

AUGUST 2009

NEW STUDENT & PARENT ORIENTATION PROGRAM INFORMATION

In a short time you will attend your Academic Orientation Program (AOP). This newsletter will give you the information you need to prepare for AOP and to enroll for your classes.

The AOP Web site, *orientation.msu.edu*, is a great resource. It contains comprehensive information about AOP.

If you need any help or have questions, feel free to e-mail us at *aop@msu.edu* or call us at 517/353-5030. We're excited to see you at AOP!

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NEW STUDENT INFORMATION

Attendance

- All new students **MUST** attend an AOP. You cannot enroll for classes unless you attend the entire AOP.
- Orientation will take place on Sunday, August 30.
- The first session begins at 8:00 am.
- You must attend every AOP session or you cannot enroll for classes. Attendance is taken at various sessions.
 - No exceptions for physicals, job commitments, awards banquets, sporting events, etc.
- If you are going to be late or need to reschedule your AOP, contact the Orientation Office prior to your scheduled program.
- If you do not attend your assigned AOP, MSU reserves the right to cancel your admission or defer your admission until January 2010.
- Due to limited space, family members or friends cannot attend program activities with you.
 - A Parent Orientation Program (POP) takes place simultaneously with the student AOP.

Important ID Information

You are required to bring a government-issued picture ID to AOP, such as a driver's license, state ID or passport.

Check-In

- 7:00 am Northeast Lobby, Wells Hall

NOTE: The first session begins at 8:00 am. Please do not be late.

Meals

- Meal plans begin on August 30 for students living on campus; please visit one of the residence hall cafeterias for lunch. Additional options are available for students without a meal plan; they will be explained during the Welcome and Overview session.
- Bring a snack in case you get hungry.

Money Needed at AOP

- Snack money - Vending machines are located in Wells Hall and a Food Court is located nearby.

NOTE: Tuition bills cannot be paid at AOP. Look for a message in your MSU e-mail account within a week of attending Orientation regarding your bill.

One Book, One Community

All entering freshmen are expected to complete the freshman reading assignment by August 30 and bring the book when they return to campus in the fall. This year's selection is *The Soloist* by Steve Lopez. **Check out www.onebook.msu.edu for more information.** You will receive a copy of the book when you check in at AOP. The discounted cost of the book will be automatically charged to your fall semester bill (unless you return the book before leaving AOP).

Tentative Schedule of Activities

7:00 am	Check-In Change Your Major
8:00 am - 8:45 am	Welcome and Overview of the Academic Orientation Program
8:50 am - 9:50 am	Placement Testing
8:50 am - 9:25 am	Ways to Assure Your Success
8:50 am - 9:25 am	Reapplying for Admission to the College of Business and the College of Engineering
8:50 am - 9:25 am	Gaining Admission to the College of Education
10:00 am	What Do I Need to Know to Assure Academic Success? Academic Advising Enroll for Classes Orientation Check-Out

Check Out

Students finish their AOP at different times, depending on how quickly they see their academic advisers and enroll for classes. Once you have checked out with our AOP staff members at the designated location, you are free to leave.

Meeting Your Parents

Students will finish AOP at various times throughout the afternoon. We encourage students to connect with their parents via phone when they finish AOP.

What To Bring To AOP

- You are required to bring a government-issued picture ID to AOP, such as a driver's license, state ID or passport.
- Comfortable clothing and shoes - you'll thank us when you are walking around campus. We recommend dressing in layers to accommodate outdoor weather (rain or shine) and indoor air conditioning.
- Backpack/bookbag - to carry everything that we give you at check-in.
- Umbrella - you don't want to get caught in the rain!
- Personal spending money for a snack. Vending machines are located in Wells Hall.

To-Dos Before AOP

□ Set Up Your MSU E-mail Account

It is very important that you activate your MSU NetID and MSU e-mail account, even if you already have another e-mail account. Notices regarding your tuition bill and other official communications from the university will be sent to your MSU e-mail account. Many professors will communicate with you regarding class assignments, examinations, papers, and other course work via your MSU e-mail account. Get into the habit of checking your MSU e-mail account regularly. For more information, visit lct.msu.edu/guidelines-policies/student-email-communications-notice.html

Helpful resources regarding your MSU NetID and MSU E-mail Account:

Activating Your MSU NetID	help.msu.edu/newstudent
Connecting to the MSU Network	dhcp.msu.edu
Disability and Assistive Technology	webaccess.msu.edu
E-mail Account	mail.msu.edu
General Computing Information	computing.msu.edu

□ Take the Math Placement Exam

The primary resource for the Mathematics Placement Service Exam (MPS Exam) is <http://mpsexam.msu.edu/documentation/>. The 'Basic Info' page explains how the exam is taken. The 'FAQ' page answers questions about the exam. The 'Contacts' page lists reliable sources for additional information.

