Welcome to the AU Community

Congratulations to you and your new AU student! Your son or daughter will soon be receiving information about American University’s Eagle Summit orientation programs, offered in June and July, and about AU’s Welcome Weeks programming, which includes the Freshman Service Experience and Discover DC. Your student will be registering for these programs using the my.american.edu portal. Because your student must complete the registration process for everyone in your family, you should set aside some time to talk with him or her about Eagle Summit. While you might be tempted to take on this responsibility for your student, it is very important that he or she manage this process.

When your daughter or son registers for orientation, she or he will be asked to choose the session that best fits into her or his summer schedule. We will send a confirmation to the student’s AU e-mail address, which will include more information about when to arrive and where to go when you get to campus.

You may choose to participate in Eagle Summit’s parent and family orientation while your son or daughter is participating in new student orientation. If this is your first experience sending a child off to college, you will be going through a transition along with your son or daughter. If you’re familiar with the first-year transition process, you probably have questions related specifically to American University. Parent and family orientation is expressly for the parents and families of AU’s newest community members and provides both detailed information about AU and general information about the college transition.

Parent and family orientation will address many of your concerns as well as provide opportunities for you to ask questions. During the program, you will be able to:
- meet other parents and family members of new AU students
- get information about resources and services
- meet and hear from the dean of students
- learn more about AU’s academic programs
- become more familiar with campus
- meet with representatives from Housing and Dining Programs, the Student Health Center, Information Technology, Financial Aid, and Public Safety

Last year more than 98 percent of survey respondents said that they would recommend our parent and family orientation to other incoming students and their families. In addition, 100 percent indicated they were more familiar with AU’s services and resources after attending our program.

Although we do not offer special programs for younger siblings, they are welcome to accompany parents or family members who are attending orientation. Please see Program Fees for more information.
Eagle Summit: Parent and Family Orientation

Dates
Six Eagle Summit orientation programs are offered this summer.

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<th>New Student Orientation</th>
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Fee waivers for Eagle Summit and Welcome Weeks programs may be available upon request. For more information, contact the director of New Student Programs, Tiffany Sanchez, at tsanche@american.edu.

Class Registration
In mid-May your student’s advisor will send a link that provides information about registering for classes and completing other important academic tasks using the online Freshman Guide to Academic Programs and Registration. As soon as your student receives that e-mail, he or she should access the guide and follow the instructions to complete it by the deadline (May 24 for early-decision students and May 30 for all others). Note that your student will not register for classes during orientation. Completion of the guide will allow your student’s academic advisor to review his or her proposed course selection for fall 2011 classes, and if it’s correct, clear him or her to register. During the Academic Advising session on the second day of orientation, an advisor will confirm your student’s course registration and present a final copy of his or her class schedule.

Placement Exams
A math placement exam will be administered during Eagle Summit. All new students are required to take the math placement exam regardless of AP course completion or choice of major. The results determine course placement in mathematics. In addition to the math placement exam, students who plan to take an advanced (beyond 100-level) foreign language course during their freshman year are encouraged to take the foreign language placement exam online.

Students who need disability-related accommodations for placement exams during orientation should contact either the Academic Support Center (students with learning disabilities or Attention Deficit Disorder) or Disability Support Services (students with physical, sensory, medical, or psychological disabilities) in advance to provide documentation of their disability and to request accommodations.

Accommodations for Family Members
While all students are required to stay on campus during Eagle Summit, family members may choose to stay on or off campus. Parents and family members opting to stay on campus will be housed in student residence halls. Please note that any parent attending orientation alone will be housed with another parent. Because of space limitations, some guests may be housed on the same floors as students. Each residence hall room is equipped with a blanket, a towel, a pillow, and bed linens for each on-campus guest. Phones, alarm clocks, and televisions are not provided in residence hall rooms.

Most family members prefer to stay at a hotel during orientation. For information about area hotels, please visit the Web site www.american.edu/orientation. Click on Parents & Family Members and then DC Area Hotels. Advance reservations are advised.

Early Arrival Accommodations for Those Staying on Campus
Because the first day of orientation starts early, you and your student may want to arrive the evening before orientation begins. If you choose to stay on campus, there is a $75 fee per person per night for this option. If you will need early arrival accommodations, your student will need to choose this option when he or she registers. Individuals choosing the early arrival option should check in with orientation and housing staff members at the Leonard Hall front desk between 3 and 6 p.m. and are invited to join orientation staff members at one of many local restaurants for dinner. Groups will depart campus at 6 and 7 p.m. (The cost of the early arrival dinner is not included in the fee, but breakfast the following morning is provided.) Those arriving after 8 p.m. should check in with housing staff members at the Leonard Hall front desk and attend orientation check-in the next morning starting at 7:15 a.m. in Bender Lobby.

Pricing
Eagle Summit participants should park in the Nebraska Avenue commuter lot. You will not need a permit to park during orientation.

All-American Weekend
October 21–23, 2011
It’s never too early to start making plans to attend All-American Weekend at AU. Join us in October for food, festivities, and fun. Find out more at www.american.edu/allamericanweekend.

New Student Programs Is Green
You may be wondering why this brochure is in the shape of a folder. The answer is simple. We’ve challenged ourselves to reduce the amount of paper we use and to find ways to conserve some of the energy expended during our programs.

This folder is a creative way to reuse a brochure that might normally end up in a wastebasket or in a recycling bin after just one use. Please reuse this brochure by bringing it with you to Eagle Summit. When you get here, we’ll ask you to use it to hold some very important information. The rest of the information students might normally receive inside a folder upon arrival will be presented to you electronically on a CD. By making these simple changes, together we can save more than half a ton of paper this year alone.

You can view the full list of our efforts at www.american.edu/orientationsustainability. Help us do our part to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Visit Our Web Site
Go to www.american.edu/orientation for the following helpful information:

- sample Eagle Summit schedules
- arrival and departure information
- information about the math placement exam (administered during orientation) and the foreign language placement exam (available online)
- international student orientation information
- information about parent and family orientation
- directions to campus
- a list of what to bring with you
- frequently asked questions
- August arrival information for new students

Bring This Folder to Eagle Summit

By using environmentally friendly paper for this folder, American University saved the following resources:

- 4,388 gallons of water saved
- 9,000,000 BTUs energy not consumed
- 4,388 gallons wastewater flow saved
- 4,388 pounds solid waste not generated
- 4,388 pounds net greenhouse gases prevented

Source: environmentaldefense.org

A graphic by Infogoodie.com

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