

FAQs for Fall 2012 Admitted Students

What is Orientation all about?

Orientation is, for many students, the first time they are getting the opportunity to see what CSUSM has to offer. At Orientation, students will: meet other new and current students, explore the campus, learn about CSUSM resources, receive group academic advising, begin the course selection process, and more that will help them feel welcomed and a part of the CSUSM community.

How do I accept my Intent to Enroll and pay the \$150 enrollment deposit?

All students receive a username and password after applying to CSUSM. This information is used to log-in to MyCSUSM, an online portal with a student's personal, contact, academic, financial, and registration information. Students can accept their intent to enroll and their deposit in their Student Center in my.csusm.edu. The intent to enroll and deposit deadlines are:

First Year Students: May 1st

Transfer Students: June 1st

Can students see an academic advisor before attending Orientation?

No. Students will go through a group advising process at Orientation and cannot make an appointment prior to their session. Once they have attended Orientation, they are free to make a follow up appointment with an academic advisor.

Can a student register for courses before attending Orientation?

No. Students (with the exception of returning students – see the next question) will not have access to register for courses prior to their Orientation session. Once they attend, students can adjust their schedule through the Add/Drop period (first two weeks of the semester).

Who has to attend Orientation?

All newly admitted students. This includes students who have been attending courses through Open University in Extended Learning.

Exception: If a student is returning to the university and has already attended an Orientation, they do not have to attend again (with the exception of Pre-Health Science/Nursing majors). Returning students must check their Student Center in my.csusm.edu to view their enrollment appointment time. Note that they can register for courses without attending Orientation, however, it may be without the assistance of academic advising. Check the Orientation website for online tools that are helpful in the course registration process.

Students who have a question about whether they need to attend Orientation should check their Student Center in my.csusm.edu using the User ID and Password provided after applying to CSUSM (password is the first two letters of your first name in CAPS, first two letters of your last name in CAPS, and the last four numbers of your ID). If required to attend Orientation, "Orientation Required" will appear in your "To Do" list and an Orientation hold will be placed on your record.

What types of Orientation sessions are offered?

Transfer Orientation is a half-day session and we offer both AM and PM sessions. The fee for students is \$60 and includes session parking, Course Catalog, Student Planner, Orientation Handbook, and snacks/beverages throughout the day. Please note: Guests are not allowed to attend. If you bring a guest, they will be asked to leave.

First Year Student Only Orientation is a full-day (8am-5pm) session that provides students with an opportunity to hear about a variety of campus resources, meet other students, get to know the CSUSM campus, receive group advising, and register for courses. The fee for students is \$85 and includes session parking, Course Catalog, Student Planner, Orientation Handbook, Student ID card, lunch, and snacks/beverages throughout the day. Please note: Guests are not allowed to attend. If you bring a guest, they will be asked to leave.

First Year Student with Family Orientation comprises of the same program as the First Year Student Only Orientation with the addition of a concurrent Family Orientation session. Family members in attendance (up to 2 per student at \$35 per guest) will learn about how to partner with CSUSM, best support your student as they enter college, and about the many campus resources available to students at CSUSM. Students and family members will be separated with the exception of during lunch. Note that family members will not be allowed to be with their student during the advising and course registration process.

Why are guests not allowed at Orientation?

Guests are not allowed at Orientation, with the exception of specific First Year with Family Orientation sessions. We do not allow guests due to space restrictions at Orientation. Space is limited at CSUSM and due to the number of students allowed at each session, we are typically at capacity. If one student brings a guest, it takes up the seat for a new student attending Orientation. We thank you for understanding and adhering to the guest policy.

How do I sign up for Orientation?

Orientation reservations can only be made online in my.csusm.edu. A student must have accepted their intent to enroll to CSUSM AND paid the \$150 enrollment deposit prior to reserving an Orientation. There is an "Orientation Reservation" link right in the Student Center in my.csusm.edu which makes for easy navigating.

When do students sign up for Orientation?

Postcards and email notification will be sent to all students who have accepted their admission and paid their enrollment deposit with information regarding Orientation. Students can also refer to our website at www.csusm.edu/sll/onsp for the most up to date information. Reservations cannot be made over the phone or by email.

Why do we charge for Orientation?

It takes multiple resources (financial and staffing) to offer a large program such as Orientation. Orientation fees are collected from students in order to pay for the service being provided to them. Orientation fees cover the various materials given at Orientation as well as offered food and drinks throughout the day.

Since we are a fee based program, it is important that we collect these fees from students prior to attending Orientation. For payment options, visit our website. Students can review the cancellation and refund policy on our website at <http://www.csusm.edu/sll/onsp/refunds.html>. Students cannot receive a refund after they have already attended an Orientation, regardless of change in admission status (unless the change occurred prior to the session).

Do I get better class selection if I attend an earlier Orientation?

Students begin their course selection process at Orientation and because of this, the campus works collaboratively to ensure that students have ample course options at their particular session, regardless of whether you attend in June or August. In order to best prepare for the course selection process, we ask students to do the following:

- Be flexible in the days and times you can attend classes
- Submit all course work taken prior to CSUSM
- Check your Academic Requirements Report (ARR) in my.csusm.edu
- Take the ELM/EPT tests (for first year students only) if required and plan to have the scores by the time you attend Orientation
- View and complete the Advising Pre-Orientation Homework and Quiz a week prior to Orientation
- Don't panic! We are here to help. You are merely **beginning** the course selection process at Orientation so you can adjust your schedule through the add/drop period (the first two weeks of the semester), if needed.

What if I don't go to Orientation?

Students who choose to not attend Orientation will not have access to register for courses until the first day of the Fall 2012 semester. Orientation holds will remain on student accounts until attending Orientation. If a student does not attend, the hold will remain on the account preventing course registration until immediately prior to the first day of the Fall semester.

What if I can't go to Orientation?

We plan various Orientation dates from June through August in order to accommodate schedules of our students. In return, we expect that students plan accordingly to attend Orientation. Exceptions will not be made if a student has to work, is on vacation, or has family in town.

Do you have more questions?

Please contact the Orientation and New Student Programs office located in Student Life & Leadership in Craven 3400.

Give us a call at 760-750-4930

Email us at orientation@csusm.edu.

Visit our website at www.csusm.edu/sll/onsp

Become our friend on Facebook (CSUSMOrientation)