



orientation

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

— BOZEMAN • MONTANA —

Nitty Gritty

Summer 2025

Presenter: Orientation Leader



Agenda

Purpose of this meeting is to provide family members with a broad view of resources and services available, how to support their student during transition, and answer questions from a student perspective.

- A Day in the Life
- Living on Campus
- Academics
- Employment & Financial Assistance
- Engagement Opportunities
- Student Wellness
- Safety on Campus
- Timeline of Fall Semester
- Q&A





A Day in the Life



Transition to College

There are a lot of changes that take place as a student transitions from high school to college. Things we talk to them about in Orientation...

- Schedule may look different every day
- Not as routine as high school
- Students have a lot more ownership of their education
- Many resources & services available to help them find success

How to Help

Encourage students to utilize MSU Services & Resources

Encourage Students to Engage in the Campus Community

Sign up for the Bobcat Parent & Family Newsletter

Trust & Empower Your Student

Share Care Packages & Letters from Home

Come Visit for Parent & Family Weekend (Oct 10-11)

A Sample Student Schedule

Monday

8:00 – 8:50 am	Class (1 hour)
8:50 – 9:50 am	Break (Coffee, Breakfast, Study)
9:50 – 10:50 am	Class
10:50 – 12:00 pm	Break (Study, Tutoring, Daily tasks such as laundry, Lunch)
12:00 – 3:00 pm	Work
3:00 pm	Lab (Can Vary in Length)
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Weekly Club Meeting
6:30 pm	Dinner downtown Bozeman with friends
8:00 pm	Downtime (Study, Prepare for next day, Relax)

Tuesday

8:00 am	Workout at Gym
9:00 – 10:15 am	Class (1 hour 15 mins)
10:30 – 11:00 am	Meet with Academic Advisor
11:00 - 12:00 pm	Lunch (Meet friends on campus or walk off campus)
12:00 – 1:15 pm	Recitation
1:15 – 3:30 pm	Break (Snack, Study, Attend Involvement fair on campus)
3:30 pm	Hike the M with friends
5:00 pm	Event in downtown Bozeman
7:00 pm	Downtime (Study, Prepare for next day, Relax)

Not every schedule may look this way and may vary based on the student's major, interests, from semester to semester, etc.



Living on Campus



Living on Campus

Living on Campus

- Required for first year unless exempt
- 12 Unique residence hall options (single gender, co-ed, upper classmen, etc.)

When Students Arrive

- CatCard Access
- Resident Advisors & Community Directors
- Request changes and work with RA to manage living environment

Information & Changes

- Preferred email in MyInfo
- Login to Housing Portal

Move In: August 17-19

Must sign up for a Move-In time starting in July



https://www.montana.edu/housing/halls/moving_in.html

Living on Campus

In room students will find extra long twin bed (regular twin beds in Quads & Roskie Hall), closet, trash can, desk and chair.

What to Bring

Desk Items

Shower Items

Laundry Items

Linens

Appliances

Miscellaneous: Decorations, TV, games, shelving, etc.

Residence Hall Amenities

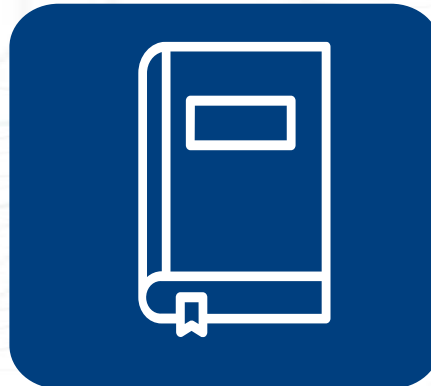
Community
Laundry Room



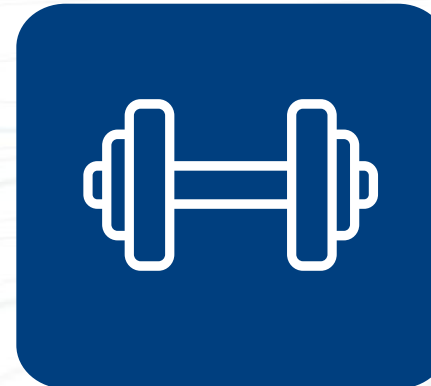
Direct Wifi &
Internet Access



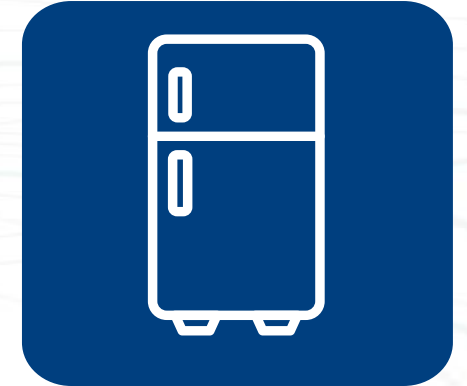
Television & Study
Lounges



Fitness &
Weight Rooms



Community
Kitchen



Dining on Campus



RENDEZVOUS DINING PAVILION

7:00 AM - 7:30 PM
+ Late Night Bites



MILLER DINING COMMONS

7:00 AM - 10:00 PM
+ Late Night Bites



CAMPUS COFFEE SHOPS

+ Brewed Awakening
+ Standing Room Only
+ Norm's Café

Dining on Campus

Meal Plan

- Included in Room & Board
- 5-Day or 7-Day (can upgrade or downgrade!)
- Unlimited Access

