

Spring 2026 Family Orientation



Friday, January 16

8:00 am - Offices Available

5:00 pm Student Health Center, McLeod-Tyler Wellness Center*
(then closed Financial Aid, Blow Hall, Room 124
until Tuesday, University Registrar, Blow Hall, Room 240
January 20) Student Accessibility Services, Sadler Center, Room 181

*Student Health Center closes at 4 pm until Tuesday, January 20.

8:00 am - Residential New Student Orientation Check-In

12:00 pm Sadler Center, Atrium

Residential new students should plan to arrive at the Sadler Center at your designated residence hall appointment time. You will begin with the orientation check-in process and receive your Tribe (Student ID) Card* before moving on to Residence Life. Once you have successfully checked in with Residence Life, students will be able to begin moving their belongings into their residence hall space.

*Students should bring a valid picture ID with them to receive their Tribe (Student ID) Card and pick up their residence hall room key.

8:00 am - Family & Supporter Check-In

1:00 pm Sadler Center, Atrium

Check in or register for Family Orientation, receive a schedule of events, and connect with the Family Engagement team about any questions you might have about the family experience at William & Mary.

10:00 am - International Student Welcome Table

2:00 pm Sadler Center, Atrium

Stop by to meet the Office of International Students, Scholars & Programs staff! They will be available to answer questions and provide resources.

10:00 am - New Student & Family Connections Fair

1:00 pm Sadler Center, Chesapeake A

W&M has numerous resources to help students be successful throughout their university experience. Various campus representatives will be available in one convenient area so you can pursue the information you want to ensure a positive start to your W&M experience.

11:00 am - Lunch On Your Own

1:00 pm Various Locations

We encourage you to explore Williamsburg and its robust food scene! [View the list](#) of over 80 restaurants we compiled, within walking distance from the Sadler Center, or within a short 15-minute drive away (which encompasses all of Williamsburg!)



12:00 pm	Off-Campus/Commuter New Student Orientation Check-In
1:00 pm	Sadler Center, Atrium
	Off-campus and commuter new students should plan to arrive at the Sadler Center Atrium anytime during this timeframe to check-in for orientation and receive your Tribe (Student ID) Card before the program begins.
	<i>*Students should bring a valid picture ID with them to receive their Tribe (Student ID) Card.</i>
1:15 pm	Celebrating Your William & Mary
1:45 pm	Sadler Center, Commonwealth Auditorium
	Together, new students, parents, families, and student supporters will officially be welcomed to the Tribe family!

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

At this point in the schedule, your family should say “See You Later” to allow your student to engage in student-only community building activities.

2:00 pm –	Welcome to the Family! Success at William & Mary
2:45 pm	Sadler Center, Commonwealth Auditorium
	A thoughtful and interactive program about your student’s experience, W&M expectations, and parental support during the college transition.
3:00 pm –	From Orientation to Graduation: A Look into Academic Success
3:45 pm	Sadler Center, Commonwealth Auditorium
	We will highlight what makes our liberal arts education distinctive and describe course planning, enrollment process, and transferring credits, as well as the available W&M resources to help your student thrive in a new academic environment.
4:00 pm –	Have Questions? Meet the Experts!
5:00 pm	Sadler Center, Chesapeake BC
	Have questions? Representatives from Housing & Residence Life, Academic Wellbeing, Student Leadership Development, Career Development & Professional Engagement, and Health & Wellness will be available to sit, answer questions, and discuss resources and processes at William & Mary. Snacks and refreshments are provided!
4:00 pm –	Find Your Community: Explore Student Support Offices
5:00 pm	Sadler Center
	Meet the offices that support students’ sense of belonging and connection at William & Mary! Families are invited to stop by participating offices in the Sadler Center to learn more about experience- and community-based resources available to students. Enjoy light refreshments as you visit each location.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-Generation Student Engagement Room 248 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Enjoy a savory popcorn bar at this location!</i> • Student Center for Inclusive Excellence Room 268 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Looking for dessert? Enjoy a variety of sweet treats at this location!</i> • Student Veteran Engagement Room 203 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Build your own trail mix at this location!</i>

5:00 pm – Postcard Writing: Send Your Student Good Luck

5:30 pm Sadler Center, Chesapeake BC

Your student might be excited, nervous, or a mixture of both about joining William & Mary. It might even be their first time living away from home! Start their semester off right with an encouraging postcard from a supporter. We'll distribute them for you! *Light refreshments will be available.*

This concludes the Spring 2026 Family Orientation program. Please travel safely.