



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



Fall 2026
New Student Orientation
Michigan State University

New Student Orientation Newsletter

Hello Spartan Families and Supporters,

It's time! Starting next week, MSU will be welcoming over 11,000 new students and their families and supporters to campus for move-in! We are so excited to welcome you and your student, and to help them start their in-person orientation experience off right. Encourage your Spartan to keep a close eye on their MSU inbox, as NSO and other

MSU departments will have loads of information to share. If you ever need a refresher on anything that was shared in previous issues, you can visit our [communications archive](#).

In our final newsletter of the summer, we have a final reminder about **Spartan Cards**, information about the **SafeMSU App**, a new **Local Lansing Highlight**, and one last look at what **students wish their families and supporters knew about their college experience**. Be sure to also take a look at the **Spartan Spotlight Posts** for a full list of NSO events happening next week. Thanks for reading!

Spartan Spotlight Posts

Be sure to read each post for important dates and deadlines, resources, and tips for success. If you have any questions about the orientation podcast, please feel free to reach out by email at nso@msu.edu or by phone at **(517) 355-8490**.

[Fall 2026 NSO - NSO Events During Welcome to State \(Checkpoint 5\)](#)

[Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities \(RCPD\) for Fall 2026](#)

[Getting Connected to the MSU WiFi](#)

Family & Supporter Webinar

If you weren't able to attend our last Family & Supporter Webinar, don't worry! Below, you can access a recording of the webinar and catch up with the latest news from NSO. This webinar recording is focused on Police and Public Safety, including all the ways that you and your student can stay safe on campus and plan for emergencies.

[Watch Webinar Recording](#)

Spartan Card Updates

Your student's Spartan Card is their key to campus. They will need their Spartan Card for meals, residence halls, apartments & possibly for class attendance purposes. Don't let your Spartan wait until the first day of classes to get their MSU Spartan Card!

During the first week of Welcome to State (August 24 - August 27), students that have had their photos approved should pick up their Spartan Card at the **STEM Building, Room 1201**. Students that still need their photo taken should visit the ID Office in the International Center (427 N. Shaw Lane, Room 170).

Please remind your student to bring a physical passport, US driver's license or US state ID, and their Student ID number. Digital IDs will not be accepted. **Spartan Cards will not be given to friends or family on behalf of a student.** Parking will be available in [Lot 79](#) and [Lot 39](#). **Please do not** park, stop, or stand on [Red Cedar Road](#) while your student is picking up their Spartan Card.

SafeMSU App



SafeMSU is the only app that integrates with Michigan State University's safety and security systems. The app will send you important safety alerts to you and your student and provide instant access to campus safety resources.

[Learn More](#)

Local Lansing Highlights



Just steps from campus, **Foster Coffee** in downtown East Lansing offers specialty drinks, fresh pastries, and a cozy atmosphere perfect for catching up with your student. Known for their commitment to community, Foster is a favorite for students and locals alike. Whether you're enjoying a seasonal latte or meeting for a midweek chat, it's a warm and welcoming space to connect. Learn more about Foster Coffee on their [website](#).

What I Wish They Knew

We asked some Spartan Students how they feel about their transition to MSU, and here are some things they want their families and supporters to know...

"At this point in my life, independence feels crucial for me to exist as a person in this world. Independence doesn't mean that I want to kick my parents out of my life at all, but rather that I want to be the first line of defense in my life for all of my successes, struggles, and failures."

"I wish my family/supporters knew that I'm learning to put academics first while still making time for friends, so I can have a balanced and healthy college experience."

"Even if we don't reach out it doesn't mean we don't care. It's a busy time and we're caught up in navigating it! We still appreciate it so much when our supporters randomly check-in."

"There are so many opportunities here to grow—internships, research, and even study abroad programs—and I want to explore them even if it means being busier or stepping out of my comfort zone."

Additional Communication

NSO is so excited to keep in contact with you and your student this summer! Throughout the duration of NSO, you can expect various email reminders, text messages, and voicemails sent to you and your student. These communications are meant to provide the most up-to-date information so you and your student can act accordingly. If you have any questions about the communication you receive, please reach out to the NSO Office at (517) 355-8490 or by email at nso@msu.edu. Thank you for your cooperation!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



MSUNSO



msuorientation



MSU_NSO

STAY UP TO DATE ON NSO

Important MSU Dates

OCT

19

Fall 2026 Middle of Semester

OCT

26

Fall Break

OCT

27



University Closed (Thanksgiving)

NOV

26

University Closed (Thanksgiving)

NOV

27

DEC

13

Fall 2026 Classes End

DEC

14

Fall 2026 Final Exams

DEC

18

DEC

18

Fall 2026 Commencements

DEC

20

DEC

21

University Closed (Winter Break)

24

JAN

03

JAN

18

University Closed (MLK Day)

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