



**MISSOURI SOUTHERN**  
— STATE UNIVERSITY —

# **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION SCHEDULE**

**Spring 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 yellow ink that reads "Dean Van Galen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the start of the name.

## 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, January 5		
Time	Topic	Where
7:30 a.m.	Check-in	Billingsly Student Center, Connor Ballroom (Room 340)
8:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.	Welcome	
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Health Center Screening, Document Check, ID Card, IT Support Desk, Campus Tour	
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch	
12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Health Center Screening, Document Check, ID Card, IT Support Desk, Campus Tour	
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Lion Village - 2nd Floor Study Room
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Shopping	Walmart

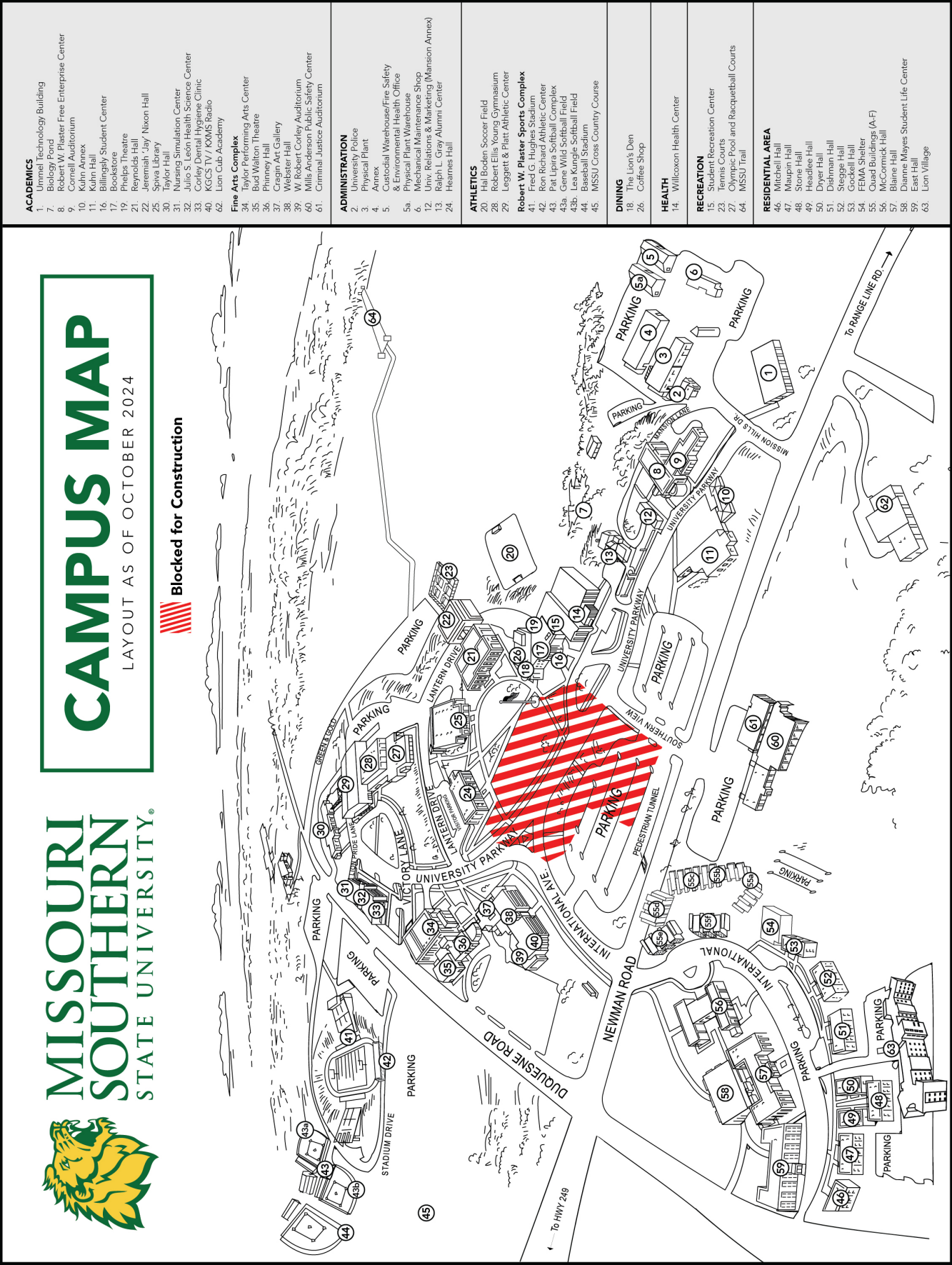


			Tuesday, January 6 MSSU Attire Day
	Time	Topic	Where
Late Arrivals	8:00 a.m.	Check-in/Snack Break	Billingsly Student Center, Connor Ballroom (Room 340)
	9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Health Center Screening	Willcoxon Health Center
	10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	ID Cards	Billingsly Student Center, Connor Ballroom (Room 340)
Placement Testing	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	ACT Testing	Webster Hall Testing Center
English Proficiency	9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Michigan Testing	Billingsly Student Center (Room 356)
Information Sessions	9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Campus Safety IT Overview Cultural Awareness Residence Life	Billingsly Student Center, Connor Ballroom (Room 340) Mayes Dining Hall
All Students	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch	
	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Lion Village - 2nd Floor Study Room
	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Shopping	Walmart

		Wednesday, January 7
Time	Topic	Where
8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Welcome	Billingsly Student Center, Connor Ballroom (Room 340)
