Welcome to Vanderbilt

Your Guide to Spring Orientation

Jan. 4-6, 2018
Vanderbilt University and International Student and Scholar Services welcomes you to campus and Spring Orientation! These 2 full days of programs and sessions are designed to welcome you and acclimate you to the university, as well as give you opportunities to get to know your peers.

We hope this guide will be useful in helping you navigate your first few days on campus. Please know also that International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) office is here to support you while you are here. While you will be busy with coursework, please be sure to take a few moments to connect with your peers, faculty and staff, and community members. Transitions can be hard but rest assured that you are in a good place; Vanderbilt students, faculty and staff will always care about your well-being and success.

In addition to various educational and social programs, the ISSS Advising Staff are available in person or by email and phone to assist you with any F and J visa related inquiries, as well as on and off-campus employment. Please refer to the ISSS website to learn about our office and walk-in hours.

Again, welcome to Vanderbilt and best wishes for a successful first semester!

-The ISSS Team
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

is required for all new Vanderbilt F-1 and J-1 students and includes the following:

- Information sessions about your immigration status
- Check-in Support
- Presentations about campus resources
- Shuttles to grocery stores
- Opportunities to meet other students and learn about campus
- Tips on how to be successful at Vanderbilt

Students must attend all offered sessions to successfully complete orientation. The full schedule for Spring Orientation 2018 is provided below.

If you have any questions, please contact Grace Chee at hye.e.chee@vanderbilt.edu and the ISSS office at isss@vanderbilt.edu.

Make sure to submit your Commodore Card ID photo online prior to arriving on campus. Login using your vunetid and password at https://cco-web.mc.vanderbilt.edu/login/ldap.php
THURSDAY, JANUARY 4TH

UNIVERSITY CAMPUS TOUR
TIME: 10 AM-12:30 PM
LOCATION: MEET AT THE OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

Attend an official campus tour led by a current student and get to know your new home. Registering in advance is recommended. Please visit the admissions website under "Daily Information Session and Campus Tour" to reserve your spot for the January 4th tour date.

NEW STUDENT & COMMUNITY DINNER
TIME: 6-7:30 PM
LOCATION: SLC BALLROOMS

Students are invited to attend a dinner with Vanderbilt and community guests. Get to know people and establish some friendly connections!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5TH

TEA/COFFEE BREAK
TIME: 8:30-9:15 AM
LOCATION: ISSS OFFICE, SLC SUITE 109

Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be available in the ISSS Lobby. We walk together to the Check-In Support session immediately following.

MANDATORY IMMIGRATION CHECK-IN SUPPORT
TIME: 9:30-11:00 AM
LOCATION: FEATHERINGILL HALL COMPUTER LAB 201

F-1 and J-1 students are required by U.S. immigration regulations to complete check-in procedures at their educational institution. Students will complete the online Contact Form, scan their immigration documents (see list of items below), and complete an in-person presentation. If you have any questions or need assistance, volunteers and/or staff will be available to guide you in the lab. This session is repeated on Saturday, Jan. 6th. Students need to attend only 1.

Remember to bring with you the following:
- Valid Passport
- Valid U.S. Visa (Canadians will not have a U.S. visa)
- DS-2019 or I-20 issued by Vanderbilt
- Most recent I-94 record (accessed through CBP’s website at https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home)
- I-20 or DS-2019 of any dependents (e.g. spouse, child)

Attendance at this session is required to complete your immigration check-in with the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State. Failure to complete a Immigration Check-in Support session may negatively affect your immigration status.
**Orientation Welcome & Lunch**

**TIME:** 11:30 AM-1:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** SLC Board of Trust

Hear a welcome address and introduction from guest speakers, meet your fellow peers and enjoy a catered lunch to kick off orientation. Remember to bring with you your immigration documents.

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**Maintaining Your F-1/J-1 Status**

**TIME:** 1:10-2:10 PM  
**LOCATION:** SLC Board of Trust

All new F-1 and J-1 students are required to attend this session on how to maintain your legal immigration status in the U.S. Learn about the requirements and benefits tied to your non-immigrant status.

