

From: Rizza, Salvatore A.
To: families@lists.southernct.edu
Subject: Parent/Family Update: August 10th
Date: Monday, August 10, 2020 12:42:09 PM
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Dear Parents and Families,

We hope this email finds you well!

In this communication you will find information regarding:

1. Parent/Family Programs
2. New Student Support and New Owl Welcome
3. Course Delivery Formats
4. COVID Testing
5. Fall 2020 Reopening Plan
6. Book Store Update

As we approach the beginning of the semester, we want to ask that your student regularly checks their Southern email. We would also like to provide a number of links which have really good information that answers many of the questions you may have.

Helpful Links- <https://inside.southernct.edu/parent-family/helpful-links> , these are a number of helpful links that we have gathered specifically for parents/families that will be helpful now and in the future.

Resources- <https://inside.southernct.edu/inside-southern>, these is another general page filled with links that may be helpful!

Fall 2020 Reopening- <https://inside.southernct.edu/reopening>, this provides information on the reopening of campus for the fall semester.

Residence Life- <https://inside.southernct.edu/residence-life>, with so many questions regarding residence life, this may be a great place to find information!

Advising- <https://inside.southernct.edu/advising>, information regarding academic advising.

Sincerely,

Sal Rizza
Southern Connecticut State University
Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement

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Parent/Family Virtual Programs- Summer Finale'!!

We are happy to announce our final and full week of Parent/Family Virtual Programs for the summer!

Don't worry, we will be back in the fall with a new series of programs.

While these programs are specifically designed for the parents and families of our incoming students, we invite any parent or family member to join us! We will share our full schedule soon.

SCSU ORIENTATION TRANSITION & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT OFFICE
PRESENTS 2020 PARENT & FAMILY FACEBOOK LIVE

All programs will be presented via the Parent/Family Facebook Group and will be LIVE!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/>

August 10th 5:30pm

Community and Safety: Creating a Safe and Welcoming Community

The University Police Department and Office of Student Conduct and Civic Responsibility will share the ways we work to create a safe and welcoming campus for all community members.

August 11th, 5:30pm

Successful Student Panel

Three Orientation Ambassadors will share their experiences with students, parents and families. We recommend that parents/families view this program together if possible.

August 12th, 5:30pm

Living on Campus: Part 2

The Office of Residence Life will discuss the fall 2020 on-campus experience and will be available to answer questions regarding move-in, safety, community and programs.

August 13th, 5:15pm

How to be a College Parent

In our final program, the Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Jules Tetrault will be joined by other college parents to discuss some of the keys to supporting students in their first semester and beyond.

These programs will be broadcasted live through the Parent/Family Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/> and will be available to view anytime by visiting the page after the event.

Course Delivery Formats

<https://inside.southernct.edu/fall20courses>

This website is full of information on how courses will be delivered in the fall 2020. One of the questions is “how does a student access their on-line class?” Different instructors will use different platforms. It is important that students continue to check their Southern email as many instructors will email their students instructions/links on how to access their courses. Students should also access their Blackboard for information as well.

New Student Support and New Owl Welcome

<https://www.southernct.edu/orientation>

New Student Support:

We are here to support new first-year and transfer students! At this time, our orientation groups are no longer active but our office is open and our team (Orientation Ambassadors, Transfer Student Assistants, Professional Staff and Graduate Interns) are available. As students will continue to have questions as they prepare for the fall 2020, we want to provide some of the ways they can continue to prepare:

1. Students should continue to visit their Digital Orientation located in Blackboard. In this on-line learning portal which has been available all summer long, we have placed valuable information regarding living on campus, commuting to campus, involvement, activities, resources, etc...
 2. CHECK SOUTHERN EMAIL! This cannot be stressed enough for ALL students. Southern email is the official means of communication and is where students will receive the most important information. They should be checking daily at minimum.
 3. Contact our office with questions. In addition to email (orientation@southernct.edu) we can be reached via phone at (203) 392-5189 or live chat <https://www.southernct.edu/orientation/contact>. We currently have four Orientation Ambassadors that are available to meet with students individually Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm. If they would like to schedule an appointment with an OA, please call our office or email orientaiton@southernct.edu and place “OA Appointment” in the subject line.
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New Owl Welcome (Virtual)

(For new first-year students)

August 17th- August 25th

Beginning August 17th, we will begin our “New Owl Welcome” activities that will culminate in our New Owl Welcome Finale’ on Tuesday, August 25th from 4pm- 7pm the evening before the semester begins.

Campus Tours: Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement and the Admissions Office will be offering walking tours August 17th – August 21st. Students will receive an email in both their personal email accounts and Southern email accounts by Tuesday, August 11th. These small tours led by Student Guides are very limited and are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. These tours are specifically for new owls and due to capacity restrictions we will be unable to accommodate family members interested in joining the tour.

Instagram Live: On August 19th, 20th, 21st, and 24th Orientation Ambassadors will broadcast live from @scsu_orientation providing strategies and information on finding success in the first semester. A detailed schedule will be provided later this week.

Digital Orientation New Owl Welcome: Located via Blackboard in Digital Orientation, students will have access to new information!

New Owl Welcome Finale’: On August 25th, from 4pm to 7pm, first-year students will have an opportunity to meet with their Peer Mentors! They will receive information and the link to do so via their Southern email after by Monday, August 23rd. New students should plan to be available from 4pm to 7pm on Tuesdays, August 25th.

COVID Testing

<https://www.ct.edu/files/pdfs/UPDATE%206%20Interim%20Testing%20Guidance.pdf>

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Residential Life is working with health services and the state guidelines to determine the details regarding the testing and move in protocol. According to the state guidelines provided in the link above, “Incoming residential students must have documentation that they have had a RT-PCR COVID-19 test within 14 days of arrival on campus. This documentation must be submitted online before arrival on campus or in person on arrival. “ To clarify, students must be tested within fourteen days prior to arrival. Please have your students watch their southern email accounts as information should be provided.

For housing questions, please contact Residence Life directly.
Residence Life Contact- <https://inside.southernct.edu/residence-life>

For health questions, please contact Health Services directly.
<https://inside.southernct.edu/health-services>

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Fall 2020 Reopening

<https://inside.southernct.edu/reopening>

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“Based on significant guidance from public health experts and in accordance with Governor Lamont’s ReOpen CT Advisory Committee plan, it has been determined that Southern will reopen its physical campus to residential and commuter students for fall 2020, with protocols in place. Fall classes will begin on August 26, following a staggered move-in for residence hall students.”

This website (<https://inside.southernct.edu/reopening>) will continue to be updated and has all of the information regarding the university’s plan to reopen.

Bookstore Information

Help us maintain social distancing
in the SCSU Bookstore this Fall
by ordering your books ahead of time on
<https://southern-ct.bncollege.com>
and having them shipped directly to you.
Orders over \$50 ship free!

PRO TIP:

Order your books NOW to have the best chance
for used copies, and to allow time for shipping
before the first day of classes!

Because customer capacity limits will be much smaller
than usual, we will not be offering In-Store Pickup as an
option this semester.

