



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



Fall 2026
New Student Orientation
Michigan State University

New Student Orientation Newsletter

Hello Spartan Students,

It's officially August! MSU is hard at work putting the final touches on Welcome to State programming, and we can't wait to see you on campus in a few weeks. In the coming newsletters, you can expect more information on how to prepare for move-in, where to park, and

what apps can help you navigate life on campus. If you ever need a refresher on what was shared in previous issues, you can visit our [communications archive](#).

In this week's newsletter, we have new Spartan Spotlight Post on **Welcome to State's NSO events**, new episodes of **Spartan Orientation Station**, info on an upcoming **Welcome to State webinar**, a **teaser** for our **Balance at State** event, information about the MSU App, a new **Local Lansing Highlight**, and updated information about **getting your Spartan Card**. There's also still time to register for the MSU IT Webinars if your interested. Thanks for reading!

🌟 Spartan Spotlight Posts 🌟

Use these posts as a starting point on your orientation journey! 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 - Checkpoint 1 Overview](#)

[Fall 2026 NSO - Checkpoint 3 Overview](#)

[Fall 2026 NSO - Checkpoint 4 Overview](#)

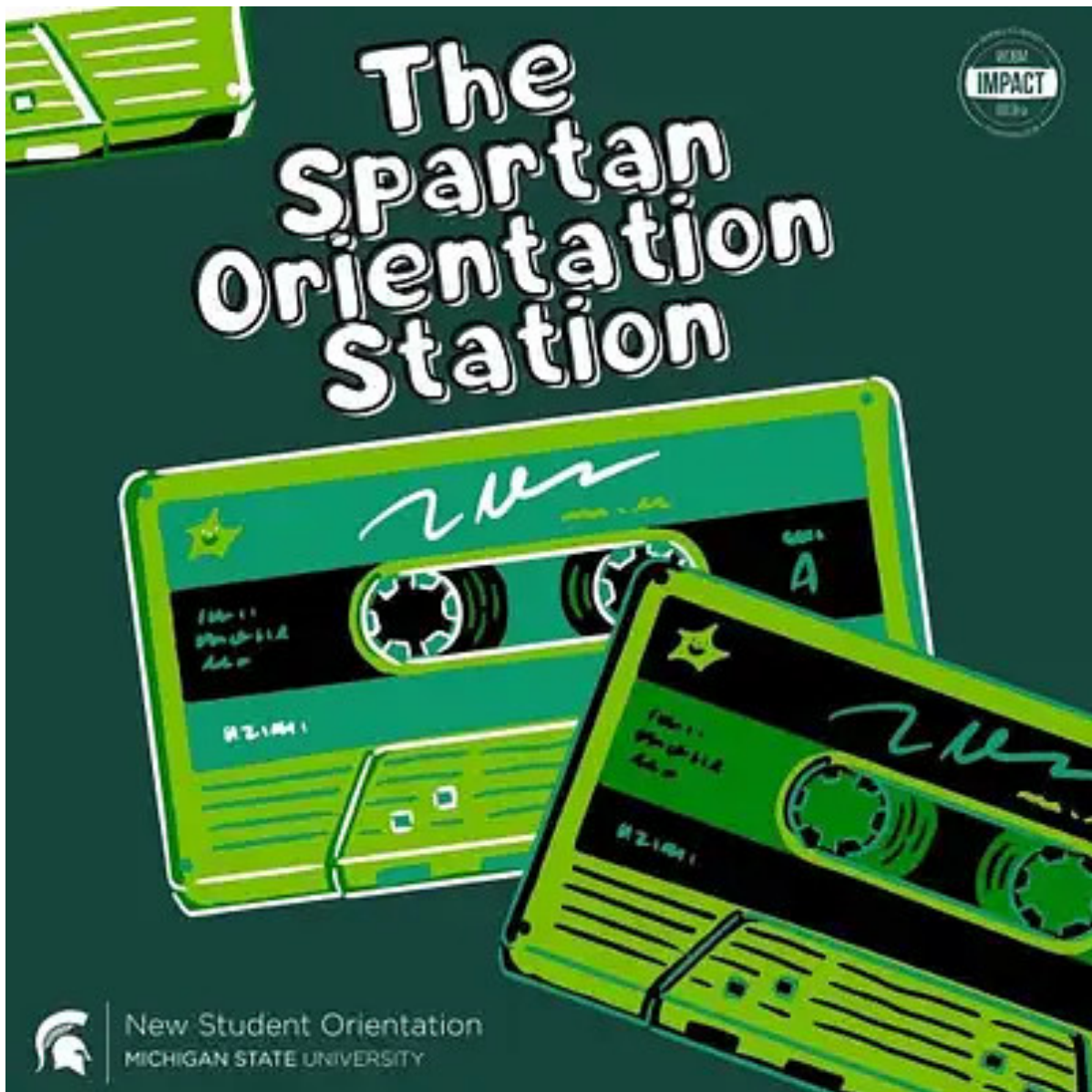
[Fall 2026 NSO - NSO Events During Welcome to State \(Checkpoint 5\)](#)