Dining Hall Expectations

- CatCard Access
- Communal tables, study spaces, grab-n-go
- Dish Drop

Unique Features

- Nutritionist & Dietary Options
- Events & Themed Meals
- Commuter Plan

CatCash

- Used like an on-campus debit card





Academics



Degree Basics

Orientation Booklet – Page 24

To receive a degree from Montana State, you must fulfill the degree requirements.

120-128 Credits to Graduate

- **Fulfill major requirements and Core**
- **42 Upper Division Credits (300-400)**
- **2.0 GPA (Below 2.0 will result in suspension/probation)**
- **C- or better in all required courses (some degrees require higher GPAs!)**

Montana State University

COLLEGE of Agriculture

DEPARTMENT of Ag &
Tech Education

MAJOR in
Broadfield
Teaching

Degree Basics

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- **Two semester format (Spring & Fall)**
- **Summer Courses**
- **Students pick new classes for each semester by meeting with an advisor**

How many credits should you average each semester if you want to graduate in 4 years?

Degree Basics

Orientation Booklet – Page 24

- Two semester format (Spring & Fall)
- Summer Courses
- Students pick new classes for each semester by meeting with an advisor

How many credits should you average each semester if you want to graduate in 4 years?

15

Costs the same as 12 and many scholarships require students to average 15 credits a semester.

Academic Support

The Allen Yarnell Center for Student Success manages the SmartyCats Tutoring Program ensuring students can get help in their courses.



TUTORING BY APPOINTMENT NOW AVAILABLE
FOR A VARIETY OF COURSES!

\$2/session • 5 sessions for \$10

For more information visit www.MSUSmartyCats.com
406.994.ROAR • SUB 177

Academic Support Services

Writing
Center

Math &
Statistics
Center

Department
Help
Centers

Office of
Disability
Services

MSU
Library

Honors
College

Study
Buddies Via
NavMSU

Professor
Office
Hours

Teaching
Assistants &
Grad
Students

Academic
Advisors

Office of
the
Registrar

University
Information
Technology



Employment & Financial Assistance



Working on Campus

The Allen Yarnell Center for Student Success (AYCSS) helps students connect with employers and access job opportunities.

- Career, Internship, & Student Employment Services
- HireABobcat.com
- Career Coaches, Major Exploration, Resume building workshops, and more!



Working on Campus

Work Study

- Must qualify through FAFSA
- Financial Aid Office
- Don't have to have work study to be employed on campus

Career Fairs

- Twice a Year
- Internships, Summer Jobs, and Work post-graduation

On-Campus Employment

Research Opportunities

Offices & Services

Coffee Shops

Dining Halls

Residence Halls

Wellness Center

Outdoor Recreation Center

And more!

**Benefits of working on campus
include flexibility with
schedule, proximity to classes,
and connection to MSU staff
and faculty!**

Financial Assistance

Orientation Booklet – Page 26

Financial Education Office

- Financial Coaches
- Help with Financial Aid, budgeting, loan management, and more

Tuition Payment Plans

- Pay throughout semester as opposed to once at beginning
- Student Accounts Office

Cat Scholarships

- Apply for scholarships after freshman year



Bill Confirmation

Orientation Booklet – Page 27

3 Ways to Confirm Bill

If all costs are paid by the student, they will need to pay all fees by completing one of the following:

- ➔ 1. Credit Card or Check Online Via MyInfo
- ➔ 2. Mailing a Check and/or Money Order to MSU Student Accounts
- ➔ 3. In-Person at the Cashier Window in Montana Hall

If a portion of costs are paid from other sources (financial aid, athletics, etc.) students will need to pay the remaining balance by completing one of the steps above.

All students must confirm their bill (pay fees) by the fee payment deadline.

If all costs are paid from other sources (Financial Aid, Athletics, Etc.), the student must still confirm their bill.

All students must take some kind of action to be confirmed by the 15th day of classes each semester to avoid possible cancellation of classes and an addition \$40 late fee.

