



# MONTANA

CAMPUS ORIENTATION

# GUIDE

**2026**

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YOUR GUIDE TO IMPORTANT DATES  
FOR ALL MONTANA'S UNIVERSITIES,  
COLLEGES, & TRIBAL COLLEGES

MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM  
MONTANA GEAR UP

# 8 Tips for Incoming Freshmen

*Stay on track. Stay supported. Start strong.*



## 1. Check Your Email & Messages Weekly

Your college will send important updates about orientation, housing, and financial aid – don't miss them!



## 5. Set Up Your College Accounts

Activate your email and student portal so you don't miss important information.



## 2. Register for Orientation ASAP

Orientation is a key milestone. Missing it can delay class registration and next steps.



## 6. Stay Organized with a Checklist

Keep track of deadlines, logins, and tasks – small steps make a big difference.



## 3. Finish Your Financial Aid (FAFSA + Tasks)

Finish all steps for your FAFSA and submit any requested documents right away.



## 7. Ask for Help Early

Reach out to admissions, financial aid offices, or academic advisors. Talking to a real person can quickly solve problems.



## 4. Accept Your Financial Aid Offer

You must log in and accept your aid package – don't assume it's automatic!



## 8. Use Campus Support Resources

Take advantage of services like advising, tutoring, and student success offices.

Don't let small tasks turn into big barriers.  
Stay connected and take action early!



# Public 4-Year Universities

## Montana State University Bozeman



There are two mandatory orientation components for all new students. Freshman Orientation/Class Registration consists of a short online Pre-Orientation and a 2.5 day in-person Orientation/Class Registration held on the MSU Campus where students will receive their Fall 2026 class schedule.

**Campus Orientations:** June 8-10, June 22-24, July 13-15, August 23-25

**Information:** <https://www.montana.edu/admissions/orientation/freshmen.html>

**Contact:** Orientation@montana.edu or call 1-888-MSU-CATS

## Montana State University Billings



We designed this mandatory, two-day event to welcome new students to MSU-Billings. Providing meaningful sessions, meeting new Yellowjackets, exploring student service programs, mastering the art of navigating campus programs, and previewing college clubs and organizations will introduce you to our college experience.

**Campus Orientation:** July 13-14, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.msubillings.edu/orientation/>

**Contact:** NSS@msubillings.edu or call (406) 657-2888

## Montana State University-Northern Havre



Navigate Northern Days packs orientation with events showcasing the great experiences our students have in class and on campus. Designed to prepare you for success during the first year of college, Navigate Northern Days is mandatory for all first year and transfer students.

**Campus Orientation:** August 24-25<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.msun.edu/admissions/orientation.aspx>

**Contact:** Admissions@msun.edu or call (406) 265-3704

## **University of Montana** **Missoula**



Mandatory online orientation for all incoming students. The on-campus Big Sky Experience is also mandatory for traditional first year students. The Big Sky Experience is a five-day welcome week that kicks off with residence hall move-in day a week before classes begin in Fall 2026.

**Campus Orientation:** August 17-21<sup>st</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.umt.edu/orientation/first-year-students>

**Contact:** Orientation@mso.umt.edu or call (406) 243-2332

## **Montana Technological University** **Butte**



First year and transfer students attend a mandatory, on-campus orientation. For students starting in the fall of 2026, Orientation begins on August 19, 2026. At the end of July, all new students will be assigned a designated check-in time for August 19. Orientation begins on move-in day and runs three full days (through Friday, August 21) with required events.

**Campus Orientation:** August 19-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.mtech.edu/student-life/orientation>

**Contact:** Campuslife@mtech.edu or call (406) 496-4335

## **University of Montana-Western** **Dillon**



Mandatory on-campus orientation for first year and transfer students. Orientation events include: Convocation (the official start of the school year ceremony), academic exploration activities, a hike to the hillside "M" and much more.

**Campus Orientation:** August 13-16<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.umwestern.edu/orientation>

**Contact:** Admissions@umwestern.edu or call (406) 683-7453

# Private Universities

## Carroll College

### Helena



The New Student Orientation is designed to provide you with essential information related to academic requirements and campus resources at Carroll. In addition, orientation activities provide you with the opportunity to make valuable connections with current faculty, staff, and students. Freshman Orientation shapes new students' experiences by encouraging new friendships, discovering Helena, and absorbing a key part of the Carroll experience—helping others.

