

2026 Family Orientation Schedule

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20 – MOVE-IN DAY

Thursday is move-in day for all new-to-William & Mary students! Students will have pre-scheduled individual move-in appointments between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The activities listed below are primarily optional activities your family can take advantage of throughout the day.

8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. **Residential New Student Check-in & Move-In by Appointment**

Kaplan Parking Lot via Compton Drive (off Monticello Ave)

The campus move-in process is one of the most highly orchestrated events during William & Mary's academic year. All residential new-to-William & Mary students will pre-schedule a move-in time through Residence Life. Every residence hall is assigned a color-coded and/or named route to be followed as exactly as possible. More details can be [found here](#).

Students should enter the Check-In Line via Compton Drive at their designated move-in time. Individuals who arrive early will be diverted from the check-in process and asked to wait their turn.

8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. **Family Orientation Information Station**

Residential Students: Through Move-In Line

Families will pick up information about Family Orientation on the go as part of the drive-through Move-In process. Commuter/Off-Campus Families will receive any important information or swag at Kaplan Arena on Saturday morning.

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Water Stations**

Stop by one of five convenient locations to hydrate! [Station locations are available here](#).

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **W&M Student Athlete Clearance**

Kaplan Arena, Mackesy Sports Performance Center

Medical clearance appointments will be assigned by the Athletics Sports Medicine staff and sent to students via Teamworks. The appointment will be sent to students from their team's individual athletic trainer. Clearances will be held Thursday, 8/20 ranging from 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM. There will be overflow time slots available on Friday, 8/21 from 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM if necessary. Students should arrive at the main doors of the Mackesy Sports Performance Center at their assigned time.

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. **Auxiliary Services Fair**

Sadler Center, Terrace

Parking & Transportation, W&M Dining, W&M Bookstore, Print Shop and McCormick-Nagelsen Tennis Center are available. Register your student's bike on campus, sample dining options, load up on spirit wear, and much more.

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. **Food Trucks**

Sadler Center, Terrace

Enjoy a convenient on-campus dining option for lunch by choosing from a selection of local (and mobile) food vendors!

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **1693 Scholar Move-In Day Lunch**

Murray House

Lunch for new 1693 Scholars and their families.

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12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **New Student & Family Lunch with Cambridge House**

Cambridge House (930 Jamestown Road)

An opportunity for Incoming First-Year, Transfer Students and Parents to enjoy lunch at Cambridge House Christian Study Center, meet campus pastors from various Christian campus ministries, and learn about the discussion groups, lectures, and classes that Cambridge House Christian Study Center offers.

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Wesley Foundation Family Open House**

Wesley House (526 Jamestown Road)

Tour the Wesley House, learn more about the ministry, and enjoy light lunch food!

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. **Optional *Student Only* Dinner with Orientation Aides or Resident Assistants**

Orientation Aides or Resident Assistants will ask students to attend an optional dinner in the dining hall with their orientation group or hallmates. This student-only dinner is optional, but your student will likely be excited to attend their first dinner with their new community! Families should discuss this with their student before move-in day to determine dinner plans for the evening.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. **WMSURE Dinner**

Sadler Center, Chesapeake ABC

Class of 2030 W&M Scholars and their supporters are invited to join the WMSURE faculty and staff for a shared meal. Students and families are welcome to come as you are and are not required to stay the entire time. A brief program will be held at 6:00 PM.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. **Home and Host W&M St Andrews Joint Degree Programme Students & Families Dinner**

Sadler Center, Tidewater

Home and Host W&M St Andrews Joint Degree Programme Students and their supporters are invited to join JDP administrative and support faculty and staff for dinner. Students and families should come as they are as your schedule allows.

Students and families will separate for the remainder of Orientation programming.

If your student did not attend dinner with their orientation group, by 7:00 p.m. your family should say [“See You Later”](#) to allow your student to engage in student-only community building activities. You should not anticipate spending meaningful time with your student beyond this point.

7:00 p.m. and beyond **Rest, Relax, and Explore Williamsburg!**

At this point in the schedule, students must report for mandatory student-only orientation activities. Families, use this time to rest, relax, reflect on the big day you’ve had, and enjoy an evening in Williamsburg!

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 21 – FAMILY ORIENTATION

8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. **Coffee, Tea & Nametag Building**

Kaplan Arena, Concourse

Enjoy coffee and tea and build your nametag for Family Orientation before the morning sessions begin.

