

**NEW BEGINNINGS**  
*CREATE ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES*



*What to Expect During Your First Week on Campus*

# NEW STUDENT GUIDE



**It's Time for Bigger Goals.**



# THE DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

**D**uquesne University of the Holy Spirit is a Catholic University, founded by members of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, the Spiritans, and sustained through a partnership of laity and religious. Duquesne serves God by serving students – through commitment to excellence in liberal and professional education, through profound concern for moral and spiritual values, through the maintenance of an ecumenical atmosphere open to diversity, and through service to the Church, the community, the nation, and the world.

## EXPECTATIONS OF A DUQUESNE STUDENT

1. Read, understand and live out the values contained in the Mission Statement.
2. Build on the values you have received from those who love you and strive to meet their expectations.
3. Be diligent and sincere in your education, open to learning, change and strive for academic excellence.
4. Be honest and have integrity in all that you do.
5. Recognize the importance of service to others and our community.
6. Grow spiritually, preparing for life, not just for a career.
7. Appreciate diversity, be welcoming to others.
8. Respect your body and avoid addictions.
9. Develop a sense of self around your ethical and spiritual values.
10. Develop friendships and know the value of teamwork.
11. Be proud of Duquesne, show school spirit and support University activities.
12. Be at peace, love God, your neighbor and yourself.



## Welcome to Duquesne University!

Duquesne University is not only a school, but a community where you will take your first steps on the journey to your future. Orientation Week on campus will be the first of many **NEW BEGINNINGS** you experience here, a week where you will meet new friends, discover new places, and start to build a home away from home. However, the new beginnings that you encounter at Duquesne will go far beyond your first few weeks. They will continue to **CREATE** opportunities for you throughout your time on campus.

As you'll soon learn, the Duquesne community is unlike any other. With every new class, new connection, and new day, you are opening yourself up to **POSSIBILITIES** that are **ENDLESS**. Allow yourself to try new things and be open to the unknown, as you now have a family that will be supporting you every step of the way, a family that wants to see you thrive with every new beginning you experience.

This handbook will connect you to the many events that will occur during your first week on campus, allowing you to enrich your first-time experience.

Welcome to the Duquesne Family—we can't wait to see you shine!

— Mary and Megan

### Table of Contents:

Meet the New Student Orientation Staff .....	2
People to Know.....	3
Move-In Day Information .....	4
Move-In Day: What to Expect .....	5
Packing Do's and Don'ts.....	6
What is New Student Orientation?.....	7
Orientation Programs .....	8
Commuter Hub/Student Resources.....	9
What are Burgh Bucks?.....	Back Cover

# MEET THE NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION STAFF



**DR. ADAM WASILKO**  
Dean of Students  
Associate VP of Student Life



**JEANIE KOCINSKI**  
Administrative Assistant



**AVA RIEGER**  
Staff Coordinator  
School of Education, '27



**DOM PAGANO**  
Staff Coordinator  
School of Nursing, '28



**JACKSON HANNA**  
Burgh Buck Chairperson  
Palumbo-Donahue School of Business, '27



**LAUREN DYNESKO**  
Burgh Buck Chairperson  
John G. Rangos School of Health Sciences, '28



**JOHANN CANELOPPS**  
Entertainment Chairperson  
School of Education, '27



**ANYA SHILOBOD**  
Entertainment Chairperson  
School of Science and Engineering, '28



**DALANEY JAMES**  
Media Chairperson  
School of Science and Engineering, '29



**MWANGO KASUBA**  
Community Building and Connections Chairperson  
School of Education, '28/McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts, '28