**Campus Orientation:** August 23-25<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.carroll.edu/admission-aid/admitted-students/fall-orientation>

**Contact:** [Admissions@carroll.edu](mailto:Admissions@carroll.edu) or call (406) 447-4300

## Rocky Mountain College

### Billings



Orientation helps new RMC students successfully transition to college life by preparing them for both academic success and involvement in the campus community. During Orientation, you'll connect with fellow students, faculty, staff, and student leaders who will support you throughout your college experience.

**Campus Orientation:** August 10-16<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://rocky.edu/orientation>

**Contact:** [Visit@rocky.edu](mailto:Visit@rocky.edu) or call (406) 657-1057

## University of Providence

### Great Falls



First year students starting directly after high school, are required to attend New Student Orientation. This includes commuting students as well as those choosing to live on campus. Transfer students are not required to attend, but are highly encouraged to participate.

**Campus Orientation:** August 15-19<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.uprovidence.edu/admissions/new-student-orientation/>

**Contact:** [Admissions@uprovidence.edu](mailto:Admissions@uprovidence.edu) or call (406) 791-5202

# Community Colleges

## Dawson Community College Glendive



Orientation is a two day introduction to the Dawson community, including academics and residence life! During orientation, you will meet your student ambassadors, your academic adviser, Residence Life Staff and the rest of the Dawson Community. You will get to register for your fall courses, move into student housing, and get to know each other. By the time classes begin, we hope you're as excited to be here as we are to have you in our community!

**Campus Orientation:** Currently Scheduled for August 17-18<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.dawson.edu/news-events>

**Contact:** [Info@dawson.edu](mailto:Info@dawson.edu) or call (406) 377-9400

## Flathead Valley Community College Kalispell



All new degree-seeking students participate in an individualized advising, orientation, and registration appointment, offered throughout the summer. These sessions are available both in person and via Zoom to best meet student needs. In addition, a campus-wide Welcome Orientation is held prior to the start of the fall semester, followed by a series of Week of Welcome events to help students transition into campus life.

**Campus Orientation:** Welcome Orientation tentatively scheduled for August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026; Week of Welcome events is August 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.fvcc.edu/student-services>

**Contact:** [Info@fvcc.edu](mailto:Info@fvcc.edu) or call (406) 756-3822

## Miles Community College Miles City



In preparation to make your transition to college as smooth as possible, we invite you to complete the Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR) process. All new students, including transfer students and students returning after an absence of more than five years, are required to complete orientation before they register for their first semester courses at Miles Community College.

**Campus Orientation:** June 11, July 9, August 5, August 24

**Information:** <https://www.milesccl.edu/Admissions/soar.aspx>

**Contact:** [Admissions@milesccl.edu](mailto:Admissions@milesccl.edu) or call (406) 874-6101

# Public 2-Year Colleges

## UM-Bitterroot College



### Hamilton

New students have a mandatory one-on-one meeting by appointment with a student services manager. When a new student registers for classes, they receive an orientation bag; get an overview of the campus website, financial aid, and parking; and get a tour of the facilities.

**Campus Orientation:** The Fall 2026 orientation schedule will be posted closer to the beginning of the semester at <https://www.umt.edu/bitterroot-college>

**Information:** <https://www.umt.edu/bitterroot-college>

**Contact:** Meri1.telin@umontana.edu or call (406) 375-0100

## MSU City College



### Billings

MSU-City College orientation is offered on-campus in conjunction with MSUB orientation. Orientation is for all new, incoming students and is designed to provide academic advising, introduction to degree requirements, aid students in course registration, and prepare them to join the Yellowjacket family.

**Campus Orientation:** July 13-14<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.msubillings.edu/orientation>

**Contact:** CCadmissions@msubillings.edu or call (406) 247-3000

## MSU-Gallatin College



### Bozeman

MSU-Gallatin College offers a fully online orientation. Orientation registration is restricted to the students who have confirmed seats in their majors. Students also have an appointment with their advisor via video conference, phone, email, or in-person (student's choice).

**Campus Orientation:** Online

**Information:** <https://gallatin.montana.edu/apply/online-orientation.html>

**Contact:** gallatincollege@montana.edu or call (406) 994-5536

## MSU-Great Falls College

### Great Falls



All new MSU-GFC students are required to complete the Online Orientation prior to scheduling their first advising appointment and registering for classes. The Online Orientation is a series of short videos that students will view in order to learn about creating their single login and password for access to BannerWeb/My Info, how to use the class schedule and academic catalog, and how to access a variety of student resources before classes begin.

