

# Guiding Stars: First-Year New Student Orientation

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★ January 9 ★

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## Orientation Check-in

**8 – 9:55 a.m. Orientation Check-in, Student Union, West Entrance**  
First-stop, Check-in: Pick up your nametags, schedules, and more. Orientation staff members will be available to walk students and families to other offices.

## **Taking Care of Business**

- 8 – 9:50 a.m.** Financial Aid Appointments, Office of Financial Assistance, University Hall Bldg., room 015  
*Students & Families will meet with FA staff for short consultations about their aid notification.*
- 8 – 9: 50 a.m.** University Bursar Information Table, Student Union, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
*Staff members from the Bursar's Office will be available to answer questions about billing, payment plans, authorized payers and more.*
- 8 – 9:50 a.m.** Residence Life Office Information Table, Student Union, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
*This is a great time to ask questions about on-campus housing.*
- 8:15 – 9:50 a.m.** Campus Tours:  
*After check-in, students and families can take a 40 min. campus tour led by our Star Guides departing at 8:30, 9 (last tour)*
- 8:30 – 9: 50 a.m.** i-Card Office  
*After check-in, Star Guides will walk you over to UHB to pick up your UIS ID card (iCard) if you submitted your photo online. Get your photo taken and leave with your card within 15 minutes. Bring proof of ID to pick up your card (driver's license, State or Federal ID, passport).*
- 8:45 – 9:50 a.m.** Office of Disability Services (ODS) Open House, Human Resources Bldg (HRB), Rm. 109  
*Do you have questions about the services ODS provides, or the documentation required? Ask for a Star Guide to take you to the office (last departure 9:30 a.m.).*
- 9 – 9:50 a.m.** Parking Services, Student Union, Conference room 235  
*Have your questions answered and learn more about parking hangtags and fees.*
- 8:45 – 9:50 a.m.** Campus Opportunity Fair, Student Union, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
*Learn more about campus services and meet UIS staff members and current students: Brookens Library, BRK; Campus Recreation; Career Development Center; Diversity Center/Women's Center/Gender & Sexuality; Office of Engaged Learning (Internships/Study Away); Information Technology; Learning Hub/Writing Center; Student Life/Greek Life; Volunteer & Civic Engagement Center*
- 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.** UIS Bookstore, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Public Affairs Center (PAC).
- 10 – 10:30 a.m.** **University Welcome, Central Ballroom, Student Union [Student/Parent/Family/Session]**  
UIS staff and Star Guides officially welcome you to campus as we kick-off orientation together!
- 10:30 – 11:20** **Prairie Star Foundation, North Ballroom, Student Union [Student/Parent/Family/Session]**  
Learn what it takes to be a Prairie Star! In this session you will get an overview of academic expectations, University Bursar, Financial Aid, and learn more about your Star Guide (orientation leaders).
- 11:20 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Student Track [Student Sessions]**
- 11:20 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Parent Track [Parent/Family/Guest Sessions]**

## **Student Track**

**11:20 a.m. – 12:40 p.m. Orientation Group Meeting or Lunch,**

**Orientation Group (O-Group) Meeting,**

*Students will meet with their orientation leaders and classmates, learn more about UIS, and have an opportunity to ask questions.*

**Lunch**

*Sit down and enjoy time with your classmates and the Orientation Leaders. Your orientation nametag will be your \$15 meal voucher for your lunch. If your meal is more than \$15, you will need to have additional cash or a credit card to pay the balance.*

**12:45 – 1:45 p.m. Student Involvement & Leadership**

*Campus involvement provides students with opportunities to connect with each other, find community, develop work and life skills, and manage stress. Learn more about the different pathways UIS offers for students to be involved and develop their leadership skills from staff members representing Campus Recreation, Diversity Center, Engaged Learning, Student Life, and Volunteer & Civic Engagement.*

**2 – 4:30 p.m. Rising Stars: Advising, Technology, and Registration**

*In this session, students will work with faculty and professional advisors on their first semester course schedule, access UIS technology, learn about academic plans, and register for classes.*

*Transfer and Graduate Students Please Note: you are welcome to take care of any other business after the technology session from 2-2:30 p.m. College and Faculty advisors will not be available at this January 9 Orientation session. Students should have met with their academic advisor before January 9. If you have not met with your academic advisor yet, you will need to reach out to them for an appointment. Transfer students use the AdviseU app to schedule an appointment with your advisor. Graduate students contact your major department.*

## **Parent/Family Track (runs concurrently with Student Track)**

**11:30– 11:55 a.m. Introduction to Student Affairs**

*There are people at UIS who are here to foster a supportive and inclusive campus community that promotes student success, life-long learning, growth, and development. Learn more from our campus leaders: Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Dr. Jamarco Clark, Associate Vice Chancellor for Auxiliary Services Ann Comerford, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Engagement Dr. Steven Johnson, Jr., and Dean of Students Jantzen Eddington.*

**12 – 2 p.m. Faculty Presentations,**

*What Faculty Members Want Parents to Know. Our Faculty members will share their experiences teaching first-year students and what it takes for students to be successful and meet the expectations held by university faculty members.*

*Lunch: Your orientation nametag will be your \$15 voucher to purchase your lunch. If your meal is more than \$15, you will need to have additional cash or a credit card to pay the balance.*

*The Keys to Academic Success. Faculty members will discuss how to encourage academic growth in your student as well as focus on valuable practices that lead to student success. These will be important tools as your student transitions to the different demands of college courses. This will also be helpful for you to know to help your student to overcome common academic setbacks.*

**2:15 – 3:25 p.m. Parent Information Sessions: Careers, Student Health and Safety at UIS**

*Health and Counseling Center Services on Campus – Learn about the types of services available on campus, how students can access care for routine and emergency situations, immunization requirements and how to upload records through the Patient Portal, transferring care from a previous provider, and other medical facilities available in Springfield.*

Campus Safety and Student Success – *Learn more about the UIS Police Department, campus safety initiatives, how different departments on campus work together to promote UIS student safety and how that contributes to student success.*

Career Development & Student Employment – *Due to competition in the marketplace, it's important for students to begin planning their career when they first get to campus instead of when they are seniors. Learn how to begin strategizing how to gain what employers want most...relevant experience! We'll inform you about opportunities associated with student employment, internships, and part-time jobs and how those experiences can jumpstart your competitiveness prior to graduation by obtaining relevant experience.*

**3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Resources for Student Success: Your Choice**

Campus Technology: *ITS offers a host of resources and services to faculty and students to enhance teaching and learning. Learn about the software, equipment, workshops, and applications available to students. We will answer questions about what software is available for free, what equipment is available for checkout, does your student need to buy a laptop, is a tablet better than a laptop, does your student need a printer, and more!*

Student Success Tool Box: *In this session, students and parents will gain a comprehensive understanding of the diverse range of academic services aimed at supporting student success. The speakers, including an Academic Advisor, Learning Support Services Coordinator, and Coordinator for Testing Services, will provide valuable information that will help parents become acquainted with each of these campus areas and the support they provide to students.*

Library Tour: *Come learn about the library and all the resources beyond research books that Brookens has to offer.*

Living On Campus: *This session will teach parents about living on campus. We will discuss hall safety, what support we provide your students, who are the members of our building staff, and how we help students make connections to campus and fellow students through programming and events. Use this QR code to access an online handout for housing.*



**4:30 p.m. Meet up with Your Student, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Lobby UHB**

**4:30 – 5 p.m. Getting it Done**

Finish any tasks before leaving campus. Offices are open until 5 p.m. New Student Orientation Staff will be available to answer questions and direct you to your next location.