



McMaster Orientation 2017

IMPORTANT DATES

Smart Start: Paying for University

Friday, June 16, Time TBD OR

Saturday, June 17, Time TBD

Learn how to tap into student savings, manage your student account, apply for scholarships and have all of your financial aid questions answered. Representatives from various McMaster departments and community organizations will be participating in this event. All first year students, along with parents and family members are welcome. Dinner/lunch is included. Participants will leave this workshop better informed of the support available in paying for University as well as information related to student financial health and wellness.

Registration: Email invitations and details coming in early June

Link: money@mcmaster.ca

Contact: money@mcmaster.ca

Cost: No Charge

Shifting Gears Transition Program

July & August

Shifting Gears aims to provide a series of supports throughout the summer, fall, and winter for students with a disability. The program encompasses summer workshops, peer mentors, a study skills website, support with implementing accommodations, and monthly social events. All are intended to provide a network of ongoing connections to support student success.

Accommodations & SAS Orientation

(July 13 OR August 15, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.)

(July 19 OR August 3, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

Driving School: Essentials for Success

Date TBD - Offered during Welcome Week

Tune-up, Tune In: The Lecture Experience

Date TBD - Offered during Welcome Week

Information Highway: Library Use in the Fast Lane

Date TBD - Offered during Welcome Week

Registration: Online at sas.mcmaster.ca/transition

Link: sas.mcmaster.ca/transition

Contact: sastransition@mcmaster.ca

Cost: No Charge

Summer Orientation for Academic Readiness (SOAR)

July 17 – August 11

Have questions about starting University? Summer Orientation for Academic Readiness (SOAR) will help prepare you for school by answering questions and introducing you to skills needed to be successful.

Join online as we discuss University academics through videos, short articles, and personal reflections. SOAR runs for four weeks in the summer and will start Monday, July 17.

SOAR Weekly Schedule

Week 1: Welcome to University (July 17 – 21)

Week 2: Managing Your Time (July 24 – 27)

Week 3: Learning in Lectures (July 31 – August 4)

Week 4: Being a University Learner (August 8 – 11)

Registration: Not Required

Link: soar.mcmaster.ca

Contact: studentsuccess@mcmaster.ca

Cost: No Charge

June/July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 / June MOOSE: Registration open to students in Humanities & Social Sciences	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Smart Start	17 Smart Start
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 MACPASS: Pre-registration Opens	29	30	1/ July Canada Day
2	3	4 MOOSE: Registration opens for all first year students	5	6	7	8
9	10 MacAdemics: Registration opens	11	12 T-shirt deadline for MacPass	13 Shifting Gears: Accommodations & SAS Orientation	14	15
16	17	18	19 Shifting Gears: Accommodations & SAS Orientation	20	21	22
SOAR Week 1: Welcome to University						
23	24	25	26	27	28 Horizons	29
SOAR Week 2: Managing Your Time						

August / Sept

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1/ August	2	3 Shifting Gears: Accommodations & SAS Orientation	4	5
Horizons	SOAR Week 3: Learning in Lectures					
6	7 Civic Holiday	8	9 MacAdemics 101	10 MacAdemics 101	11 Summer Sleep Over for Off-Campus Students	12
	SOAR Week 4: Being a University Learner					
13	14	15 Shifting Gears: Accommodations & SAS Orientation	16	17	18	19 Residence Experience Day (RED)
20 MACPASS: Pre-registration Closes	21	22	23	24	25	26 🏠
27 🏠	WELCOME WEEK					28
	MOOSE					
3	4 Labour Day	5 Classes Begin	6	7	8	9
	FLOW Week 1					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	FLOW Week 2					
17	18	19	20	21 Fall Career Fair International Day for Peace	22	23
	FLOW Week 3					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Homecoming MacServe Day of Learning
	FLOW Week 4					

MSU Horizons Leadership Conference

July 28 – 30

Hosted by the McMaster Students Union (MSU), this 3-day, 2-night on-campus experience for 200 first year delegates is a leadership-oriented introduction to campus and University life. Leadership skills will be enhanced through sessions, events and speakers with a focus on goal-setting, team work and communication. Those who participate will have the opportunity to engage with the Hamilton community, be introduced to involvement prospects in McMaster and begin expanding their network in McMaster and Hamilton.

