

International Freshman Student Orientation Program

Welcome to the University at Albany!

As a new student at the University at Albany, you may attend a Summer Planning Conference (SPC) which marks the beginning of your orientation to the campus community and will provide you with the information necessary to make your transition as smooth as possible.

International students who are already in the U.S. may wish to sign up for this program. If you do so, you are also urged to attend the special International Student Orientation Program, scheduled for August 23-26.

During the SPC you will:

- meet with your academic advisor
- finalize your fall semester class schedule
- attend information sessions regarding campus services, academic support services, how to be a successful student at UA, academic goal setting, personal and property safety, residential life, commuter information and much more
- receive your student I.D. card
- become familiar with the campus and meet new classmates
- experience a one-night stay in a residence hall

A \$200 freshman student orientation fee covers the costs of special programs offered during the summer and fall, printing, mailings, additional staff, all materials received during Orientation, room, and meals.

Check-in for the 2-day summer orientation is from 10:00–10:30am on the 1st day and the program ends at 3:00pm on the 2nd day. Students are expected to participate fully in the entire program.

DATES AVAILABLE ARE:

July 2-3, 6-7, 9-10, 13-14, 16-17, 20-21, 23-24, 27-28 (These are Monday/Tuesday or Thursday/Friday.)

Parent Orientation Program

Parents/guardians of freshmen who are already in the U.S. are invited to attend a 2-day summer Parent Orientation Program **offered concurrently but separately** from the student program. Parents who attend this program overwhelmingly indicate that they learn a great deal and feel more comfortable with the University community,

even if they have visited the campus prior to Orientation. Therefore, although it is optional, we strongly encourage parent participation. It is a great way to get the most up-to-date information, meet faculty and staff and learn about campus resources that will help you to help your daughter/son make a successful transition. There will be an opportunity to register for the Parents Council to receive ongoing University updates. An outline of the Parent Orientation Program is included on the Orientation website at www.albany.edu/orientation/parents.html to give you a sense of the topics typically addressed during the 2 days.

The cost to attend the Parent Orientation is \$55.00 for 1 or 2 parents/guardians. This Parent Orientation fee **does not include meals or lodging.**

We invite parents/guardians to participate in the optional 2-day Luncheon Programs which will feature presentations about our University Dining Services and our faculty. The cost is \$22.00 per adult, \$14.00 per child under 10, **payable at Check-in. Cash only please.**

Parents/guardians who wish to attend Parent Orientation may register for the Program and reserve their place for the optional 2-day Lunch Programs by completing the appropriate sections on the online Freshman Student/Parent Reservation Form.

Information regarding on and off campus lodging options for parents will be sent with the student's confirmation-of-date information.

Please note that while the parent program is optional, **students are expected to participate in the entire 2-day program.**

Orientation Checklist

- Complete Your Online Freshman Student/Parent Orientation Reservation Form and Orientation Payment Transmittal Form**

Go to www.albany.edu/orientation/freshman to locate the Forms. Each conference is identical in content. Therefore, be guided by your personal and family circumstances as you determine your preferred dates. Students are assigned to their preferred dates on a first-come basis until the conference is full.

- Type Forms online, then print and return both Forms along with your payment.**

- Freshman Student Orientation fee = \$200.00
- Freshman Student and one or two parents/guardians = \$255.00

Indicate the student's name, the 9 digit Albany ID number and the word "orientation" on checks and money orders. Use the Orientation Payment Transmittal Form to charge your fee.

Mail materials to:

Orientation Office
State Quad U-Lounge
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12222

Note: The student Orientation fee is in addition to the \$150 Admissions Deposit which is applied to your tuition bill and the \$125 Housing Deposit which is applied to your room and board bill. (A charge of \$20 will be assessed for a returned check.)

- The Orientation Office will begin mailing confirmation-of-date information after June 1.**
- Check out the Orientation website for further information, links to other sites of interest and to see a video and pictures of last year's program: www.albany.edu/orientation.**

International Students Outside the U.S.

You are expected to participate in the International Student Orientation Program, August 23-26. You should submit your course choices in advance, as described in "Choosing Classes," and on August 25 you will meet with an academic advisor. Please complete the Personal Data Form and submit it to ISSS electronically (or by fax or mail) as soon as possible.

Orientation Office:

PH: (518) 442-5509

EMAIL: Orientation@uamail.albany.edu

International Student & Scholar Services:

PH: (518) 591-8189

EMAIL: ISSS@uamail.albany.edu

Register for Orientation at www.albany.edu/orientation/freshman.

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International Student Orientation

August 23-26, 2009

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
State University of New York

Check in for the International Student Orientation Program on Sunday, August 23.

The orientation program officially begins at 9 am on August 24.

DAY 1 Sunday, August 23

Check In, 1-5 pm

Students living on the Uptown Campus should check in at University Hall. Those living in Waterbury Hall on Alumni Quad (Downtown Campus) should check in there. Students living off campus may check in either place.

(Students living on campus may check in to their permanent rooms between 11 am-9 pm today.)

Dinner at State Quad, 5-6:30 pm

Get Acquainted Session, 7-8:30 pm

DAY 2 Monday, August 24

Breakfast, 7:30-9 am, near Lecture Center 7

Check in for late arrivals, 8-10 am

Welcome and Opening Address

Ray Bromley, Vice Provost for International Education

"Nuts and Bolts"

SUNYCard Benefits, Student Accounts

Immigration Regulations

Learn important requirements for maintaining your student visa status

Student Health Services and International Health Insurance

Lunch

Break-out Meetings for Freshman, Exchange and Graduate Students

Tax, Payroll and Social Security Workshop for Graduate Students with Assistantships

Campus and Library Tours

TB Testing

Dinner

Optional Evening Activities

Get Acquainted Session or escorted shopping trip to nearby malls

DAY 3 Tuesday, August 25

Academic Advisement - Freshman

Meet with your academic advisor in Advisement Services, 9 am-12 pm, LI 36

Campus and Library Tours

"How to Succeed at an American University"

Featuring a Faculty Speaker who was formerly an international student

Improving Your Writing Skills in English and Avoiding Plagiarism

Learn about resources on campus to help you succeed (Intensive English Language Program, Writing Center, ESL courses, Institute for Teaching, Learning and Academic Leadership)

Practical Matters

Includes information on telephones, banking, getting a driver's license and shopping tips

Spiritual Matters

How to connect with religious organizations on campus and in the community

Dinner

Optional Evening Activities

Soccer (football) or escorted shopping trip to nearby malls

DAY 4 Wednesday, August 26

Academic Advisement - Transfer Students

Attend Group Advisement meeting and meet with your advisor in department

Student Involvement

Student Involvement Staff--Learn about the many different ways you can get involved with student groups and activities on campus

Tour of Athletic Facilities

See the gym, swimming pool and fitness facilities. Find out about intramural sports teams.

Counseling Services/Diversity and Affirmative Action

Where to get help when you're feeling low, and what your rights are and what to do if you feel you are being treated unfairly or experiencing harassment, sexual or otherwise.

Safety On and Off Campus

Steps to take to assure your personal safety and the safety of your property on campus and in Albany

Living in Residence Halls

Learn about services and programs offered by Residential Life, as well as how to get along with roommates

Cultural Adjustment

What to expect as you get used to living in the U.S.

Welcome Reception at the Main Library

Dinner

Walking Tour of Albany

Take the bus downtown for a guided tour of the riverfront area, Lark Street and the Empire State Plaza

Optional Activities After the Orientation Program

- Free Guided Tours of NYS Capitol and NYS Museum
- Join all new students for "Danes After Dark" movie Friday night and various activities all weekend