• All students entering MSU are required to take the Unproctored MPS Exam online before attending AOP. There are a few exceptions:

- Students who have already received Advanced Placement Mathematics credit for Calculus from MSU, prior to attending AOP.
- Students who will take a mathematics course at MSU who have either an ACT Math score of at least 28 or an SAT Math score of at least 640.
- Students with credit in MTH 103 AND MTH 112, 114, 124, 132, 152H or 201; or STT 200 or 201.
- Students with credit in MTH 110 or 116.

The following are NOT exceptions:

- Students with MSU credit for MTH 112, 114, 201, or STT 200, 201 alone, with no other math credit above the level of MTH 1825.
- Students who have taken the AP Statistics exam.

To-Dos Before AOP

- MSU has a Mathematics Graduation Requirement for all students.
 - The only way to waive the MSU Mathematics Graduation Requirement is to take the Proctored MPS Exam, either during AOP or by special arrangement.
 - If you take the Unproctored MPS Exam prior to AOP, you may still take the Proctored MPS Exam at AOP.
 - A list of potential MSU testing sites can be obtained by calling 800/500-1554 or visiting <http://mpsexam.msu.edu/documentation/faq.aspx>; however, only some of these sites may offer Proctored MPS Exam testing. Please contact the testing site several days in advance to make testing arrangements.
- All students who, by May 1, have an MPS Exam score (or a high enough ACT or SAT Math score) will be pre-enrolled into MSU courses consistent with their scores and their individual majors.
- To access the MPS Exam, you must first be able to access your MSU Mail account.

□ Take the Foreign Language Placement Exam

- Foreign language proficiency is required for some MSU students including those with majors in the College of Arts and Letters and James Madison College.
- Foreign language proficiency would be very useful for students majoring in
 - Business
 - Journalism
 - Social Science
 - Natural Science
 - Education
- If you have studied a foreign language in high school that you are interested in continuing and you are **not** bringing in Advanced Placement credit, or you do not yet have your AP score(s), you must take the relevant language test. Even if you do not plan to enroll for a foreign language course immediately, take the test so that you have an idea of your proficiency level for future enrollment.
- German, Spanish and French placement tests are available online at <https://ntweb11.ais.msu.edu/FLPlacement>. (See the FAQ section for details.)
- A Japanese placement test is available the first week of classes. More information can be found at www.msu.edu/~endo/JPN/JplacementT.html
- Students who have studied languages for which no placement test is offered should consult a representative of the appropriate language department during or after AOP to determine suitable placement.
- A proctored exam at AOP is required for students with a language requirement who want to demonstrate competency.

To-Dos Before AOP

□ Report Your Immunization Status

- MSU's immunization policy for new undergraduate students requires them to:
 - review their immunization status
 - bring it up to date, if necessary
 - provide the University an immunization history on a specific online form, found at immunize.msu.edu (REQUIRED)
- Failure to complete the immunization self-report form will affect your ability to enroll and register for future classes.
- For additional information:
 - E-mail uphys@msu.edu
 - Call 517/353-9101
 - Visit immunize.msu.edu

□ Plan Your Class Schedule

The resources listed below will help you plan your class schedule for fall and spring semesters. Note, however, that the schedule you plan may be different from the one you create at Orientation. At AOP you'll work with an academic adviser who will suggest appropriate classes. The availability of classes will also be a factor in planning your final schedule. When it is time for you to enroll for classes, an AOP staff member will help you.

- College/Major Info www.admissions.msu.edu/academics/majors_list.asp
(select the appropriate college link)
- Degree Navigator www.degnav.msu.edu
- Academic Programs www.reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/
- Description of Courses www.reg.msu.edu/Courses/Search.asp
- Schedule of Courses <http://schedule.msu.edu/>
- Credit Equivalencies www.transfer.msu.edu

To-Dos Before AOP

□ Change Your Major

Prior to Orientation, you can change your major ten days before your assigned orientation date. Call our office at 517/355-8332 to make the change. You can also change your academic major at AOP after check-in or at scheduled times in the AOP Office. **Note that no major changes are possible after you attend AOP until classes begin in September.**

List of Academic Majors www.reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/

Interested Music Majors

The College of Music requires a successful audition for all students on their major instrument or voice. The audition determines acceptance as a music major. Auditions will be performed for representative members of the music performance faculty. Evaluations are based on technical and musical proficiency.

