

January 2026 New Student Orientation Schedule

Michigan State University

Thursday, January 8th – Students, Families and Supporters Welcome

9:00 am-10:00 am	Check-in and Registration – STEM Teaching and Learning Facility Check-in and registration will take place on the first floor of STEM. Please follow the NSO Check-in signs to find the registration table. During check-in, breakfast will be available for all participants.
10:00 am-11:00 am	Welcome to Michigan State University! New Student Orientation is hosting a general reception to launch the in-person New Student Orientation experience. Students (Rm 2130) will attend a welcome to connect with their Spartan Leader groups while families and supporters (Rm 1130) will attend a separate welcome to learn more about ways to stay connected with MSU throughout the upcoming semester and beyond.
11:00 am-12:00 pm	Meet, Greet, and Mingle Resource Fair Students, families, and supporters are invited to participate in a general reception and resource fair to connect with various MSU departments and campus community members. This gathering is a great opportunity to ask questions and to learn more about helpful resources available to students.
12:00 pm-1:00 pm	Lunch – Brody Dining Facility We encourage students and their families/supporters to join us for lunch in Brody Dining Facility on campus. Dining passes for lunch will be provided to students and families/supporters as a part of participating in the NSO program.
1:00 pm-3:00 pm	Community Resource Panel Rotation Students, families, and supporters will engage in a resource-based rotation featuring a community resource panel and a current student Q&A activity. Each rotation is 45-minutes with a 15-minute break in-between. The community resource panel features resources across campus including University Health & Wellbeing and the Department of Police and Public Safety. The student Q&A activity allows participants to hear from Spartan Leaders about their experiences and ask questions in an open, small group setting.
3:00 pm-5:00 pm	Spartan Orientation Social Join us for an afternoon of creativity, fun, and connection as you build your own snow globes, craft friendship bracelets, and enjoy a variety of board games at the Student Lounge (Room 2130). Families and supporters will have the chance to unwind in a dedicated lounge space (Room 2110), where they can connect exclusively with MSU families and supporters along with a special activity. Guests can also engage in high impact practice workshops with Undergrad Research, Career Services, and Academic Success Workshops (Rooms 1130 & 2201).

5:00 pm-6:00 pm **Dinner – Brody Dining Facility**
We encourage students to join us for dinner in Brody Dining Facility on campus. Dining passes will be provided to students as a part of participating in the NSO program.

6:00-8:00 pm **Evening Social - S'mores, Soda, & Spartans**
Join us for an evening watch party in Brody Classroom 134 as the Spartans take on Northwestern! Tip-off is at 6:30 pm, and the watch party will continue until half time, featuring a soda bar and s'mores station!

Friday, January 9th – Students Only

9:00 am-10:00 am **Check-in and Registration – STEM Teaching and Learning Facility**
Registration will be available for students who are joining us for Day 2 of the in-person Orientation program. During check-in, breakfast will be available for all participants. If students checked in on Day 1, no need to check-in again!

10:00 am-10:15 am **Welcome to Michigan State University!**
New Student Orientation is hosting a general reception to launch the in-person New Student Orientation experience. This will be a brief experience to review the day's schedule and launch Day 2 of the NSO program!

10:15 am-11:30 am **Belong @ State Rotations**
Belong at State Rotations offer incoming students the chance to engage with the MSU community through three 20-minute stations. Students will rotate through activities designed to build connections and foster a sense of belonging at MSU with their orientation group. Stations include the NSO Craft Cabin, where students can make personalized keepsakes (Room 1130), participating in a community service project sponsored by the Center for Community Engaged Learning (Rm 2201), and learning some new facts about MSU with team trivia (Rm 2130).

11:30 am -1:00 pm **Lunch – Brody Dining Facility**
We encourage students to join us for lunch in Brody Dining Facility on campus. Dining passes for lunch will be provided to students who register for the NSO program.

1:00pm – 3:15pm **Spartan Quest – Locations Around Campus**
Race across campus in the Spartan Quest and explore MSU's rich traditions and famous landmarks! From the historic Beaumont Tower to the iconic Spartan Statue, discover must-visit spots with your orientation group. While tackling challenges, snapping photos, and solving riddles, compete with your team to earn points for your NSO team and make the most of your adventure-packed afternoon at Michigan State University.

3:30pm – 5:00pm

Bundled Up BINGO – STEM Room 2130

Experience Bundled Up BINGO, a winter hangout where new and returning Spartans come together for an afternoon of lively fun! Hosted by New Student Orientation and the University Activities Board, play for exciting prizes and enjoy a cozy atmosphere perfect for reconnecting or making new friends.

5:00 pm-6:00 pm

Dinner – Brody Dining Facility

We encourage students to join us for dinner in Brody Dining Facility on campus. Dining passes will be provided to students as a part of participating in the NSO program.

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Evening Social - SnoTown – Munn Ice Arena

Attend SnoTown at Munn Ice Arena, a winter-themed celebration where new and returning Spartans gather for an evening of frosty fun! Lace up your skates for open ice-skating time, get creative with seasonal crafts, and enjoy cozy snacks that bring the chill vibes to life. Bring your orientation group, roommate(s), and campus friends and embrace the magic of winter at NSO's SnoTown!