



*HOW TO*

# **PREPARE FOR NORTHWESTERN**

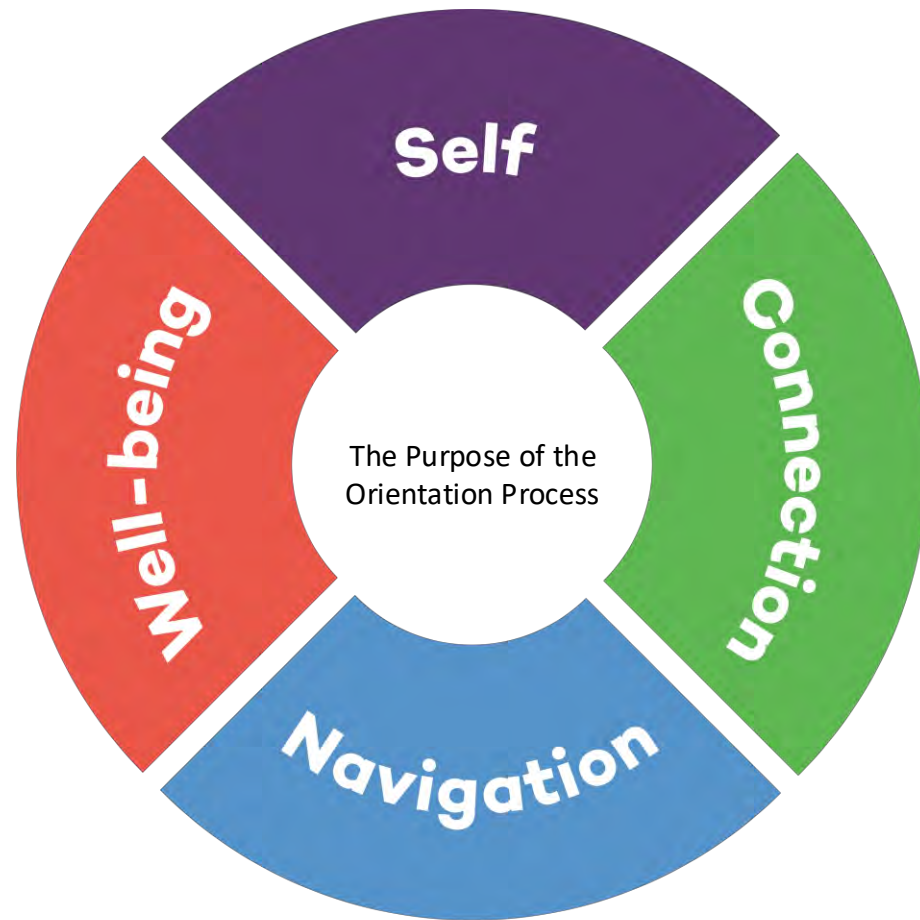
A WEBINAR FOR THE CLASS  
OF 2029 AND THEIR FAMILIES

**May 8, 2025**  
7 p.m. CDT

# In This Session

- New Student Orientation Process
  - Purple Prep
  - Before the Arch
  - Wildcat Welcome
- Families Supporting Their New Student
- Planning Dates
- Current Student Panel
- Q&A

# Purpose of Orientation



# Your New Student Orientation Process

Northwestern's orientation process consists of three components to successfully launch students into their first year.

## 1

### Purple Prep

- **May 5-September 8, 2025**
- Foundational orientation tasks to mark your start as a Wildcat
- Modality: Virtual

## 2

### Before the Arch

- **July-September 9, 2025**
- Optional opportunities to learn from current students about the emotional and social aspects of your transition
- Modality: Virtual

## 3

### Wildcat Welcome

- **International Wildcat Welcome: September 8-9**
  - **Wildcat Welcome: September 9-15, 2024**
  - Take part in campus traditions, build connections, learn to navigate campus, and register for fall classes
  - Modality: In-person, on-campus
- 



# Purple Prep

May 5-September 8, 2025

## Foundational orientation tasks to mark your start as a Wildcat

- Purple Prep provides foundational information and includes all summer tasks to complete, with a new set of deadlines each month.
- Tasks range from submitting your housing contract to immunization forms to virtual orientation modules.



# Purple Prep

May 5-September 8, 2025



## Purple Prep Website

- Find everything you need to know.
- The one-stop location for details about summer tasks and information you need to know prior to starting in the fall



## Purple Prep Checklist

- Keep track of requirements
- A personalized tool for managing all your summer tasks



## Purple Prep Email

- Delivered the first and third Tuesday of each month, with info on upcoming tasks and noting any updates or changes to your entry

[northwestern.edu/purple-prep](https://northwestern.edu/purple-prep)

# Before the Arch

July-September 8, 2025

- Virtual, optional opportunities to hear from current students about the social and emotional aspects of transition
- Delivered weekly through the Class of 2029 & Incoming Transfers Canvas Course, including videos, webinars, podcasts, and more
- Canvas Course to launch in July
- Prompted to learn more in Purple Prep email





# Wildcat Welcome

September 9-15, 2025

International Wildcat Welcome : September 8-9, 2025

Take part in campus traditions, build connections, learn to navigate campus, and register for fall classes

## International Students

- September 7: International student move-in day
- September 8-9: International Wildcat Welcome
- September 9: New student move-in day
- September 10-15: Wildcat Welcome