While a personal audition is desirable, those who cannot visit the campus because they live a great distance from East Lansing may submit a tape recording. In most cases, a live audition is required to be considered for College of Music merit scholarships and full admission. In order to assist prospective applicants as they prepare for auditions, the College of Music has generated a list of suggested audition materials. These are suggested as minimum entrance requirements; however, it is most important that applicants perform what best demonstrates their musical and technical capabilities characteristic of the performing medium.

Auditions generally occur in November for students wishing to gain music major admission for spring semester, and in January and February for students applying for music major status for fall semester. For more information, including a College of Music application, audition dates, and suggested audition repertoire, visit www.music.msu.edu/admissions.

To-Dos Before AOP

□ Learn About MSU's Computer Requirement

All undergraduate students at Michigan State are required to have a computer that can connect to the Internet using a high speed connection.

We encourage students to check with their prospective major college and department to see if they have specific computer requirements. If there are no specific computer requirements for the student's program of study, the computer may be either a desktop or a laptop. For more information, visit computing.msu.edu/compreq.

□ Visit MSU's Computing Resources

Computer Labs	computerlabs.msu.edu
Computing and Networking Help Desk 517/432-6200	help.msu.edu
Computer Repair 517/353-5266	computerrepair.msu.edu
Computer Training	train.msu.edu
Connecting to the MSU Network	dhcp.msu.edu
Financial Aid for Computer Purchases	finaid.msu.edu/computer.asp
General Computing Information	computing.msu.edu
LCT Distance Learning and Support 517/355-2345 or 800/500-1554 (North America, Canada, Mexico, Alaska, and Hawaii).	www.lib.msu.edu/outreach
Purchasing Discounted Computers and Software 517/432-0700	cstore.msu.edu
Web Accessibility	webaccess/msu.edu
Wireless Access	wireless.msu.edu

Transfer Credit Information

- **We must have all of your transcripts to complete your Degree Progress Report. Your academic adviser will use this report when meeting with you to discuss your academic program and course enrollment. It is very important for you to send copies of all your transcripts to the Admissions Office. *You cannot meet with an academic adviser and enroll for classes at AOP unless we have copies of all of your transcripts.***

- To view your transfer credit information, in the form of a Degree Progress Report, go to www.degnav.msu.edu. You will need your MSU NetID and password to access your file. Note that the Degree Progress Report will be available once all your transcripts have been received and evaluated by Michigan State.

- For information regarding transfer credit equivalencies, visit Transfer MSU at www.transfer.msu.edu.

- Students are encouraged to bring a course catalog(s) and/or course syllabi from each institution of higher education they attended prior to enrolling at Michigan State University. Academic advisers often have questions about the content of courses being transferred. The course catalog and/or course syllabi will help during the academic advising process.

- **In order to meet with an academic adviser and enroll for classes at Orientation, you MUST have a Degree Progress Report or Credit Evaluation Worksheet. (You receive this at Orientation if you have sent copies of your transcripts to the Admissions Office.)**

Accommodating Students With Disabilities

- Accommodations at AOP for students with disabilities may be requested at least two weeks prior to your AOP attendance date by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD). Many accommodations require more advanced planning and coordination, thus earlier notification is essential.

- Confidential disability registration: <http://myprofile.rcpd.msu.edu>

Phone	517/884-RCPD
TTY	517/355-1293
Web site for info	www.rcpd.msu.edu

- Students with disabilities must provide medical/psychological documentation to support a substantial limitation of a major life activity. Visit the RCPD Web site for a more detailed explanation of required documentation.

- If you require personal assistance for dressing, eating, carrying items, communications, or moving around, please discuss this with RCPD.

Early Course Reservation

- If you took the Math Placement Exam before May 1, you will receive information regarding prescheduled courses.