**TAMARA TREMBULAK**  
Assistant Director of Student Life Operations



**MARY PATERNOSTER**  
Director  
School of Education and McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts, '27



**ALICYN RHODES**  
Staff Coordinator  
Palumbo-Donahue School of Business, '28



**MIA LANASA**  
Office Coordinator  
School of Education, '28



**QUINTEN GALE**  
Burgh Buck Chairperson  
Palumbo-Donahue School of Business, '28



**ABBIE PETRARCA**  
Transfer Chairperson  
John G. Rangos School of Health Sciences, '27



**NATALIE RODRIGUEZ**  
Commuter Chairperson  
McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts, '27



**LAUREN KING**  
Entertainment Chairperson  
John G. Rangos School of Health Sciences, '28



**KENZIE BOLE**  
Media Chairperson  
School of Education, '27



**ASHLEY KANE**  
Director of Student Transitions and Engagement



**MEGAN CASKEY**  
Assistant Director  
School of Education, '28



**NINA RICCIUTI**  
Staff Coordinator  
Palumbo-Donahue School of Business, '27



**ANISHA PATEL**  
Office Coordinator  
School of Science and Engineering, '28



**ANNIKA CASEY**  
Burgh Buck Chairperson  
School of Nursing, '28



**MAYA CHILL**  
Transfer Chairperson  
School of Nursing, '28



**NATALIE STEWART**  
Entertainment Chairperson  
School of Nursing, '27



**AUSTIN HANSEN**  
Entertainment Chairperson  
McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts, '27



**GRACIE RODRIGUEZ**  
Media Chairperson  
School of Music, '27



# PEOPLE TO KNOW

## CHAIRPERSONS

Chairpersons are students themselves and are 24 individuals who have served on the Orientation staff for at least one year. They are upperclass volunteers who have been preparing for Orientation since last November. You will find them wearing **Blue Polos** throughout New Student Orientation.

## TEAM LEADERS

The Team Leaders are 180 returning sophomores, juniors, and seniors who have volunteered to help ease the transition to Duquesne life. As student leaders, they are your ultimate resource for navigating Duquesne and Orientation Week, and will serve as your guide beyond the conclusion of our program. You will find them wearing **Red Logo Shirts** throughout New Student Orientation.

## COMMUTER ASSISTANTS

Each new undergraduate first-year and transfer commuter student is assigned a Commuter Assistant (CA) during their first year at Duquesne. CAs are upperclass commuters who serve as mentors to new undergraduate commuter students as they transition into college life. CAs help plan programs and activities to engage new students and assist them in becoming active members of the Duquesne community. *Commuter students will meet them during their Pre-Orientation on August 19.*

## RESIDENT ASSISTANTS

Resident Assistants are selected on the basis of acknowledgement and commitment to Duquesne University's values. They are upperclass students who serve as peer guides within the Living Learning Centers, assisting on-campus residents within their living communities.



# MOVE-IN DAY INFORMATION



August 18	ST. ANN	TOWERS	ASSUMPTION
<b>8:00 AM</b>	6 West	16 ABC	1st Floor
	5 West	17 ABC	
<b>9:00 AM</b>	1 West	14 ABC	
		15 ABC	
<b>10:00 AM</b>		13 ABC	Ground
		8 ABC	
<b>11:00 AM</b>		12 ABC	S-Level
		7 ABC	
<b>12:00 PM</b>			
<b>1:00 PM</b>	4 West	11 ABC	2nd Floor
		10 C	
		9 ABC	
<b>2:00 PM</b>	3 West	6 ABC	3rd Floor
		10 AB	
		4 ABC	
<b>3:00 PM</b>	2 West	5 ABC	
		3 ABC	
<b>4:00 PM</b>	2 West	12 ABC	
		13 AC	

*If you are moving into a Residence Hall other than St. Ann Hall, Towers, or Assumption Hall, you will receive your Move-In time slot to your Duquesne email.*

*Students who are residing in Living Learning Communities will be directly reached out to by Residence Life regarding their move-ins. All questions can be directed towards the Office of Residence Life, [orl@duq.edu](mailto:orl@duq.edu).*

*Honors College Move-In Day is August 17 for all first-year Honors College students, regardless of housing assignment. All Residence Halls will be open for early move-in for Honors College first-year students.*

## **IMPORTANT STUDENT HOUSING DATES:**

Week of June 30: Housing Assignments & Roommates sent

July 6-9: FAST Program

Aug. 1: Fridge/Microwave rental form due

Aug 18: New Students Move-In Day

Aug. 21-22: Returning Students Move-In Day (Towers, Des Places, and Assumption)

Aug. 17-24: Lumina Move-in (Lumina will give each resident a specific move in date and time.)