# Wildcat Welcome

September 9-15, 2025

International Wildcat Welcome : September 8-9, 2025

**Take part in campus traditions, build connections, learn to navigate campus, and register for fall classes**

- Begins when you move to campus
- Programs to build connections with others, learn about Northwestern, and take part in campus tradition



# Wildcat Welcome

## What to expect during Wildcat Welcome

- New student move-in day (September 9)
- Support from peer mentors:
  - ✓ Peer Adviser (PA)
  - ✓ International Peer Adviser (IPA)
  - ✓ Resident Assistant (RA)
- Build connections through PA Group, Residential area, & social-based programs
- Academic advising & fall quarter course registration
- Campus traditions: March Through the Arch, Class Photo
- Campus tour



# Wildcat Welcome

September 9-15, 2025

International Wildcat Welcome : September 8-9, 2025

## Timeline for Learning the Schedule

### August

Programmatic overview  
released

### September

Personalized schedule  
released





# After Orientation

**Transition does not end after the first week.**

- The Office of Student Transition Experiences continues to support you as a student past orientation.
  - ✓ Twice quarterly emails with important dates, upcoming events, and highlighted resources relevant to important topics that quarter
  - ✓ Additional events and programs each year that will lead you through common experiences, such as learning how to rent housing off campus, leadership building, and celebrating milestones



# Family Overview

## Office of Family Engagement

- Family Engagement provides resources, communication, and programming for parents and family members.
- We help with the transition of new Wildcat families.
- We support families throughout their students' undergraduate experience.
- We provide training and leadership development opportunities for current students (Family Coordinators & Family Ambassadors).



# Family Overview

## Communication

- **Family Engagement Website**
  - ✓ [bit.ly/NU-Family](https://bit.ly/NU-Family)
- **Parent & Family E-mail List**
  - ✓ <https://go.dosa.northwestern.edu/parentlist/>
- **Family Engagement Email Address:** [family@northwestern.edu](mailto:family@northwestern.edu)
- [New Parent & Family Webinar Series](#)
- [Parent and Family Virtual Resource Guide](#)
- **Wildcat Family Recap**
- **Official Northwestern University Parents & Families Facebook & Instagram**
  - ✓ [www.facebook.com/northwesternfamilies](https://www.facebook.com/northwesternfamilies)
  - ✓ [www.instagram.com/wildcatfamilies](https://www.instagram.com/wildcatfamilies)





# Family Engagement Website

[bit.ly/NU-Family](https://bit.ly/NU-Family)



## Community Resources

[HOME](#) > [COMMUNITY RESOURCES](#) > [FOR PARENTS & FAMILIES](#)

### For Students

### For Student Affairs Staff

### For Parents & Families

[Family Communication](#)

[Parent & Family Orientation](#)

[Family Weekend](#)

[Prep Talk](#)

[FAQs for Families](#)

[Things to Do: Evanston & Chicago](#)

[Northwestern University Family  
Advisory Council](#)

[Student Leaders](#)

[Parent and Family Guide](#)

Family Engagement partners with family members of all undergraduate students to ensure we create a supportive environment to aid in student learning and development. All information for family members, including programs, communication, and resources, can be found in this section.

As your child becomes a Wildcat, you too are becoming a vital part of the Wildcat Community. At Northwestern, we strongly believe that family members provide crucial support for the new experiences a student will encounter during college. The beginning of a college career often brings changes in relationships with family and friends. Welcoming, understanding and adjusting to these changes is an exciting challenge for all involved.



# Planning Dates

## September

**7** International student move-in day

**8-9** International Wildcat Welcome

**9** New student move-in day

**9-10** Parent & Family Orientation

**10-15** Wildcat Welcome

**16** First day of class

## October

**17 - 19** Family Weekend

## November

**24-30** Fall Break

## December

**8-12** Final Exams

**13** Halls close for winter break @ 12pm

Dates are subject to change. View the [Purple Prep website](#) for the up-to-date calendar.

# Connect with Your Class

Follow @wildcatwelcome on social media



## Class of 2029 Instagram

- [Instagram.com/northwesternu2029](https://www.instagram.com/northwesternu2029)

## Your Peer Adviser Group

- Coming by August 1

## Your International Peer Adviser Group

- Coming by end of July





# Student Panel

- **Gayoung, Third Year**
  - Hometown: Overland Park, KS
  - Major: Industrial Engineering
- **Sara, Third Year**
  - Hometown: Lebanon, PA
  - Major: Social Policy
- **Gaby, Third Year**
  - Hometown: Long Island, NY
  - Major: Social Policy & Legal Studies
- **Zach, Second Year**
  - Hometown: Denver, CO
  - Major: Chemistry





Q & A



# Questions After the Webinar?

**Purple Prep Website**

**Student Transition Experiences**  
[transition@northwestern.edu](mailto:transition@northwestern.edu)

**Family Engagement**  
[family@northwestern.edu](mailto:family@northwestern.edu)

**Residential Services/Move-In**  
[housing@northwestern.edu](mailto:housing@northwestern.edu)

**Student Health Insurance**  
[student.insurance@northwestern.edu](mailto:student.insurance@northwestern.edu)





# THANK YOU!

Find all information at [northwestern.edu/purple-prep](https://northwestern.edu/purple-prep)