Fall Welcome

Fall Welcome is a continuation of your orientation to Michigan State University. During Fall Welcome, you will have the opportunity to learn about many of the resources available at MSU and in the East Lansing community. A detailed Fall Welcome schedule will be available at www.fallwelcome.msu.edu. The schedule is updated throughout the summer, so please check it frequently. Should you have any questions about Fall Welcome, please contact the Department of Student Life at 517/355-8286 or via e-mail at stulife@msu.edu.

What to Bring to Campus in the Fall

View www.uh.msu.edu for general information. Specifics are listed below. Campus Living Services suggests you bring the following:

- **Identification** - Driver's License (or a form of government-issued ID i.e., state ID card or passport), Social Security Card, Student ID
- **Medications** - Medications you take regularly and any special instructions for things like allergy shots, spare eyeglasses, contacts, supplies, current written prescriptions, headache/cold medicine, first aid supplies
- **Linens** - Blankets, pillows, comforter
- **Personal Items** - Shower tote/bucket (to carry toiletries to community bathroom), toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, brush & comb, shaving items, tweezers, hair dryer, curling/straightening iron, shampoo, conditioner, robe, bath soap
- **Laundry/Clothing Care** - Detergent, fabric softener, stain remover, laundry basket/bag, hangers
- **Miscellaneous Items** - Computer, sewing kit & safety pins, alarm clock, mug, glass, plate, knife, fork, spoon, nonperishable snack food items, microwaveable dish/pan, can opener, basin to wash dishes, plastic stacking cubes, cleaning supplies
- **Optional Equipment** - Television with long shielded coaxial cable, VCR or DVD player, stereo, headphones, MP3 player/iPod, printer, modem cable, ethernet card, ethernet cable, tapes/CDs/DVDs, surge protector/power strip, fan, flashlight & extra batteries, camera, film, memory card, bike & strong U-lock; check the Housing Web site for size restrictions on microwaves and refrigerators
- **Optional Decoration** - Posters, photos, artwork, plants, small area rug, desk lamp, clip-on light, bedrest and/or lap desk for reading/writing in bed

What Not to Bring

Many items are available for free checkout at the reception desk, including brooms, dustpans, vacuums, and irons. Please do NOT bring: indoor grills (including George Foreman types), halogen lamps, candles, pets.

PARENT INFORMATION

Dear Parents:

We would like to welcome you into the MSU family! We are pleased your student has decided to attend Michigan State University. We understand the important role you have played in preparing your student to attend college. We also know how important it is for parents, the university, and the student to work together. For these reasons, we invite you to attend the Parent Orientation Program (POP), which takes place simultaneously with the student Academic Orientation Program.

The Parent Orientation Program is designed for parents whose students are about to begin school at Michigan State University. According to parents who have attended in previous years, the Parent Orientation Program is an invaluable experience. The program will acquaint you with various aspects of the university's academic, residential, and student life. Emphasis will be on the transitions and adjustments new college students and their parents typically experience. You will have an opportunity to visit with members of our faculty, administrative staff and student body, and to ask questions you may have as you help your student prepare to come to Michigan State University. It is intended that, as a result of participating in the program, parents will have an enriched sense of sharing in their student's college life.

We are looking forward to seeing you during the Parent Orientation Program. If you have any questions after reviewing this information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Once again, welcome into the MSU family!

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Heeder
Director, Orientation Office

Parent Orientation Program Date

- Sunday, August 30

Due to limited space in the presentation room, only parents/legal guardians will be admitted. We strongly discourage bringing children/siblings and other family members/friends.

NOTE: No reservation is necessary. You can attend the entire program or any parts you believe to be beneficial.

Cost

FREE!

Check-In

- 7:30-8:30 am Erickson Hall

Meals

- Information about available meal service on campus will be given to you when you check in for the Parent Orientation Program.
- You can purchase meals in one of the on-campus food courts or in one of the centrally located residence hall cafeterias.

“We came [to MSU] knowing nothing about the university other than being generally aware of its size and academic and housing reputations. We came away with an impression of commitment to student achievement and well-being that to a great degree allayed our concerns of anonymity one always has in relation to a very large university.”

Tentative Schedule of Activities

8:30 - 8:45 am	Welcome and Program Overview
8:45 - 9:25 am	Academic Programs and Academic Success
9:25 - 9:30 am	Break
9:30 - 10:15 am	Student Billing/Financial Aid/Student Work
10:15 - 11:00 am	Housing and Campus Life Resources
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Lunch
12:30 - 12:40 pm	Bus Transportation on Campus
12:40 - 1:15 pm	Student Panel
1:15 - 1:20 pm	Break
1:20 - 2:10 pm	Health, Safety, Security and Transitions in a Student's and Parent's Life
2:10 - 2:35 pm	Computing and Technology
2:35 - 2:45 pm	Break
2:45 pm	Campus Tour

Where to Meet Your Student After the Program

- Students will finish AOP at various times throughout the afternoon. We encourage students to connect with their parents via phone when they finish AOP.

