 66 George St., 29424-0001, or admissions@cofc.edu.

FEES
The College charges every new student a $100.00, non-refundable, new-student-programs fee to help cover the expenses of orientation. This fee is included in your tuition bill (due in August) and does not include housing during orientation.

SPECIAL INFORMATION
SESSION 10 (AUGUST 20 AND 21) PARTICIPANTS ONLY!
If you have been confirmed for session 10, please go to orientation.cofc.edu, and under “quick links,” look for “Session 10 newsletter.” There you’ll find information on such important topics as moving into your residence hall, shipping items to campus and due dates for paying your tuition.

Please note: If you have been confirmed for the 10th session in August, and have been assigned on-campus housing for the 2020-2021 school year, you may move into your assigned room on August 19 and pay an early move-in fee.
COMPUTERS AND TECHNOLOGY (IT.COFC.EDU)
The College of Charleston is wireless, so you can use your laptop around campus. Go to go.cofc.edu/scshopping to find recommendations for software and computer configurations. Go to wireless.cofc.edu to set up your laptop for the wireless network. Follow the set-up instructions while you remain online. (The online application does the setup almost automatically.) If you use this method, the next step will be to go to the security page of go.cofc.edu/scsecurity, where you can download and install the appropriate version of our free antivirus software. If you already have some antivirus software other than the required one on your computer, you’ll have to uninstall it first.

LIVING ON CAMPUS (RESLIFE.COFC.EDU)
If you will be living on campus, the Department of Residence Life and Housing will send you information about moving in and where to park. Your check-in time will be based on your residence hall assignment.

You may wish to contact your roommate before you arrive on campus to discuss the items that you will need to purchase for your room. Be sure to go to the residence life website to see a list of items that you should not bring to the College.

PHONE NUMBERS
admissions ......................................... 843.953.5670
disability services .................................. 843.953.1431
disability services .................................. 843.953.5457
financial aid ......................................... 843.953.5540
health services ...................................... 843.953.5520
in-state status ........................................ 843.953.5572
meal plans ............................................ 843.953.5539
campus housing .................................... 843.953.5523
technology issues .................................. 843.953.3375
tuition .................................................. 843.953.5572
transfer resource center .......................... 843.953.1135

WEBSITES
campus information ............................... cofc.edu
undergraduate catalog .......................... catalogs.cofc.edu
disability services .................................. disabilityservices.cofc.edu
financial aid ........................................... finaid.cofc.edu
health services ................................. studenthealth.cofc.edu
meal plans ....................................... charleston.campusdish.com
registrar ............................................. registrar.cofc.edu
campus housing ................................... housing.cofc.edu
technology issues ................................. it.cofc.edu
tuition .............................................. treasurer.cofc.edu
transfer resource center ........................ transfer.cofc.edu
WHERE WILL YOU STAY DURING ORIENTATION?

ON CAMPUS (FOR STUDENTS ONLY) | If you are interested in staying in a residence hall during a session in June or July only, please fill out the residence life summer-orientation housing form under “quick links” at orientation.cofc.edu ($30/night* with a two-night maximum). You must check in the evening before your orientation session begins and bring your own linens and toiletries. Check out before 5:00 p.m. on the second day of orientation, or you might be charged a late fee. Space is limited and housing is not guaranteed.

*Rates are subject to change.

OFF CAMPUS | If you do not reserve a room on campus, or if campus housing is unavailable, you can find a list of hotels and motels at cofc.edu/visit/index.php.

HEALTH FORMS | An up-to-date immunization form, or an immunization waiver form, validated by your current healthcare provider must be submitted online at studenthealth.cofc.edu by May 1 to be able to register for classes at orientation. Three required vaccines are MMR (two doses after age 1), Quadrivalent Meningitis (after age 16), and TDaP (within the last 10 years).

TIPS: IN ORDER TO MAKE ORIENTATION GO AS SMOOTHLY AS POSSIBLE, THERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD DO BEFOREHAND.

STEP 1 | Set up your College of Charleston email account.