Registered on or before July 31, 2025	Confirm (pay all charges) by August 8, 2025
Registered on or before August 1, 2025	Confirm (pay all charges) by August 27, 2025

Final Deadline is September 10, 2025



Engagement Opportunities



Events & Traditions

**Many avenues to form community
and meet new people**

- Office of Student Engagement
- Associated Students of Montana State University (ASMSU)
- Student Commons
- Fraternity & Sorority Life
- Residence Hall Association
- Campus Rec
- And more!

Homecoming Parade

Community Cat Walk

Debut Concert

Bobcat Fest

Pow Wow

Shakespeare in the Parks

Paint the M

Cataplooza

Brawl of the Wild

Convocation

Gold Rush Football Game

And more!

Outdoor Pursuits



Accessibility to Outdoors

6 Mountain Ranges

80+ Miles of Trails

3 Major Rivers

2 Ski Areas

89 Miles to Yellowstone NP

Help You With...

- ✓ Hiking
- ✓ Biking
- ✓ Climbing
- ✓ Skiing
- ✓ Running
- ✓ Back Packing
- ✓ Rafting
- ✓ Kayaking
- ✓ And more!

**Equipment Check Out
Ski & Bike Workshops**

Group Trips

Activity Classes

Clinics & Workshops

Climbing Wall

Avalanche Beacon Training Park

And more!





Student Wellness



Student Wellness

COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES



One-On-One Counseling
Group Counseling
Mental Health Presentations



CAMPUS RECREATION



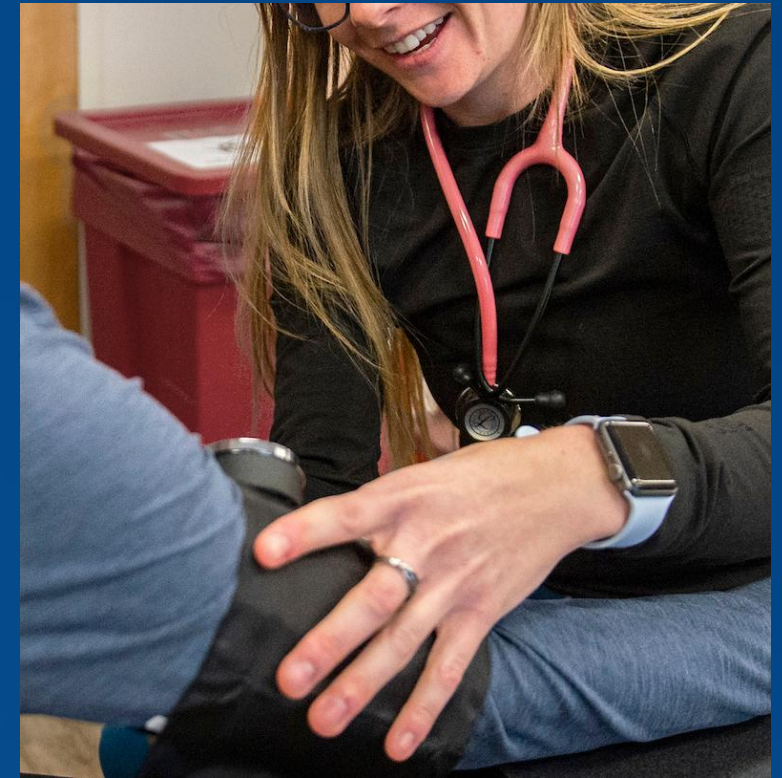
Intramural & Club Sports
Personal Training
Group Fitness Classes
Outdoor Rec



STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES



Medical Care
Dental Care
Pharmacy
Education & Promotion



Student Wellness

In addition to recreational facilities and services, Student Wellness offers the following:

- **Basic Needs & Food Pantry**
- **Travel Medicine**
- **Online Self-Help Resources**
- **Health Education & Promotion**
- **And more!**

Students may either stay on a family plan or elect MSU health insurance.

Selection made each semester via MyInfo.

Regardless of what health insurance plan students have, they are eligible to use MSU health services.



Safety on Campus



Safety on Campus



Safe Cats App

Allows Students to emergency dial 911, make anonymous reports, share location with friends, request and escort, and more!

Other Resources Include:

Residence Hall 24 Hour Lock-Down

Properly Trained Resident Advisors on Each Floor

UPD & Police Escorts

CARE Program

MSU Alert

Notifies students and families of any note-worthy activity on campus. This includes emergency notifications, public safety advisory, and timely warning.

MSU ALERT



#SafeMSU



The First Semester



The First Semester

First Year Needs

Transportation

- Parking Permit (August 1)
- Biking and Walking
- Streamline Bus
- CatTrack Shuttle

CatCard

- Upload photo in advance
- When a student checks-in at halls

Buying Books

- MSU Bookstore
- Syllabus on Canvas

Confirming Bill

- 15th Day of Class



The First Semester



Questions?