# MOVE-IN DAY: WHAT TO EXPECT

Move-In Day is an exciting time during Orientation Week! To ensure a seamless transition, check out our Orientation webpage at [duq.edu/Orientation](http://duq.edu/Orientation) or scan the QR code for the checklist to complete before and during your designated Move-In Day:



[duq.edu/Orientation](http://duq.edu/Orientation)

**In addition to receiving keys to your new room, you will receive the following:**

## NAMETAG

Your Orientation nametag is **mandatory** for entry at all Orientation events. Your nametag will also display the locations of the **required Team Leader meetings** that are provided throughout the week (refer to page 7).

## PARKING PASS

Our Chairpersons will provide your driver with a parking pass, which will grant your vehicle **free parking in Forbes Garage**. Please note: at least one person must tend to your vehicle at all times until it is parked in Forbes Garage!

## ORIENTATION ITEMS

Once you arrive for Move-In Day, head over to the Move-In Tent on **Assumption Commons Lawn** to receive your Orientation items! These items include a new-student Orientation shirt, in addition to a t-shirt to wear at our famous **Glow Dance**!

## DINING ON MOVE-IN DAY

Lunch will be available and served throughout the day for all visitors helping you move in. Once settled into your room, you are free to visit the Hogan Dining Center in Towers with your family.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

*In the case you are unable to receive your items at the Move-In Day tent, your Orientation Team Leader will contact you prior to the first Team Leader meeting. Be on the lookout for an email to your Duquesne email the morning of **Wednesday, August 19**.*

*If you or a family member is in need of accommodations during Move-In Day, please contact the Office of Disability Services at **disabilityservices@duq.edu** to determine how we can best serve your needs.*

# PACKING LIST DO'S AND DON'TS



## ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

in The Living Learning Centers

### Room Items

- Computer/printer
- Hangers
- Lamp
- Surge protectors
- Umbrella
- School supplies/USB
- Extension cord

### Personal Care Items

- Shower caddy
- Shower shoes
- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Soap/shampoo/  
conditioner
- Tissues
- Facemask

### Laundry Items

- Laundry detergent
- Dryer sheets
- Stain remover
- Laundry hamper/basket
- Drying rack

### Kitchen Items

- Bowls/plates
- Paper towels
- Silverware
- Microwave
- Mini-fridge
- Snack-bag clips
- Mugs/cups

### Bed & Bath

- Blankets/pillows
- Bed sheets (twin XL)
- Towels/washcloths
- Mattress topper/cover

### Laundry Items

- Disinfecting wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Swiffer/broom
- Trash can/bags
- Sponges/dish soap



## PROHIBITED ITEMS

in The Living Learning Centers

- Bed risers/lofts/  
cinder blocks
- Toasters/toaster ovens
- Hot plates
- Candles/candle  
warmers/wax melts
- Incense
- Open flames
- Weapons
- Hookahs
- Ceiling fans
- Locks/alarms not  
university provided
- Hoverboards
- Wall paint
- Water beds
- Fireworks
- Flammable liquids/  
gasoline/oil
- Smoke/fog machines
- Alcohol containers/  
paraphernalia
- Space heaters
- Laser pointers
- Paintball, BB, or pellet  
guns of any kind
- Items that suspend from  
the ceiling/walls
- Non-UL-approved  
appliances

**Please contact the Office of Residence Life at (412) 396-6655 or visit [duq.edu/Housing](http://duq.edu/Housing) for any questions regarding acceptable items in the Living Learning Centers.**

# WHAT IS NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION?

New Student Orientation is designed with the new student experience in mind. As students ourselves, we recall that initial transition into life at Duquesne University. We are a team of 180+ student leaders that have been preparing since November to welcome you to campus through a variety of opportunities to engage in the Duquesne community, in an experience that is tailored specifically to you.

*All incoming students are automatically enrolled in the New Student Orientation, upon the reception of their deposit.*

## FAQs

### **What are the required sessions?**

There are several mandatory events during Orientation Week, indicated with a yellow dot on our Guidebook. These events include Team Leader Meetings and our various information sessions presented by campus departments.

### **What are the Team Leader meetings?**

Led by two to three upperclass students, the Team Leader meetings throughout the week provide new students with the opportunity to gain valuable peer information, in addition to meeting their fellow classmates. Teams are approximately 20-25 students.

### **What is my team, and when will I receive my team number?**

Each new student is assigned a team prior to Orientation Week for the Team Leader meetings. You will receive a mailed letter from your Team Leaders during the summer months, indicating your team. Your team number will also be indicated on your nametag upon campus arrival.