**Campus Orientation:** Online Orientation

**Information:** <https://admissions.gfcmu.edu/orientation/index.html>

**Contact:** [Admissions@gfcmu.edu](mailto:Admissions@gfcmu.edu) or call (406) 771-4300

## UM-Helena College

### Helena



In-person sessions offered at both Helena College campuses and include lunch, meeting instructors, campus tours, a chance to win tuition waivers, and other prizes.

**Campus Orientation:** Donaldson Campus-August 19<sup>th</sup>, Airport Campus-August 21<sup>st</sup>

**Information:** [https://helenacollege.edu/student\\_support\\_center/orientation.aspx](https://helenacollege.edu/student_support_center/orientation.aspx)

**Contact:** (406) 447-6900

## Montana Tech Highlands College

### Butte



New student orientation occurs on-campus and is required for all incoming first-year and transfer students.

**Campus Orientation:** August 19-23<sup>rd</sup> with MT Tech Students, August 24<sup>th</sup> only  
Highlands Students

**Information:** <https://www.mtech.edu/student-life/orientation/>

**Contact:** [Campuslife@mtech.edu](mailto:Campuslife@mtech.edu) or call (406) 496-4335

## UM-Missoula College



Online new student orientation is mandatory for all incoming students. The on-campus Big Sky Experience is also mandatory for traditional first-year students. The Big Sky Experience is a five-day welcome week that kicks off with residence hall move-in day a week before classes begin in the fall.

**Campus Orientation:** August 17-21<sup>st</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.umt.edu/orientation/first-year-students>

**Contact:** [Orientation@mso.umt.edu](mailto:Orientation@mso.umt.edu) or call (406) 243-2332

# Tribal Colleges

## Aaniiih Nakoda College

Harlem



New and returning student orientation is offered for 1-2 days for both fall and spring semesters. Orientation is designed to provide students with important information about college services, register for classes, learn to navigate campus, and make connections with advisors, staff, and faculty.

**Campus Orientation:** Third week in August. Check website for exact dates.

**Information:** <https://ancollege.edu/students/new-students/>

**Contact:** [tcochran@ancollege.edu](mailto:tcochran@ancollege.edu) or (406) 353-2607

## Blackfeet Community College

Browning



The fall 2026 orientation will be a multi-day event, getting used to campus, meeting with campus departments, learning about financial aid, and other activities.

**Campus Orientation:** August 18-20<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://bfcc.edu>

**Contact:** [bfccinfo@bfcc.edu](mailto:bfccinfo@bfcc.edu) or call (406) 338-5441

## Chief Dull Knife College

Lame Deer



The Student Orientation Class is mandatory for all new incoming students. This orientation class is designed to make the adjustment to college life a pleasant experience. Students will become acquainted with college personnel and location of classrooms. This class will also acquaint students with registration, financial aid, tutoring, counseling, student clubs and organizations.

**Campus Orientation:** Student Orientation Class

**Information:** [http://cdkc.edu/general\\_information.htm](http://cdkc.edu/general_information.htm)

**Contact:** (406) 477-6215

## Stone Child College

Box Elder



A one day orientation is offered prior to the start of each semester.

**Campus Orientation:** Tentatively August 19th, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.stonechild.edu/>

**Contact:** [ITadmin@stonechild.edu](mailto:ITadmin@stonechild.edu) or call (406) 395-4875

## **Fort Peck Community College**

### **Poplar**



College Orientation is required for all new and transfer students. It is conducted at the onset of both fall and spring semesters. Orientation assists students with admissions, placement assessment, financial aid, and registration. It is also useful in providing valuable information such as the location and use of all campus facilities and services. Orientation highlights college academic assistance, special services and extra-curricular programs.

**Campus Orientation:** August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://fpcc.smartcatalogiq.com>

**Contact:** (406) 768-6300

## **Little Big Horn College**

### **Crow Agency**



New Student Orientation is scheduled before fall semester begins and is listed in the College Calendar. Placement testing, advisor meetings, registration and information regarding special programs, scholarship and financial aid are included in New Student Orientation.

**Campus Orientation:** August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <http://www.lbhc.edu/Admissions>

**Contact:** (406) 638-3104

## **Salish Kootenai College**

### **Pablo**



Students may choose to complete either a series of online orientation modules or a one-day, in-person orientation on campus including sessions on student services, financial aid, and meetings with campus departments. Students are required to complete one of these orientation options.

**Campus Orientation:** September 9-10<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Information:** <https://www.skcc.edu/>

**Contact:** [Admissions@skcc.edu](mailto:Admissions@skcc.edu) or call (406) 275-4800

# WHERE TO TURN FOR HELP ON CAMPUS

*You Don't Have to Figure It Out Alone*