Your new College email account (yourname@g.cofc.edu) will be used for all college-related business. You must use this email account for any correspondence with College of Charleston departments, faculty or staff. We recommend that you check this account several times a week.

To access your student email account, log into my.cofc.edu. Use your Cougars account username (also commonly referred to as: CofC username or MyCharleston username) and password.

Click on the Cmail icon that will appear in the upper right-hand section of the screen. The first time you access your email account you will use the Cougars account information you used to log into MyCharleston.

STEP 2 | Explore the Academic Advising and Planning Center (AAPC)

The advising process works best when you are prepared. Go to advising.cofc.edu, select “newly admitted students” from the menu and look at “preparing for your orientation advising session.”

Reviewing important information required for graduation, and completing specific
Check-in for registering for your semester course schedule will help you prepare to work successfully with an advisor. You should also check your College of Charleston email for information that further supports your orientation advising preparation.

Family members do not attend advising or registration sessions. Professional advisors work with students while family members attend family orientation activities.

The fall semester begins on Tuesday, August 25. If you do not attend orientation, you will not be able to sign up for classes until Monday, August 24 during extended orientation.

**Step 3 | Placement Information**

For information on placement in math and foreign languages, please go to orientation.cofc.edu and select “placement information” from the menu. Note: The scores of placement tests that you may have taken at another college do not transfer.

**Step 4 | Submit your AP/IB scores.**

All freshmen and transfer students should send in AP/IB scores and final transcripts from coursework completed in college. If you are a freshman, you must also have your final high school transcript sent to the College. Information is available at go.cofc.edu/transfercredits.

**Step 5 | Set up authorized users for eBill.**

The College does not mail bills. All billing is done electronically, and you are responsible for setting up the authorized users for your account. The Treasurer’s Office will send eBill notifications to your College of Charleston student email address and to any email accounts that you have authorized (treasurer.cofc.edu).

By law, your student financial records may not be shared with anyone without your written consent. So, if people other than you (your parents or an employer, for example) need to view your account and make payments on your behalf, you will have to set each one up as an authorized user in the eBill system. For instructions, check out the tutorials at treasurer.cofc.edu/ebill.

**Step 6 | Submit a photo for your Cougar Card.**

As a member of the campus community, you will have to have an official College of Charleston ID card. You will use your Cougar Card to access privileges and services. If you are a first-time student attending orientation, go to cougarcard.cofc.edu, select “online photo submission for new students” from the menu and follow the steps to submit it. Your card will be ready for you to pick up when you arrive on campus for orientation.
WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING TO ORIENTATION?

- pen and paper
- transcripts or course descriptions from other universities, if you have transfer credits that have not been evaluated yet | Note: Transfer students should bring any transcript or course-description information to their advising appointment if they have transfer credit that has not been evaluated.
- some type of government-issued, picture ID
- College of Charleston student ID number
- spending money
- MyCharleston log-in information and password
- campus email address and password
- reusable water bottle
- an umbrella
- comfortable clothes/shoes
- a sweater, jacket or sweatshirt (Sometimes the classrooms can be chilly.)
- alarm clock and bedding (if staying in the residence hall)

WHAT TO DO | Note: You and your family will attend separate activities throughout the entire day.

DAY 1 | (approximately 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., depending on your schedule)
- Check in at Cougar Mall.
- Meet your orientation intern.
- Official welcome
- Academic advising
- Meet with faculty from various majors.
- Honor System
- Being safe
- Campus tour
- Pick up your Cougar Card.
- Meet with representatives from Greek life, residence life and housing, Center for Student Learning, Center for International Education and others.
- Evening social hosted by the interns throughout June and July.

DAY 2 | (approximately 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., depending on your schedule)
- How to use MyCharleston.
- Register for classes.
- Student services breakout sessions: technology, using the library and diversity
- Information fair
- Campus tours
- Campus offices will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. throughout orientation.

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

COUGAR PANTRY SUPPLY DRIVE | Our office is trying to help College of Charleston students who are dealing with food insecurity by providing dry goods and hygiene products at no charge. 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
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Charleston, S.C.
29424-0001