Registration deadline: Mid July; check website for details

Link: msumcmaster.ca/horizons

Contact: horizons@msu.mcmaster.ca

Event dates: Friday, July 28 – Sunday, July 30

Cost: Approx. \$190 (plus tax). Financial aid is available

MacAdemics 101

August 9 & 10

How do I take notes? What's the best way to manage my time? How is university different from high school? Most students have questions about starting university academics. This academic preparation program is designed to give you the information you need to successfully transition into university studies.

Registration opens: Monday, July 10 on oscarplumcmaster.ca

Link: studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/academic-support

Contact: studentsuccess@mcmaster.ca

Cost: No Charge

Residence Experience Day (RED)

August 19

Do you have questions about what residence is like? RED offers you the opportunity to check out your assigned residence building, tour campus, and learn about what to expect from living in residence! Make community connections before Move-In Day and meet with Residence Life Staff and others living in residence. Students and parents are welcome; a separate parent information session will be provided.

Registration opens: Saturday, May 13

Link: hcs.mcmaster.ca/red

Contact: rezlife@mcmaster.ca

Cost: No Charge

Residence Hall Move-In

Move-in will take place on Saturday, August 26 and Sunday, August 27. Further details to be announced.

Link: housing.mcmaster.ca

Contact: resadmissions@mcmaster.ca

October

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1/ October	2	3 Community & Engagement Volunteer Fair	4	5	6	7
FLOW Week 5						
8	9 Thanksgiving	10	11	12	13	14
Fall Break						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21



Welcome Week

August 26 – September 2

The focus of Welcome Week is to provide you with a positive transition to university. As the most comprehensive orientation program offered at McMaster, Welcome Week includes educational seminars and social events that connect you to the Hamilton community, McMaster University, individual Faculties, residence communities or the off-campus society and most importantly, other students.

The MacPass is the 'all-access pass' to events taking place during Welcome Week. T-shirt sizes are guaranteed only to those who register by July 12.

Registration: MacPass registration opens sometime between June 28 and July 4 (exact date TBD). Registration will close on August 20. Please check your McMaster email for details.

Links: oscarplustcmaster.ca | macwelcomeweek.ca

Contact: studentsuccess@mcmaster.ca

Cost: \$118.87 (First Year Orientation Levy)

McMaster Outdoor Orientation Student Experience (MOOSE)

August 28 – 31

This four-day, three-night trip to Camp Arrowhon and Algonquin Provincial Park provides you with an opportunity to build lasting friendships with peers and student leaders in your Faculty. MOOSE encourages personal and team development through a wide variety of outdoor activities. Participants will return to campus in plenty of time to continue their Welcome Week for the final three days. Those participating will leave campus on Monday, August 28 and return on Thursday, August 31.

Registration opens: June 1 for Humanities and Social Sciences students; July 4 for all first year students. Closes August 1. Registration space is limited.

Link: <https://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/academic-support/first-year-orientation/#orientationMOOSE>

Contact: moose@mcmaster.ca

Cost: \$20 to participate and an \$80 participation bond (returned to the student following participation on the trip). This includes all meals and programming costs.

Off-Campus and Commuter Students Events

A wide range of orientation activities and supports are available specifically for off-campus and commuter students before and during Welcome Week. The Society of Off-Campus Students (SOCS) and the Off-Campus Resource Centre, connect off-campus and commuter students with one another, upper year student leaders, and student services in ways tailored to their needs.

Summer Sleepover for Off-Campus Students

August 11 – 12

Explore campus and the community, engage in team building activities, sleep in a residence room, enjoy some great food, and make friends before the excitement of Welcome Week!

Registration opens: Mid-July; check website for details

Link: mac-socs.ca

Contact: planners4socs@gmail.com

Cost: \$80 per person. Indigenous students are encouraged to contact indigenouwww@gmail.com for financial aid opportunities.