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Academic Records Paying Your Bill Student Employment Health Insurance Visa Immigration	
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Academic Integrity	
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Library Services	Spiva Library
3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Group Photo	Billingsly Student Center, Connor Ballroom (Room 340)
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Lion Village - 2nd Floor Study Room

		Thursday, January 8 Traditional Attire Day
Time	Topic	Where
8:00 a.m.	Snack Break	Billingsly Student Center, Connor Ballroom (Room 340)
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Enrollment	Academic Departments
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Baptist Student Center

		Friday, January 9
Time	Topic	Where
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Enrollment/Free Time/ Southern Welcome	Various campus locations





# CONTACT INFORMATION

## **Heather Ali**

*International Student Services Coordinator*

Hearnes Hall 106 | 417.625.3513 | [ali-h@mssu.edu](mailto:ali-h@mssu.edu)

## **Dr. Stephanie Goad**

*Sr. Coordinator of International Admissions and Recruitment*

Hearnes Hall 106 | 417.625.9372 | [goad-s@mssu.edu](mailto:goad-s@mssu.edu)

## **Residence Life**

*Mayes Student Life Center | 417.659.4261 | [residencelife@mssu.edu](mailto:residencelife@mssu.edu)*

## **University Police**

*PPANEX | 417.626.2222 | [upd@mssu.edu](mailto:upd@mssu.edu)*

## **Willcoxon Health Center**

*2nd floor of BSC | 417.625.9323 | [willcoxonhealthcenter@mssu.edu](mailto:willcoxonhealthcenter@mssu.edu)*

## **IT Help Desk**

*Plaster Hall 224 | 417.659.4444 | [helpdesk@mssu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@mssu.edu)*

## **Financial Aid**

*Hearnes Hall 109 | 417-625-9325 | [finaid@mssu.edu](mailto:finaid@mssu.edu)*

## **Bursar (Paying Bill)**

*Hearnes Hall 105 | 417.625.9381 | [bursar@mssu.edu](mailto:bursar@mssu.edu)*

## **Registrar (Academic Records)**

*Hearnes Hall 101 | 417.625.9389 | [registrar@mssu.edu](mailto:registrar@mssu.edu)*

## **Admissions**

*Hearnes Hall 106 | 417.625.9378 | [admissions@mssu.edu](mailto:admissions@mssu.edu)*

*Explore Boldly. Care Deeply. Impact Globally.*