### **I have to leave campus before a certain time. Can I still participate in events?**

Yes! Our Orientation program is designed with all students in mind. We have programming beginning at 9:00 a.m. every morning, and concluding at 1:00 a.m. every day. There are plenty of events and times to choose!

### **I'm nervous about this transition, what do you recommend?**

We are here to support you. Our Directors, Chairpersons, and Team Leaders of New Student Orientation recall that experience, and we understand your nervousness in this new chapter. We will be your guides and your peer support as you transition into this next phase. The Office of First-Year Development is here to provide guidance in navigating this next phase of your journey! The Office will support you within every aspect of your first year here at Duquesne.

## A FUN WEEK OF EVENTS

New Student Orientation consists of 70+ events created to help students navigate campus, meet their peers, and receive important information to prepare them for their first year at Duquesne. To access the full itinerary, download the Guidebook app and scan the QR code!

### **GUIDEBOOK:**



[duq.edu/Guidebook](https://duq.edu/Guidebook)

# ORIENTATION PROGRAMS

## INTERNATIONAL ORIENTATION

**Thursday, August 13 - Friday, August 14**

Curated by the Office of Global Engagement, International Student Orientation is designed to provide information on how to be a successful student in the United States. With an overview on how to maintain immigration status, health insurance, Pittsburgh life, and more, International Student Orientation provides engaging programming such as a Resource Fair, and a Welcome Picnic!

**Contact:**

Sienna Dalessandro, Director  
[dalessandros@duq.edu](mailto:dalessandros@duq.edu)

## THE CENTER'S PRE-ORIENTATION

**Sunday, August 16 - Tuesday, August 18**

This event is coordinated each year by The Center, whose aim is to foster student connection for each and every student. Our Pre-Orientation program (Pre-O) will give you an opportunity to connect with students who may share your similar values and will help you become familiar with campus. Pre-O is designed to assist students inclusive of background, identity, and lived experience in making a successful transition to Duquesne University.

**Contact:**

Julian Vazquez, Director  
Julia Jusino, Director  
Julius Maurice, Director  
Aija Binder, Director  
Gabriella Rios, Director  
D'Andre Moxey, Director  
[duqpreo@gmail.com](mailto:duqpreo@gmail.com)

## NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

**Tuesday, August 18 - Sunday, August 23**

New Student Orientation is a week-long program designed for the students, by the students. During New Student Orientation, new members of the campus community can experience over 70+ events, which include opportunities to meet their fellow classmates and faculty, and acclimate to life at Duquesne.

**Contact:**

Mary Paternoster and Megan Caskey,  
Director and Assistant Director  
[orientation@duq.edu](mailto:orientation@duq.edu)

## TRANSFER ORIENTATION

**Wednesday, August 19 - Sunday, August 23**

Designed by the Transfer Chairpersons of the New Student Orientation, Transfer Orientation consists of several programming events that assist Transfer students in smoothly acclimating to life at Duquesne, in addition to helping them connect with their peers, and discovering the resources provided for them.

**Contact:**

Abbie Petrarca and Maya Chill  
Transfer Chairpersons  
[orientation@duq.edu](mailto:orientation@duq.edu)

## NEW COMMUTER ORIENTATION

**Wednesday, August 19 - Sunday, August 23**

Designed by the Commuter Chairperson in New Student Orientation with Commuter Life, New Commuter Orientation provides programming tailored to off-campus students, focusing on events to engage with their peers, all while connecting with Duquesne through fun and engaging activities.

**Contact:**

Natalie Rodriguez  
Commuter Chairperson  
[orientation@duq.edu](mailto:orientation@duq.edu)

## PARENT AND FAMILY ORIENTATION

**Wednesday, August 19, 2026**

Transitioning into life at Duquesne University is a milestone for all parties—including our families! Parent and Family Orientation provides the opportunity for families to ask questions about the transition, in addition to receiving resources to allow their families and new student to succeed. Register for Parent and Family Orientation at [duq.edu/Parents](http://duq.edu/Parents).

