

PRE-ARRIVAL WEBINARS
FOR INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

ORIENTATION

OISS Pre-Arrival Webinar: Welcome and Introduction to INSO
Wednesday, May 19, 2021 | 8:30am – 9:00am Eastern Time
Webinar Recording: https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/1_4s5jusnt

Questions & Answers Summary

Admissions and Placement Tests

1. Is taking placement exams mandatory?

Most entering first-year students are required to take the *Mathematics Placement Service Exam*, however some students may be exempt based on test scores or transfer credits. We'd recommend students to complete the online math placement exam prior to meeting with their academic advisor during your NSO advising appointment. Student seeking to improve their score may retake the test a second or third time with a 4-week waiting period between exams. Alternatively, you may complete the following form to find out if you are required to complete the math placement exam: <https://orientation.msu.edu/first-year/prepare-for-orientation/math-placement-test-information/>

Provisionally admitted students must take the *Michigan State University English Language Test (MSUFLT)* to determine eligibility to enroll in academic courses. Students admitted provisionally will receive information about registering for the MSUFLT prior to arriving at MSU. The results of the MSUFLT will determine if you are able to enroll in:

- Full-time academic courses
- A combination of academic and English language courses
- Full-time English language courses through MSU's English Language Center

If MSU receives a new test score that fulfills the English proficiency requirement for an incoming provisionally admitted student prior to the start of the semester, MSU will change the student's admission status from provisional to regular admission. Learn more about the MSUFLT: <https://elc.msu.edu/tests/msu-english-language-test-msuflt/>

If you have studied a foreign language and are interested in continuing this course of study (and are not bringing in AP or transferable credit), you must complete the relevant language test. The test results will determine an appropriate starting level for college language study, based on your proficiency in reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar and listening. It is suggested students take the placement exam even if they do not plan to immediately enroll in foreign language courses. Foreign language placement tests in French, German and Spanish are available and should be completed prior to attending NSO. Students who have studied languages for which no placement test is offered should consult a representative of the appropriate language department during or after NSO to determine suitable placement.

2. I am a provisionally admitted student and have already completed the MSUELT. How would that affect my admission status?

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<https://elc.msu.edu/tests/msu-english-language-test-msuelt/>

New Student Orientation (NSO), Academic Advising and Enrollment, and Arrivals

1. I have already completed my NSO D2L course. When can I expect to hear from my academic advisor?

Once you complete your D2L content, you will be able to get more information about your virtual academic advising appointment. Your college will send you more information about your academic advising appointment via your MSU email once you have completed your D2L content. Please check your MSU email regularly over the next weeks for updates.

2. When will I hear from my Spartan Leader? Will they contact me directly, or do I have to reach out to them?

Most of you should receive an introduction email from NSO and your Spartan Leader no later than Sunday, May 23, 2021. Those who have provided a US physical address on your admission application will be receiving a physical postcard with introduction of your Spartan Leader by end of May, 2021. If not, you may reach out to the NSO office:

<https://orientation.msu.edu/about/contact/>

3. When will INSO D2L content be available?

The INSO D2L module will open during the week of May 24, 2021. You will be automatically enrolled in the course, and will be notified via email once it is available.

4. Where can I find information about additional Pre-Arrival Webinars?

OISS offers incoming students a series of Pre-Arrival Webinars: <https://oiss.isp.msu.edu/pre-arrival-orientation/orientation-overview/international-family-orientation-program/#OISS>

Please also note that the OISS Pre-Arrival Webinars complement the NSO Webinar Series that you are invited to attend: <https://orientation.msu.edu/nso-webinar-series/>

5. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and possible visa processing delays, will there be online classes available for students to enroll in, if I am unable to attend any in-person classes?

There are online classes available for international students to enroll in both inside outside of the US--you may discuss this further with your academic advisor during your advising appointment after you have completed your NSO D2L course. Please note that there may be immigration impacts for students to enroll into online class if they are planning to be physically present in the US in Fall 2021 semester.

6. Who should I contact if I wish to enroll in classes in the Summer 2021 semester?

You should discuss with your academic advisor during your virtual advising appointment that you have intention to enroll in classes before your admitted semester of Fall 2021.

7. When can I move into my on-campus housing?

International Students can begin arriving on campus on Monday, August 23, 2021. If you need to arrive earlier than August 23, you will need to make arrangements with a hotel. At this time, we do not know if students arriving from outside the U.S. will need to quarantine upon arrival. As that information is decided, we will communicate directly with impacted students. Please continue to check the Together We Will site for updated travel information:

<https://msu.edu/together-we-will/travel/>

Students arriving on August 23 will be charged the daily housing rate for their room type, and they will be able to pay for individual meals at the dining halls prior to their dining plans beginning. Linen packets consisting of towels, sheets and pillows will be available by request, free of charge. Please continue to check your MSU email for updates from Live On and Eat at State. You may also reach out to Live On for additional information:

<https://liveon.msu.edu/ContactUs>

Campus Resources and Others

1. Am I required to upload my photograph for my MSU ID card now or is that required when I come to the campus?

We strongly recommend that you submit your photo online. If you don't, you will need to stop by the ID office when you move in to have your photo taken and card printed, and the lines and wait during those times are extremely long. In past years, those who have uploaded their photograph in advance are able to pick up their pre-printed Spartan ID card during move-in weekend. Please review information on the following website for additional information:

<https://idoffice.msu.edu/online-photo/index.html>

2. How should I connect with my advisor?

Your academic college will send you more information about your academic advising appointment via your MSU email once you have completed your D2L content. They will also include contact information of your academic advisor on that respective email.

If you wish to connect with an OISS advisor, you may do so by reaching out to OISS via Live Chat or schedule an appointment with your assigned advisor. More information here:

<https://oiss.isp.msu.edu/about/oiss-advising-team/>

3. I have signed an on-campus housing contract for the academic year 2021/2022. Do I have to apply for Between Semester Housing separately?

Students who wish to stay on campus between fall and spring semesters can apply for between semester housing. Between Semester Housing information for this coming winter break will be available during Fall 2021 semester. You may reach out to Live On for additional information: <https://liveon.msu.edu/ContactUs>

4. When can I access Handshake to look for part-time jobs?

Handshake is MSU's career management platform that serves as a one-stop-shop for all things career related. It includes on- and off-campus job and internship postings, career fair and networking opportunities, and more. Students will gain access to Handshake in early-August. Learn more about Handshake: <https://careernetwork.msu.edu/resources/handshake/>

5. Where can I find information about accommodation for family members who will be accompanying their students to MSU in the first month in the US?

Visitors to campus can select from a variety of local hotels. The [Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center](#) and the [Candlewood Suites Hotel at the Henry Center of MSU](#) are located on campus.

Many other hotels are located in the East Lansing and Lansing area. A list of recommended hotels and inns (including rates) is provided by the MSU Office of the Controller: http://ctrl.msu.edu/COTravelNEW/Hotels_MSULocal.aspx