Welcome to WashU!

As you prepare to begin life as a WashU student, you will share many experiences with other students, starting with Bear Beginnings: Fall Welcome. Fall Welcome will help you become acclimated to your new university and introduce you to many people and resources that will assist you. Most importantly, Fall Welcome is a time to meet other transfer and exchange students new to the university as you begin your time here.

At the same time, WashU recognizes the individuality of its students, and we encourage you to tailor your orientation experience to your own personal needs and preferences. Your Fall Welcome experience will comprise events related to your academic divisions, programs designed just for transfer or exchange students, and social activities for everyone.

Each undergraduate school has its own programs for students in that academic division. Please pay particular attention to REQUIRED EVENTS as they may pertain to academic requirements. Make a note of the programs tailored specifically for transfer and exchange (TX) students. These events were designed specifically with you and your needs in mind! Some events are required, while others are optional; however, we strongly encourage you to participate in all programs in order to make the most of your Fall Welcome experience.

Remember that you are not alone in this new experience. Everyone on campus is excited to help you learn all that you need to know about being a student at WashU, so don’t ever hesitate to ask questions as you begin to discover your place in the WashU community!

Pay close attention to which events are required indicated by an asterisk (*).
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

MOVE-IN & TIME TO COMPLETE TASKS
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Take time to complete tasks that may require more time prior to the beginning of WashU’s orientation programming.

CHECK-IN AT OISS*
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
International students will need to visit the Office for International Students and Scholars (3rd floor of the Danforth University Center) to check-in with immigration documents.

CHECK-IN AT STUDENT TRANSITIONS & FAMILY PROGRAMS*
6:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Check in with your Transfer & Exchange Student Mentors (TXSMs). Your Transfer & Exchange Student Mentor (TXSM) will serve as your orientation leader during Fall Welcome and as an academic mentor throughout the school year. They will review the schedule with you and answer any questions you may have.

DINNER WITH TRANSFER & EXCHANGE STUDENTS
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Join us for an optional meal in the Student Transitions & Family Programs office (located on the South 40 across from the Bear’s Den).

SOCIAL PROGRAMMING
9:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Hosted by Campus Life.
THURSDAY, AUGUST 24

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION: WELCOME & IMMIGRATION ESSENTIALS WITH OISS*
10:00 AM – Noon
Meet the leadership of the Office for International Students and Scholars (OISS) for an orientation session to get to know other students and receive information regarding how to maintain legal status as a non-immigrant student. Hosted by the Office for International Students and Scholars.

SHOPPING TRIP WITH OISS
1:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Shuttles will be available from WashU to take international students to purchase any necessities. Hosted by the Office for International Students and Scholars.

MEET YOUR TRANSFER & EXCHANGE STUDENT MENTOR*
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Participate in a small group discussion led by your Transfer & Exchange Student Mentor. During this session, you will receive some welcome items, get to know fellow transfer students, and engage in conversation about personal and WashU values.

SOCIAL PROGRAMMING
9:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Hosted by Campus Life.
FRIDAY, AUGUST 25

ACADEMIC DIVISIONS MEETING AND LUNCH*
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Get to know more about your academic division, expectations for the classroom experience, and make key connections with faculty and staff. Hosted by the College of Arts & Sciences, the Olin Business School, the McKelvey School of Engineering, and the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts.

COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS & STUDENT CONDUCT*
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
A discussion of community expectations and student conduct at Washington University in St. Louis. Hosted by the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards

SAFETY & SECURITY*
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Learn about safety and security on campus and in the surrounding areas. Hosted by the Washington University Police Department (WUPD).

RELATIONSHIP AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION*
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM
You will complete a module on Canvas put together by Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention (RSVP) Center staff. This module will help you understand community standards around consent, bystander intervention, and survivor resources. It also helps establish a precedent for ending sexual violence on campus. This module must be completed between 3:00 PM and 4:30 PM, as the RSVP Center will have staff on-call during this time to provide additional support to students who may need it. If needed, please contact the RSVP Center at 314-3445 or rsvpcenter@wustl.edu or visit them in Seigle Hall, Suite 435.

SMALL GROUP WITH TXSM*
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Meet again with your Transfer & Exchange Student Mentor. During this session, you will continue discussing yourselves, your experiences, and your future at WashU.

TAILGATE
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Enjoy activities and great food as we get ready to cheer on the WashU volleyball team.

VOLLEYBALL GAME
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Cheer on the Bears volleyball game!
LATE NIGHT AT THE REC
9:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Experience a night in Sumers Recreation Center. Whether you are into roller skating, soccer darts, or engaging with Recreation and Wellness partners, you will be able to have fun and enjoy the perks of our recreation community. Hosted by Recreation.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

CLASSES ARE MONDAY, GET READY!*  
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
Meet one final time with your Transfer & Exchange Student Mentors before classes begin on Monday. Learn how to succeed academically at WashU. Your TXSM will provide you with academic resources, deadlines, study tips, and more.
FIND YOUR CLASSES TOUR
11:30 AM – Noon
TXSMs will lead tours of WashU to help you locate your classes.

FACULTY FELLOW & ASSOCIATE RECEPTION
Noon – 1:00 PM
Participate in a casual meet and greet with residential college faculty fellow and associates. This will be an opportunity to get to know faculty from many different academic areas, who will become familiar faces during your time at WashU.

ST. LOUIS BUS EXCURSION
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
You will embark on a bus tour of St. Louis. This excursion includes a tour of the Gateway Arch. Close-toed shoes, sunglasses, and water are recommended.

FIRST TXSM HOURS
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Stop by the Transfer House’s common room or specific location outlined by your TXSM for your first TXSM Hours! TXSM Hours are a university tradition that occur every other week throughout the fall semester, except for breaks. They typically involve games, chatting, and community-building activities. Your TXSMs will provide you with the full TXSM Hours schedule during this event.