**Contact:**

Ashley Kane  
Director of Student Transitions and Engagement  
[geesea@duq.edu](mailto:geesea@duq.edu)

## COMMUTER PRE-ORIENTATION

**Wednesday, August 19, 2026**

Planned by the Office of Commuter Life, Commuter Pre-Orientation acts as the first welcome to Duquesne for all incoming Commuter students. It is designed to provide Commuter students with the resources they will need in the transition to Duquesne life, in addition to the opportunity to meet their Commuter Assistants.

**Contact:**

Office of Commuter Life  
[commuteraffairs@duq.edu](mailto:commuteraffairs@duq.edu)

# COMMUTER HUB

Whether you are a first-time Commuter student, or transferring into our Duquesne community as a Commuter student, we would like to help ease the transition into this next chapter.

Be sure to check out the Commuter Life webpages ([duq.edu/CommuterLife](http://duq.edu/CommuterLife)) for more in-depth information regarding commuting to campus, parking accommodations, and transportation. You can also find this information in the Off-Campus Commuter Guide linked on the webpage.

## ORIENTATION PROGRAMMING

Commuter Pre-Orientation is presented by Commuter Life. This program takes place *before* New Commuter Orientation takes place.

New Commuter Orientation is planned by the Office of Orientation, and takes place throughout the duration of New Student Orientation (more on page 7).

Commuter students are encouraged to attend both Commuter Pre-Orientation, and New Commuter Orientation. Registration for both will be provided via email.

## PARKING WITHIN AND BEYOND ORIENTATION

Parking Permits for the 2026-2027 Academic Year will go on sale towards the end of July. Check your email for updates or go to [duq.edu/Parking](http://duq.edu/Parking) for more information.

*Parking Services are located in the Student Union, Room 210. During the week of New Student Orientation, all parking in Forbes Garage is free for incoming students.*

## MEAL PLANS AND PLUS: DINING DURING ORIENTATION

Many Commuter students purchase PLUS. You can load PLUS dollars onto your Student ID and use it across campus to make food/drink purchases. To purchase PLUS, go to [duquesnedining.catertrax.com](http://duquesnedining.catertrax.com) and look under “More”.

*During New Student Orientation, all meals acquired at Hogan Dining Center are complimentary to incoming students with a valid name tag.*


## TRANSPORTATION: PROGRAMS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

In partnership with the Pittsburgh Regional Transit, discounted bus rides are available to all students, faculty and staff who enroll in Duquesne University’s UPass program.


Through an app on your mobile device, you can ride anywhere Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT) travels at a discounted fare. To find out more information and enroll, go to [duq.edu/UPass](http://duq.edu/UPass) or email [upass@duq.edu](mailto:upass@duq.edu).

## STUDENT RESOURCES


### Office of Orientation

Student Union 309A  
[orientation@duq.edu](mailto:orientation@duq.edu)  
 @duorientation

### First-Year Development

Student Union 309  
[firstyear@duq.edu](mailto:firstyear@duq.edu)  
 @duactivities

### Commuter Life

Student Union 115  
[commuteraffairs@duq.edu](mailto:commuteraffairs@duq.edu)  
 @du\_commuter

*For a complete list of student resources, access the Campus Resources tab on our Orientation Guidebook (found on page 7).*



# WHAT ARE **BURGH BUCKS**?

Upon arrival to campus, all students will receive a Rewards Card. The Rewards Card highlights key events and sessions during New Student Orientation. Have a Team Leader mark your card at each of these events to earn up to \$35,000 Burgh Bucks!

*Students will only receive one Rewards Card. If lost, the card cannot be replaced.*

## **What are they?**

Burgh Bucks are a special Orientation currency created to reward you for your enthusiasm, dedication and excitement while attending events.

## **How do I earn them?**

By coming to events throughout the week, meeting new students and team leaders, and exploring Duquesne and everything the city of Pittsburgh has to offer!

## **What do I do with them?**

Your Burgh Bucks are unfortunately NOT applicable for tuition or dining needs, but CAN be used at our Burgh Buck Auction at the end of the week. At the auction, we will have an assortment of prizes and experiences up for grabs, including (but not limited to) a gaming console, Apple AirPods, gift cards, and many more experiences around the city. The more Burgh Bucks you collect, the better the prizes you can WIN!

**💰 Have your stash counted on Thursday and receive a 15% BONUS**

**💰 Have them counted on Friday and receive a 10% BONUS**

**💰 Get them counted on Saturday and receive a 5% BONUS**