Fall Learning and Orientation Weeks (FLOW)

September 5 – October 6

You can continue orientation and transition during the first five weeks on-campus through the Fall Learning and Orientation Weeks (FLOW). Make connections with on-campus supports and further develop essential skills for University achievement.

Themes will change weekly.

September 5 – 8: TBD

September 11 – 15: TBD

September 18 – 22: TBD

September 25 – 29: TBD

October 2 – 6: TBD

Registration: Begins late August/early September on oscarplumcmaster.ca

Link: <https://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/academic-support/first-year-orientation/#orientationFLOW>

Contact: studentsuccess@mcmaster.ca

Cost: No Charge

MSU Spark

Spark is a transition support service provided by the MSU that runs through the fall and winter semesters. First year students can register for a weekly mentorship program in which two upper year students lead a group of first years through themed activities designed to build skills for University success. Spark also offers workshops and online resources to help students better navigate University life and connect with their peers. Through SPARK, you will build close friendships, learn from one another, grow as individuals, and ultimately come to know McMaster as home.

Registration opens: mid-August; check website for details

Link: www.msucmcmaster.ca/spark

Contact: spark@msu.mcmaster.ca

Cost: No Charge

McMaster Common Reading Program

Book To Be Announced

The McMaster Common Reading Program is a valuable opportunity to share a common reading experience with future classmates and friends prior to arriving on-campus in the fall. Students registered in this orientation program will participate in online discussions and reflections about the emerging themes related to university life. This year, we reached out to first year students to share their thoughts during the novel selection process.

The McMaster Common Reading Program's Human Library event will present 'living books' with diverse experiences and backgrounds, where you will learn about the McMaster library resources and services and explore themes raised in this year's Common Reading Program selection. Students are encouraged to submit an entry to the Reflection Activity Contest that explores one or more of the themes in the novel. As a shared experience, the Common Reading Program promotes student dialogue, engagement, and leadership in University and the greater community.

Registration: To be confirmed on oscarplumcmaster.ca

Link: studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/academic-support/first-year-orientation

Contact: studentsuccess@mcmaster.ca

Cost: No charge for first year students

Welcome Week Strategic Themes

Our Commitment to You:

A safe, inclusive and healthy educational environment

McMaster is committed to creating a welcoming, inclusive, safe and healthy educational environment which supports personal and academic success. We achieve this through;

Promoting Mental Health and Wellness

Student well-being and good student mental health are critical foundations for student success. We are committed to creating a culture of caring and support and recognize that improving the health of our campus is a shared commitment. Our community, including faculty, staff and students, is equipped with information about how to identify, respond and refer a student in distress. Through our policies, employee relations and the way we support our students, we model the importance of wellness, self-care, resilience and social responsibility.

For more information on the Student Mental Health Strategy, visit mentalhealthstrategy.mcmaster.ca/strategy.

Preventing and Responding to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

At McMaster University, we are committed to taking action to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence. We place the highest priority on survivor safety and ensuring that the campus is a welcoming, safe and inclusive environment for all members of our community. Together, we make certain all students, faculty, and staff know where to go for help and are reassured that University policies are in place to respond in a timely and sensitive manner to sexual violence or the threat of sexual violence.

For more information on preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence, please visit svrp.mcmaster.ca.

Supporting Responsible Drinking

Making and socializing with friends is a priority for many students during orientation events, including Welcome Week. Some students choose to drink alcohol as a way to lower inhibitions and be social. However, many students do not feel the need to drink to have a good time. All events sanctioned by McMaster University during Welcome Week are alcohol-free to promote the safety and well-being of our students. Students who choose to drink alcohol during Welcome Week and orientation are encouraged to do so responsibly. Students are encouraged to set limits, know what to do if they find someone in need of help, and to know that there are support services available.



Student Success Centre

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studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca

LEARN, EXPERIENCE, **SOAR**
STAY CONNECTED.