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**What to Know About Employment**

**TIME:** 2:20-2:50 PM  
**LOCATION:** SLC Board of Trust

Interested in working? Learn about the rules of employment for on-campus and off-campus work as it pertains to your F or J status. This is a required session.

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**Student Safety, Support & Well-Being**

**TIME:** 3:00-4:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** SLC Board of Trust

Hear from experts at the Center for Student Well-being, Project Safe Center and the Vanderbilt University Police Department (VUPD) on how Vanderbilt can support you in living in a safe, supportive environment.

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**Academics and Accountability in the U.S**

**TIME:** 4:10-5:10 PM  
**LOCATION:** SLC Board of Trust

This session will cover aspects of academic culture that are unique to the United States and will offer an overview of the many resources available to students while they plan and prepare for a successful academic career. Presented by the English Language Center.

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**Bowling at the Rec**

**TIME:** 6-7:30 PM  
**LOCATION:** Rec Center

Join your peers and iLEAD mentors for a friendly round or bowling! Dinner will be provided.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 6TH

TEA/COFFEE BREAK
TIME: 9-9:30 AM
LOCATION: SLC BOARD OF TRUST

Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be available.

MANDATORY IMMIGRATION CHECK-IN SUPPORT
TIME: 9:30-11:00 AM
LOCATION: FEATHERINGILL HALL COMPUTER LAB 201

Attendance at this session is required to complete your immigration check-in with the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State. Failure to complete a Immigration Check-in Support session may negatively affect your immigration status.

F-1 and J-1 students are required by U.S. immigration regulations to complete check-in procedures at their educational institution. Students will complete the online Contact Form, scan their immigration documents (see list of items below), and complete an in-person presentation. If you have any questions or need assistance, volunteers and/or staff will be available to guide you in the lab. Only attend this session if you did not complete the one on Friday, Jan. 5th.

Remember to bring with you the following:
- Valid Passport
- Valid U.S. Visa (Canadians will not have a U.S. visa)
- DS-2019 or I-20 issued by Vanderbilt
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- I-20 or DS-2019 of any dependents (e.g. spouse, child)

LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCE: Q&A WITH ILEAD MENTORS
TIME: 9:30-11:00 AM
LOCATION: SLC BOARD OF TRUST

What better way to get the inside scoop than by asking current students who have been in your shoes? Hear from some iLEAD mentors about their experiences coming to Vanderbilt.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR NEW HOME
TIME: 11:10-12:20 PM
LOCATION: SLC BOARD OF TRUST

Learn about culture shock, cultural adjustment and how to make sense of your new environment.
ORIENTATION LUNCH
TIME: 12:30-1:30 PM
LOCATION: SLC BOARD OF TRUST

SHOPPING SHUTTLES
TIME: 2-5 PM
LOCATION: MEET IN UNIVERSITY CLUB PARKING LOT

Enjoy a catered lunch.

Interested students who need to purchase household essentials or groceries can ride the free shuttle to Walmart and K&S Market. The shuttle will leave promptly at 2 pm and will return by 5 pm. You must return back to campus on the shuttle. Shuttles depart from and return to the University Club parking lot, next to the Student Life Center.
Get a free ride using our promo code with Lyft!

If you would like to request free airport pickup through ISSS (valid from January 2nd-7th only), you must complete the following steps:

1) Complete the online Pre-Arrival Form fully. Once you have completed the form, you will receive an email from ISSS with your unique Lyft code.

2) Download the free Lyft app. You must have a valid U.S. phone number to create a Lyft account (use the SIM Card provided, if needed) and a working credit card from a major bank. If you are unable to create a Lyft account, please see "Manual 2 No SIMactive card" on the ISSS webpage at https://www.vanderbilt.edu/isss/coming-to-vanderbilt/orientation/spring_orientation/

3) Receive your unique Lyft promo code. Save to your Lyft app.
4) Arrive at the Nashville (BNA) airport.

5) Request a Lyft ride.

6) Arrive at your destination.

For more information, visit the Spring Orientation webpage at https://www.vanderbilt.edu/isss/coming-to-vanderbilt/orientation/spring_orientation/