8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. **Off-Campus/Commuter Family Information Station**

Kaplan Arena, Concourse

Families who did not drive through the move-in line on Friday are encouraged to connect with our team at this time to receive information about the schedule and any swag you may have missed. *Please note that commuter/off-campus student check-in will take place from 8-9 a.m. in the Sadler Center Atrium.*

9:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m. **Welcome to the Family! Success at William & Mary**

Kaplan Arena

A thoughtful and interactive program about your student's university experience, W&M expectations, and family support during the college transition.

9:45 a.m.-10:15 a.m. **From Orientation to Graduation: Supporting Your Student's Academic Journey**

Kaplan Arena

We will highlight what makes our liberal arts education distinctive and describe the course planning and enrollment process.

10:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m. **A Commitment to Wellness & Flourishing**

Kaplan Arena

W&M focuses on promoting health and wellness for all students. Join us to discuss how we strive to accomplish this mission.

11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **Celebrating Your William & Mary**

Kaplan Arena

Together with your new community, parents and families will officially be welcomed to the family by President Rowe, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs and Public Safety and others.

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. **Lunch**

A long lunch break will split morning sessions in Kaplan Arena and the afternoon at the School of Education. Visit the [Family Orientation website](#) to learn more about lunch options in the area. Residential dining facilities will be student-only at this time.

1:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. **William & Mary Family Connections Fair**

School of Education, Matoaka Woods

Family members may speak with representatives from a variety of campus services at this resource fair.

2:00 p.m.-4:45 p.m. **William & Mary Information Sessions**

School of Education, various rooms

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Representatives from across campus present on a variety of topics related to your student's success. There are four blocks of concurrent sessions, each lasting 30 minutes. ***Rooms have limited space available and close at capacity. Popular sessions are offered more than once.***

Sessions include:

- Partners in Career Development: Strategies for Families
- Understanding W&M Finances
- The Study Abroad Experience
- Building a Safe Community: Campus Safety Resources
- And more!

This concludes Family Orientation. Thank you for joining us! Please travel home safely.

Information Session Block Schedule

Room	Block 1 2:00-2:30pm	Block 2 2:45-3:15pm	Block 3 3:30-4:00pm	Block 4 4:15-4:45 pm
Dogwood	The Study Abroad Experience	The Study Abroad Experience	The Study Abroad Experience	The Study Abroad Experience
Holly A	The COLL Curriculum & Your Student	The COLL Curriculum & Your Student	The COLL Curriculum & Your Student	The COLL Curriculum & Your Student
Holly B	Clubs & Community: Getting Involved at W&M	Clubs & Community: Getting Involved at W&M	Clubs & Community: Getting Involved at W&M	Clubs & Community: Getting Involved at W&M
1056	Partners in Career Development: Strategies for Families	Partners in Career Development: Strategies for Families	Partners in Career Development: Strategies for Families	Partners in Career Development: Strategies for Families
2000	My student wants to join a fraternity/sorority... what do I need to know?	My student wants to join a fraternity/sorority... what do I need to know?	My student wants to join a fraternity/sorority... what do I need to know?	St. Andrews & W&M Joint Degree Programme
2010	Helping Students Get the Help They Need: W&M Counseling Center	Helping Students Get the Help They Need: W&M Counseling Center	Helping Students Get the Help They Need: W&M Counseling Center	Helping Students Get the Help They Need: W&M Counseling Center
2011	Understanding W&M Financial Aid	Understanding W&M Financial Aid	Student Accessibility Services	Student Accessibility Services
2015	Campus Conflict 101: Helping Your Student Navigate Conflict in College	Campus Conflict 101: Helping Your Student Navigate Conflict in College	Community Starts Here: Your Student's Path to Civic & Community Engagement	Community Starts Here: Your Student's Path to Civic & Community Engagement
2016	Building a Safe Community: Campus Safety Resources	Building a Safe Community: Campus Safety Resources	Student Panel: Engagement in the W&M Community	Student Panel: Engagement in the W&M Community
2020	Care in Action: Supporting Your Student Through Challenges	Helping Students Get the Help They Need: W&M Student Health Center	Helping Students Get the Help They Need: W&M Student Health Center	Helping Students Get the Help They Need: W&M Student Health Center
2056	Parent Panel: FAQs with Current W&M Parents	Parent Panel: FAQs with Current W&M Parents	Dining Wellness: Campus Dining Options and Special Dietary Needs	Dining Wellness: Campus Dining Options and Special Dietary Needs
2060	Your Student's Residential Experience	Your Student's Residential Experience	A Commitment to Wellness	A Commitment to Wellness
2066	It's Never Too Early to Plan: Resources for Academic Success	It's Never Too Early to Plan: Resources for Academic Success	It's Never Too Early to Plan: Resources for Academic Success	It's Never Too Early to Plan: Resources for Academic Success

