



MISSOURI SOUTHERN
— STATE UNIVERSITY —

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

Fall 2026



Welcome to Missouri Southern State University!

I am excited that you have chosen to study with us here at Missouri Southern and hope you are already enjoying your time on campus as a member of the Lion family.

Since 1990, our mission statement has emphasized an international approach to undergraduate education.

At MSSU, you'll find a welcoming atmosphere as well as curriculum and events designed to broaden our students' horizons on an international level. Your presence here on campus provides opportunities for personal cultural enrichment not only for yourself, but for your fellow students.

Attending a college or university can be a transformational experience. During your time with us, I hope you'll take advantage of the many opportunities to become involved with our campus organizations, attend our music, theater and art offerings, and cheer on the Lions at athletic events. The friendships and connections you develop during your time here can last a lifetime.

Our faculty and staff are committed to your success as a student, so please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions or are in need of academic or personal support.

On behalf of all of us here at Missouri Southern, thank you for choosing to study with us here in Joplin, Mo., and allowing us to be your home away from home. Work hard, make the most of your time with us, and know that we're here for you each step of the way.

Dr. Dean Van Galen
President, Missouri Southern State University

A stylized, handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Dean Van Galen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the start of the word "Dean".

HEALTH CENTER TESTING

All students are required to visit the Willcoxon Health Center before enrolling in classes at MSSU. You will be tested for TB and MMR, along with other tests as necessary. Once results are verified, you will be notified when you are able to enroll and attend classes.

PLACEMENT TESTING

All first-time freshmen who have not provided MSSU with an ACT or SAT score must take the ACT Residual test during Orientation. This is a requirement to determine math and English placement. The ACT Residual test is \$78, and you must pay for the test prior to the testing date you are given.

MICHIGAN ENGLISH TESTING

During Orientation, those students requiring this test will be given a test time, and you will be assigned an orientation leader to get you to the testing area. Once you receive your test results, you will meet with Aaron Carmichael to enroll in courses for the semester.

DOCUMENTS NEEDED FOR ORIENTATION CHECK-IN

- Passport
- Visa
- I-20 (F-1 students)
- DS-2019 (J-1 students)
- Proof of health insurance (SACM and ISEP students only)
- U.S. address
- U.S. phone number
- U.S. emergency contact name and phone number

ENROLLMENT

Once cleared by the Willcoxon Health Center, you will be permitted to enroll. You will be assigned to an ambassador who will take you to an advisor to help you enroll in classes.

Please note: All incoming freshmen are required to enroll in UE 100, and your math and English course enrollment is based on your ACT, SAT, or ACT Residual scores.

TEXTBOOKS

Most textbooks are offered online. You can visit the MSSU Bookstore website or the course syllabus to determine the textbooks needed for your classes. For textbooks that are still hard copy, visit the MSSU Bookstore located in the Billingsly Student Center, 2nd floor.

		Monday, August 10
Time	Topic	Where
7:30 a.m.	Check-in	Billingsly Student Center Connor Ballroom 335
8:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.	Welcome	
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Health Center Screening, Document Check, IT Support Desk, Campus Tour	
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch	Mayes Dining Hall
12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Health Center Screening, Document Check, IT Support Desk, Campus Tour	Billingsly Student Center Connor Ballroom 335
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Mayes Dining Hall
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Shopping	Walmart



			Tuesday, August 11 MSSU Attire Day
	Time	Topic	Where
Late Arrivals	9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Health Center Check	Willcoxon Health Center
Information Sessions	9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	IT Overview	Billingsly Student Center Connor Ballroom 335
	10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Student Health Insurance	
	10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Safety and Security	
	11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Residence Life	
All Students	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch	Mayes Dining Hall
English Proficiency	1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Michigan Testing	Billingsly Student Center 356
Placement Testing	1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	ACT	Webster Hall Testing Center
All Students	2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Resource Fair	Billingsly Student Center Breezeway
	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Baptist Student Center
	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Shopping	Walmart

		Wednesday, August 12
Time	Topic	Where
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Welcome/Academic Records	Billingsly Student Center Connor Ballroom 335
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Paying Your Bill Student Employment Adjusting to American Culture Visa Immigration	
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Mayes Dining Hall
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Academic Integrity	Billingsly Student Center Connor Ballroom 335
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Library Services	Spiva Library
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Mayes Dining Hall

