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**Delta State University announces OKRAtation 2025**

**CLEVELAND, Miss. —** The Office of Engagement & Advocacy at Delta State University is pleased to announce the launch of OKRAtation 2025, the university’s official orientation program for all incoming freshman and transfer students. The program will be held from Saturday, August 16 through Tuesday, August 19 with extended programming and signature events continuing through Thursday, August 21.

OKRAtation is a comprehensive initiative designed to support new students as they transition into the academic, social, and cultural environment of Delta State University. The program provides critical information and guidance on campus resources, including financial aid, housing, meal plans, campus safety, and student support services. It also provides a series of intentional engagement opportunities. Each student will be assigned a Statesmen Pioneer, a peer mentor who will serve as a primary point of connection throughout the orientation process.

“OKRAtation represents far more than an introduction to campus,” said Tameka Curry-Bryant, director of the Office of Engagement & Advocacy. “It marks the beginning of each student’s collegiate experience at Delta State University. Our objective is to deliver a well-structured and engaging experience in which students feel confident, prepared, and supported from the moment they arrive.”

In addition to in-person programming, students who are unable attend in-person may participate in Virtual OKRAtation, scheduled for August 16, through the university’s learning management system, Canvas. This virtual platform provides essential information and access to university services in an accessible and flexible format to ensure all students are positioned for success.

Families are strongly encouraged to support their student’s participation and take the opportunity to participate in the Parent’s Presidential Preview on Saturday, August 16, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the President’s residence on Leflore Circle. They are also encouraged to explore both Delta State University’s campus and the City of Cleveland. OKRAtation accentuates the university’s commitment to collaborative engagement, student development, and community partnership.

**Signature OKRAtation Events Include:**

* Student Engagement Fair
*Monday, August 18 | 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM | Forest E. Wyatt Gymnasium*
An opportunity for students to engage with academic departments, student organizations, and community agencies to explore pathways for involvement and leadership.
* Carnival Kickback on the Quad
*Monday, August 18 | 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM | University Quadrangle*
A celebratory event featuring food, games, music, and entertainment to promote community-building in a relaxed setting.
* Statesmen Walk
*Tuesday, August 19 | 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM | Beginning at H. L. Nowell Union*
A meaningful tradition in which students symbolically begin their academic journey, supported by the Delta State faculty, staff, and student leaders.

Additional events—including Live & Lit on Leflore, Grillin’ & Chillin’, Boots & Bubbles Foam Party, and the Silent Disco are purposefully curated to cultivate school spirit and reinforce student engagement.

Faculty, staff, alumni, and community partners are invited to contribute to the success of OKRAtation 2025 by serving as sponsors, hosting engagement tables, or volunteering at scheduled events.

Comprehensive information, including student registration, event schedules, and opportunities for involvement, is available on the OKRAtation [webpage](https://www.deltastate.edu/students/engagement-advocacy/okratation/).

Delta State University remains steadfast in its commitment to preparing students for success through purposeful collaboration, meaningful engagement, and principled leadership development. OKRAtation 2025 serves as the foundation upon which incoming students will begin their journey toward academic achievement and lifelong connection to the Delta State community.

For additional information or questions, please contact the Office of Engagement & Advocacy via email at tcurry@deltastate.edu

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**About Delta State University:**Delta State University is a four-year public institution whose nearly 2,700 students come from most U.S. states and more than 45 countries. Acknowledging its beginning as a teacher’s college, the University sustains excellence in teacher education while continuing to expand offerings in traditional as well as unique fields of study. Programs such as those available through the Delta Music Institute, the Commercial Aviation Department, and the Center for Interdisciplinary Geospatial Information highlight the University’s commitment to meeting the evolving needs of the students it serves with world-leading, industry-acclaimed programs. Situated in the heart of the Mississippi Delta, Delta State offers top-notch academic programs in business, arts, sciences, nursing, education, and more. DSU Athletics has won 14 national championships, 70 conference championships, and 37 regional titles.