[Getting Connected to the MSU WiFi](#)

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

[Study Space Highlights - STEM Building](#)

🎙️ Spartan Orientation Station 🎙️



As part of NSO Checkpoint 4, we are happy to share the newest episodes of the **Spartan Orientation Station (SOS) podcast**. This podcast brings together campus partners from across the MSU community to discuss key resources and important topics that help you navigate the orientation process. You can listen to past seasons of SOS with transcripts on the [Impact89FM website](https://www.impact89fm.com).

[SOS Season 4, EP. 17 - Pre-Veterinary Studies at MSU](#)

[SOS Season 4, EP. 18 - Pre-Law Studies at MSU](#)

🎧 **Welcome to State Webinar** 🎧

Still confused about what Welcome to State is? No worries! On **Monday, August 10, at 6 PM**, NSO will be hosting a webinar all about Welcome to State and the fun events you can expect when you get to campus. All incoming students are welcome to attend, but RSVP is required. Click the button below to save your spot!

[RSVP for Webinar](#)



Spartan Quest - Fall 2026 Signup





As part of Welcome to State's NSO events (NSO Checkpoint 5), students will participate in **Spartan Quest**, 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



MSU App



The MSU app is the official app of Michigan State University. Keep up-to-date with the latest events, read top news stories, explore the in-depth map of campus, and review dining options—all from your mobile device! We recommend all new students use this app to get information on NSO events during Welcome to State, including locations and times of each activity. Information on NSO events will go live on **Monday, August 17**.

 **Local Lansing Highlight** 



Looking for a lively local spot to explore with family or friends? Check out **Lansing Shuffle**, a vibrant food hall and community space along the Lansing riverfront. With multiple local food vendors, a bar, indoor and outdoor seating, and live events, it's a fun way to enjoy the city's culture. Lansing Shuffle also features shuffleboard courts, perfect for a casual game. Whether your Spartan is looking for a chill evening or a fun weekend hangout, this spot offers something for everyone. Learn more on [Lansing Shuffle's website!](#)



Updates on Your Spartan Card



You are strongly encouraged to pick up your new Spartan Card at the ID Office — between **June 1, 2026 and August 20, 2026** — before Welcome to State events begin. 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!

Where: MSU ID Office, 427 N. Shaw Lane, Room 170 inside the International Center

When: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.

What to bring: 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.

During Welcome to State (August 24 - August 27), students that have 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.

IT Webinar Opportunities

As a reminder, MSU IT is putting on a number of optional webinars to help students navigate the digital tools available at MSU. If you're interested, use the links below to save your spot!

[Navigating Your MSU Courses: D2L Brightspace Basics for Students | Wednesday, August 12, 2-3pm EST](#)

- Join MSU IT for an engaging workshop designed especially for students who are new to D2L Brightspace, our primary platform for digital learning. Master the essential skills you will need to succeed in your classes at MSU. MSU IT staff will equip you with a thorough understanding of D2L Brightspace to set you up for success

[AI: A Student's Guide | Thursday, August 13, 2-pm EST](#)

- This webinar empowers students to use generative AI effectively and responsibly during their college career. We explore how AI can be a partner in various academic tasks for planning,

collaboration, writing, and editing. We also cover how using AI fits into university expectations about academic integrity, and cover examples of how instructors include AI policies in their syllabi.



Important MSU Dates



AUG

31

Fall 2026 Classes Begin

SEP

07

University Closed (Labor Day)

OCT

19

Fall 2026 Middle of Semester

OCT

26

Fall Break

OCT

27

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!***

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