First-Year Students: New Student Orientation Checklist

Get Ready to Register for KickStart:

☐ Review the information for first-year students on our website go.uis.edu/orientation.

☐ Register for KickStart. You will need the email and password you created for your UIS Admissions application to login to the KickStart registration form.

☐ Pay your $175 Orientation Fee. See our website for payment directions https://go.uis.edu/o-fee. Guest fee is $25/person. Pay online by credit card with the student’s orientation fee or if paying by check or money order sending it by mail to: UIS New Student Orientation & Parent Relations, One University Plaza, MS UHB 1080, Springfield, IL 62703.

Things to Do Before Your KickStart Orientation Session

☐ Make Arrangements for Travel and Accommodations. See our Travel and Accommodations page https://go.uis.edu/travelandhotels for train information, ground transportation, and driving directions to campus.

Parents/Family Members/Guests should make reservations at a local hotel for their overnight stay. We have information from a number of hotels on the website above.

August and January Orientation sessions: only students living on-campus will be staying on campus. They will check into their rooms. Commuter students will be coming to KickStart and Semester Launch each day directly from home.

Things to bring with you to KickStart…

For Students:

☐ Government Issued ID: Passport, Driver’s License, or State ID (if you do not have a driver’s license), you will need this to get your i-Card picture taken (if you haven’t already uploaded your picture before KickStart) and take Placement Exams;

☐ Financial Aid award letter - if you want to meet with a counselor from the Office of Financial Assistance;

☐ Bank account and routing information to set up your Direct Deposit and parent/guardian email address for authorized payer enrollment with USFSCO Customer Service Office online at paymybill.uillinois.edu;

☐ Your UIN, NetID and password (save them in your smart phone so you don’t forget – you will be using them during advising sessions and registration);

☐ Appropriate gear for the Central Illinois weather (62703 zip code);

☐ Sweater or jacket (meeting rooms can get a little chilly);

☐ Spending money for snacks or the UIS Bookstore, which has great UIS gear [Meals that are included in your orientation fees are the refreshment break and dinner on day 1 of KickStart and breakfast and a $10 meal card towards lunch on day 2 – you may want to bring additional money in case your order is more than $10];

☐ For students staying overnight in June: Pajamas, a change of clothes for the second day, gym gear or play clothes (optional), running shoes/sneakers (optional), toiletries, shower shoes, extra bath towels (optional), a blanket or sleeping bag (optional, we will be providing linens: 2 sheets, one pillow case, pillow, one facial cloth and one bath towel.), and alarm clock (or the alarm on your phone).

In August and January, students living on campus will move directly into their housing assignment before Orientation begins, so you will need to be prepared to bring things from home to move-in);

For Parents/Family Members:

We have a parent and family orientation program that runs concurrently with the student program. Parents may find it useful to bring:

☐ sweater or jacket (meeting rooms can get a little chilly);

☐ a good book (you will have time to relax in the evening).
Spending money for snacks or to by UIS gear at the UIS Bookstore [meals that are included in your orientation fees are the refreshment break on day 1 of KickStart and a $10 meal card towards lunch on day 2 – you may want to bring additional money in case your order is more than $10];

Clothes, toiletries, etc. for day 2 of orientation;

Don’t forget to make overnight accommodations at an area hotel if you do not live locally. Parents, family members, or guests will not be able to stay on campus overnight.

Things to do…after KickStart

○ Complete e-Chug go.uis.edu/e-chug and e-Check-up go.uis.edu/e-checkup Online Training before classes start.

○ Check-in and Attend Semester Launch.
See the schedule for check-in information from go.uis.edu/MyFirstYear as Student attendance will be taken at mandatory events. This information will be sent to academic advisors.

Fall Athletes – New Student Orientation and Athletics work together so practice times are around the mandatory events. Your attendance at Semester Launch events will also be sent to Athletics and shared with your coach.

Things to Do Once Classes Start

○ Attend Classes – it costs you money every time you are late or miss a class.

○ Get your books – buy, rent, or request through Inter-Library Loan. You need to make sure you are doing the required reading.

○ Attend Welcome Week events in August or January - to experience and learn more about campus, have fun, and meet people.

○ Get involved - Join an organization or activity. It is a great way to meet people, de-stress, and in some cases learn new skills.

○ Attend the Campus Job Fair – usually held within the first week or two of the semester in the fall.

○ Use campus resources like Brookens Library, the Learning Hub, and the Career Development Center – you have paid for them.

○ Sign up for Rave - Emergency Notification app (http://www.uis.edu/police/) and review the UIS Police website.

○ Review your Syllabus from each class and use your smartphone calendar to record alerts for when class assignments, readings, tests, and papers are due.

○ Create a Study Plan – no one will tell you when to sit down and do your homework and study. For every hour in class set aside 3 hours each week to study/read/do assignments.