



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



Fall 2026
New Student Orientation
Michigan State University

New Student Orientation Newsletter

Hello Spartan Students,

It's time! Starting next week, MSU will be welcoming over 11,000 new students (and your families and supporters) to campus for move-in! We are so excited to welcome you and to help you start your in-person orientation experience off right. Continue to keep a close eye

on your 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 information about the **Transit and SafeMSU Apps**, a new **Local Lansing Highlight**, and a final reminder about **getting your Spartan Card**. 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 information provided, 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 \(Checkpoint 5\)](#)

[Getting Connected to the MSU WiFi](#)

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



Spartan Quest - Fall 2026 Signup





As part of Welcome to State's NSO events (NSO Checkpoint 5), students will participate in **Spartan Quest** on **Thursday, August 27** starting at the **STEM Building**. This event is a fun competition where teams use clues to explore campus in pursuit of MSU's missing mascot! Want to team up with your friends on the quest? You can use the button below to sign up together and be in the same group for the event. Please be advised that the majority of this event will take place outside, so dress accordingly and bring walking shoes. We can't wait to see you there!

[Sign Up for Spartan Quest](#)



Balance at State



Another NSO event taking place during Welcome to State is Balance at State! Join us in the **Beal Botanical Garden** on **Thursday, August 27 at 10:30 AM** to enjoy a relaxing Pilates session hosted by Recharge Pilates and New Student Orientation. All experience levels are welcome, so bring a yoga mat or towel, a water bottle, and your comfiest athletic gear. Click the button below to get a taste of Balance at State before the event kicks off. We hope to see you there!

[Watch the Teaser Video](#)



MSU APP



Helpful MSU Apps



Transit App

This app, created by the Capitol Area Transportation Authority (CATA), gives students access to easy-to-use features like a bus tracker, service alerts, departure times, and more! Use this app to track out your commute during the semester! Learn more about the Transit app on the [CATA website](#).

SafeMSU App

The only app that integrates with Michigan State University's safety and security systems. The app will send you important safety alerts and provide instant access to campus safety resources. Learn more

about SafeMSU on the [MSU Police and Public Safety website](#).

🌍 Local Lansing Highlight 🌍



Just steps from campus, **Foster Coffee** in downtown East Lansing offers specialty drinks, fresh pastries, and a cozy atmosphere perfect for studying or catching up with your friends. 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](#).



Updates on Your Spartan Card



As a new student, your key to campus is your Spartan Card. You will need your Spartan Card for meals, residence halls, apartments & possibly for class attendance purposes. Don't wait until the first day of

classes to get your 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 remember to bring a physical passport, US driver's license or US state ID, and your 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](#)** when coming to pick up your Spartan Card.



Important MSU Dates



OCT

19

Fall 2026 Middle of Semester

OCT

26

|

OCT

27

Fall Break

NOV

26

University Closed (Thanksgiving)

NOV

27

DEC

13

Fall 2026 Classes End

What to Expect

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

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



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MSU_NSO

STAY UP TO DATE ON NSO

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