Bringing Family Members

- We strongly discourage bringing small children/siblings, since space is limited and Parent Orientation is not designed for a young audience.

Travel

- For detailed travel information, visit orientation.msu.edu and click on “August Student Orientation” and go to “Travel”.

Directions by car:

Traverse City or Points North via I-75

Proceed south on I-75 to US-127 near Grayling. Proceed south on US-127 to East Lansing. Take the Trowbridge Road exit (Exit 9).*

Detroit or Points East via I-96

Proceed west on I-96 to northbound US-127; follow US-127 north and take the Trowbridge Road exit (Exit 9).*

Grand Rapids or Points West via I-96

Proceed east on I-96 to eastbound I-69. Proceed east on I-69 to southbound US-127. Take US-127 south and take the Trowbridge Road exit (Exit 9).*

Flint or Points East via I-69

Proceed southwest on I-69 to southbound US-127. Take US-127 south and take the Trowbridge Road exit (Exit 9).*

Jackson or Points South via US-127

Proceed north on US-127 and take the Trowbridge Road exit (Exit 9).*

*Follow Trowbridge Road east (straight). After passing Chestnut Road on your left, turn north (left) onto Red Cedar Road. Continue north on Red Cedar Road, straight through the traffic circle that intersects with Wilson Road. After going straight through the traffic lights at Shaw Lane, pass Wells Hall on your right and the MSU Stadium on your left. The **visitor parking lot** is to the north of the MSU Stadium, the second parking lot on the left. The first parking lot on the left is for faculty and staff only. If you park in that lot without a permit, you could be issued a parking ticket. **Unfortunately, the Orientation Office cannot accept responsibility for parking tickets and/or towing fees.**

Parking

- Park only in the lot designated on the map in the center of this booklet. Orientation parking is in the visitor lot north of the stadium. See page 18 for directions from the Trowbridge Road exit (Exit 9).
- Parking at meters, leased spaces or in areas other than visitor parking lots or the lot designated for orientation parking will result in a parking violation and/or towing. The Orientation Office cannot accept responsibility for parking tickets and/or towing fees.
- Accessible parking and entrances are available at the entrances of Wells Hall and Erickson Hall. These spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis. If you need assistance with parking, please ask during check-in
- To pick up your student from orientation, please park in the Orientation Parking Lot (designated on the map in the center of this booklet).
- Students are welcome to drive themselves to Orientation. They should park in the parking lot designated in this booklet; no additional notification or permission is necessary.
- **Please note that the Orientation Office cannot accept responsibility for parking tickets and/or towing fees.**

CONSTRUCTION ALERT

Due to construction along I-496, I-96 and US-127, there will be traffic delays (lane closures will take place intermittently throughout the day). Please plan for additional travel time so students can check in and complete required activities prior to the first presentation. For updates on road construction, please visit michigan.gov/drive.

Map

For detailed maps of the MSU campus and surrounding area, go to www.msu.edu/maps

Accommodations

A list of local hotels/motels is available at ctrl.msu.edu/COTravel/Hotels_MSULocal.aspx. Accommodations are not available in university residence halls.

Directory Information

Admissions Office

250 Administration Building
East Lansing, MI 48824
www.admissions.msu.edu
517/355-8332

Student Accounts

140 Administration Building
East Lansing, MI 48824
<http://ctrl.msu.edu/COStudentAccounts>
517/355-3343

Credit Evaluation

250 Administration Building
East Lansing, MI 48824
www.admissions.msu.edu
517/355-8332

Financial Aid

252 Student Services Building
East Lansing, MI 48824
www.finaid.msu.edu
517/353-5940

Orientation Office

268 Administration Building
East Lansing, MI 48824
www.orientation.msu.edu
517/353-5030

Registrar's Office

150 Administration Building
East Lansing, MI 48824
www.reg.msu.edu
517/355-3300

Additional Information

www.admissions.msu.edu/Services_for_Students.asp

Current Students Recommend

www.fyi.msu.edu