Block One: 2:00-2:30pm

- **Dogwood – The Study Abroad Experience**
 - Discover W&M study abroad opportunities and how they may enhance your student's experience and career aspirations.
- **Holly A – The COLL Curriculum & Your Student**
 - Discover the benefits of the education curriculum in place at William & Mary and the exciting opportunities it offers for your student.
- **Holly B – Clubs & Community: Getting Involved at W&M**
 - Staff in the Office of Student Leadership Development have oversight for W&M's 500 Recognized Student Organizations. This session will provide information on how new students can get involved to find their people and community while at college.
- **1056 – Partners in Career Development: Strategies for Families**
 - Learn about the Office of Career Development & Professional Engagement, including programs, services, and resources and how you can support your student's career journey at William & Mary.
- **2000 – My student wants to join a fraternity/sorority... what do I need to know?**
 - Come learn about what makes our Fraternity and Sorority community special, the intake/recruitment processes, and how to support your student throughout their joining and member experience.
- **2010 – Helping Students Get the Help They Need: W&M Counseling Center**
 - Hear from our Counseling Center about services available to support your student's optimal mental health while at W&M.
- **2011 – Understanding W&M Financial Aid**
 - Explore the financial and student employment resources available to students.
- **2015 – Campus Conflict 101: Helping Your Student Navigate Conflict in College**
 - Conflict doesn't have to be a bad thing – at William & Mary, we help students approach conflicts as opportunities for learning, growth, and change. In this session, learn common conflicts that students navigate during their time on campus, on-campus resources here to help, and tips for how families can best support their students for good conflict.
- **2016 – Building a Safe Community: Campus Safety Resources**
 - Discuss opportunities to increase safety and awareness for your student.
- **2020 – Care in Action: Supporting Your Student Through Challenges**
 - Learn how Care Support Services collaborates with students, families, and campus partners through the care concern process to offer wrap-around support through students' transitions and challenges such as loneliness, personal and interpersonal struggles, grief, and mental and physical health concerns.
- **2056 – Parent Panel: FAQs with Current W&M Parents**
 - Join our Parent & Family Council volunteers for a panel discussion on their experience as parents of a W&M student. Their stories highlight the college transition, tips and wisdom, and what family involvement in college really looks like.
- **2060 – Understanding Your Student's On-Campus Living Experience**
 - Discover the opportunities available to your student during their first year of college and explore how early planning can set the stage for long-term success throughout their college experience beginning in residence life.
- **2066 – It's Never Too Early to Plan: Resources for Academic Success**
 - Learn about the variety of resources available to your student through the Office of Academic Wellbeing. We will give you an overview of Empowerment Programs, free tutoring & time management support through the TutorZone, our Success Coaching, and other tools for academic success.

Block Two: 2:45-3:15pm

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- **2020 – Helping Students Get the Help they Need: W&M Health Center**
 - Hear about the services available to your student at the Student Health Center.
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Block Three: 3:30-4:00pm

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- **2011 – Student Accessibility Services**
 - Learn how we support students regarding the registration process for accommodations, documentation requirements, support services and important campus resources.
- **2015 – Community Starts Here: Your Student's Path to Civic & Community Engagement**
 - In this interactive session, learn how your student can engage in meaningful service, advocacy, and civic action through programs offered by Civic & Community Engagement.
- **2016 – Student Panel: Engagement in the W&M Community**
 - Want an existing student's perspective? Join student leaders in a panel discussion and learn how to stay involved with your student even after they have left home.
- **2020 – Helping Students Get the Help They Need: W&M Health Center**
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- **2056 – Dining Wellness: Campus Dining Options & Special Dietary Needs**
 - From special dietary information to how your student can maintain healthy eating habits, our dietitian is here to show how your student can stay "Mindful."
- **2060 – A Commitment to Wellness**
 - W&M focuses on promoting health and wellness for all students.
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Block Four: 4:15-4:45pm

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- **2000 – St. Andrews & W&M Joint Degree Programme**
 - Learn about resources offered to support students enrolled in the Joint Degree Programme with the University of St. Andrews.
- **2010 – Helping Students Get the Help They Need: W&M Counseling Center**
 - Hear from our Counseling Center about services available to support your student's optimal mental health while at W&M.
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