		Thursday, August 13 Traditional Attire Day
Time	Topic	Where
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Group Photo	Billingsly Student Center Connor Ballroom 335
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Enrollment	
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Mayes Dining Hall
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Enrollment	Academic Departments
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Mayes Dining Hall
6:30 p.m.	Convocation	Taylor Performing Arts Center

		Friday, August 14
Time	Topic	Where
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Enrollment/Free Time/ Southern Welcome	Various campus locations



MISSOURI
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STATE UNIVERSITY

CAMPUS MAP

LAYOUT AS OF MAY 2026



ACADEMICS	1. Linnell Technology Building
	7. Biology Pond
	8. Robert W. Plaster Frost Enterprise Center
	9. Connel Auditorium
	10. Karna Annex
	11. Karna Hall
	16. Billingsly Student Center
	17. Bookstore
	19. Physical Therapy
	21. Reynolds Hall
	22. Jernigan-Jay Union Hall
	25. Spivey Library
	30. Taylor Hall
	31. Nursing Simulation Center
	32. Julius S. Leon Health Science Center
	33. Carley Dental Hygiene Clinic
	40. KGCIS TV / KQMS Radio
	62. Lion Cub Academy
	64. Roy Blunt Health Science Innovation Center
	Fine Arts Complex
	34. Taylor Performing Arts Center
	35. Bud Walton Theatre
	36. Plummer Hall
	37. Spivey Art Gallery
	38. Weidner Hall
	39. W. Robert Carley Auditorium
	60. Mills Anderson Public Safety Center
	61. Criminal Justice Auditorium
ADMINISTRATION	2. University Police
	3. Physical Plant
	4. Finance
	5. Criminal Justice Workhead Fire Safety & Environmental Health Office
	5a. Physical Plant Warehouse
	6. Mechanical Maintenance Shop
	12. Maroon Annex
	13. Ralph L. Gray Alumni Center
	25. Hearnes Hall
	ATHLETICS
	20. Hal Boden Soccer Field
	28. Robert Ellis Young Gymnasium
	29. Leggett & Platt Athletic Center
ROBERT W. PLASTER SPORTS COMPLEX	41. Fred G. Hughes Stadium
	42. Ron Richard Athletic Center
	43. Pat Lipra Softball Complex
	43a. Gene Wild Softball Field
	43b. Lea Kurgle Softball Field
	44. Baseball Stadium
	45. MSSU Cross Country Course
DINING	18. The Lion's Den
	20. Coffee Shop
	26. Coffee Shop
HEALTH	14. Wilcoxon Health Center
	RECREATION
	15. Student Recreation Center
	23. Tennis Courts
	27. Olympic Pool and Racquetball Courts
	65. MSSU Trail
RESIDENTIAL AREA	46. Mitchell Hall
	47. Mason Hall
	48. Stone Hall
	49. Weaver Hall
	50. Dehman Hall
	51. Dehman Hall
	52. Stagger Hall
	53. Goddard Hall
	54. FEMA Shelter
	55. Quad Buildings (AF)
	56. McCormick Hall
	57. Blaine Hall
	58. Dianne Mayes Student Life Center
	59. East Hall
	63. Lion Village

CONTACT INFORMATION

Heather Ali

International Student Services Coordinator

Welcome Center A122 | 417.625.3513 | ali-h@mssu.edu

Dr. Stephanie Goad

Sr. Coordinator of International Admissions and Recruitment

Welcome Center A121 | 417.625.9372 | goad-s@mssu.edu

Residence Life

Mayes Student Life Center | 417.659.4261 | residencelife@mssu.edu

University Police

Mills Anderson Justice Center 109 | 417.626.2222 | upd@mssu.edu

Willcoxon Health Center

2nd floor of BSC | 417.625.9323 | willcoxonhealthcenter@mssu.edu

IT Help Desk

Plaster Hall 224 | 417.659.4444 | helpdesk@mssu.edu

Financial Aid

Hearnes Hall 109 | 417-625-9325 | finaid@mssu.edu

Bursar (Paying Bill)

Hearnes Hall 105 | 417.625.9381 | bursar@mssu.edu

Registrar (Academic Records)

Hearnes Hall 101 | 417.625.9389 | registrar@mssu.edu

Admissions

MSSU Welcome Center | 417.625.9378 | admissions@mssu.edu

Explore Boldly. Care Deeply. Impact Globally.