

Rizza, Salvatore A.

From: Rizza, Salvatore A.
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:00 PM
To: families@lists.southernct.edu
Cc: Simmons, Avery R.; Catubig, Kyra Jayne A.; Sutherland, Sanjay A.; Ekberg, Kathren A.; Louis-Fin, Johanna M.; Conroy, Britt E.
Subject: Parent/Family Update II August 22, 2023
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

Dear Parents and Families,

The Fall 2023 semester will begin to kick-off a week from today! If you are receiving this email for the first time, your email address was listed in your student's application to Southern. Welcome!

For those of you who have students returning to Southern as upper-division students, welcome back!

This email contains the following:

- Message from the Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement
- SCSU Resources
- Residence Life Move-In
- New Owl Welcome Information

Please feel free to connect with our office at (203) 392-5189 or email us at orientation@southernct.edu if you have any questions. We are here to help!

Sincerely,

Sal Rizza
Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement

Message from the Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement

Dear Families,

This has been a fantastic summer! We had the privilege of welcoming over 1700 new first-year students, transfer students as well as so many family members and supporters. Each orientation session was filled with energy, enthusiasm and excitement. However, we also continued to see some students struggle in adjusting to college life. We anticipate that we will continue to see students thrive, students stumble, and the truth is most students will do both. While new students seem to be most challenged with adjusting to a new environment, our rising sophomores, juniors and seniors will also experience successes and struggles. Over the course of the semester, we will continue to share information on how to best support students.

With the first day of classes beginning on August 29th, here are some recommendations to help students prepare:

- We CANNOT emphasize this enough—**please be sure that students are checking their emails daily**. From important dates to potential course changes, students receive emails that are vital to their success. While we will share important information with families regularly, students receive individualized communication directly from offices, professors and advisors directly quite often.

- **Students should review their course schedules.** It is important that students are reviewing their course schedules and are planning for how they will approach their semester including how they will navigate their classes, travel to campus, etc...
- This next piece of advice comes directly from a group of students we worked with this summer. **Students should adjust their sleep and daily schedules.** Interestingly, a group of students shared that the way they live their summer lives isn't conducive to college life and that they needed to "reset" before the semester began.
- **Develop family expectations in relation to college.** This can be inclusive of many facets of college life including home responsibilities, communication expectations, how you'll discuss academic progress and how you'll approach challenges that arise. Taking some time to have this conversation could be incredibly helpful prior to a new semester.
- For new first-year students, **ATTEND NEW OWL WELCOME!!!** This is required of all new first-year students. They have received several emails regarding New Owl Welcome and it was discussed in all summer orientation sessions. The information is below.

Please know that our office is here to support not only students, but all of you! If we can be of support, please reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Sal Rizza
 Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement

Resources and Information

Please also consider the following resources:

- [Parent and Family Website](#)- this site has information that can help guide parents and families in supporting their students.
- [Helpful Links](#)- this page contains several links to campus resources.
- Contact us! If you would like to talk to someone in our office, feel free to call us at 203 392 5189 (Monday-Friday, 8:30- 4:30) or email us at orientation@southernct.edu . We may not have all the answers but we will do our best to connect you with the areas that do.
- Residence Life- <https://inside.southernct.edu/residence-life>, with so many questions regarding residence life, this may be a great place to find information!

From <https://inside.southernct.edu/residence-life/communication-archive> under "Fall 2023 Move-In Information"

To be eligible to live on campus you must be:

- Registered full-time as a matriculated student.
- Health compliant with the university, including an updated meningitis vaccine.
- Financially compliant with the university with a zero-account balance or up to date on a payment plan.
- *As a reminder, University bills were due Saturday, July 15th, 2023.*

Move-in Dates: (See below for information regarding move-in time selection.)

Incoming Freshmen and Transfer Students: Saturday, August 26th, 2023

Continuing/Returning/Graduate Students: Monday, August 28th, 2023

Check-in Forms:

Check-in forms must be completed before you can move into your residence hall. Check-in forms include emergency contact information. You can access your check-in form through the "Applications" tab of your MyHousing.

To ensure a smooth move-in experience, please complete your check-in forms and select a move-in time before Thursday, August 24th.

It is strongly encouraged that students protect their assets while on campus. SCSU has partnered with [GradGuard](#) for renters' insurance. If interested, you may sign up for a plan through the Check-in Forms.

Move-in Time Selection:

If you are not approved for early arrival, you must select a move-in time through the assignments section of your MyHousing. Selection begins Thursday, August 17th, and ends on Thursday, August 24th. To be eligible to select a move-in time, you must be registered for classes, be health compliant with the university, and your billing account balance must be zero (or you must be on a payment plan).

You will receive an email with an "Approved" picture confirming your check-in time. Please print or copy this picture or email and bring it with you on move-in day.

Meal Plan Changes:

If you are an incoming freshman, your meal plan will remain the "unlimited meal plan" for the entire 2023-2024 academic year. All other residents are eligible to change their meal plans on their MyHousing until Saturday, September 9th.

If you have been reassigned to or selected an apartment-style building, please verify that you are on your preferred meal plan; we do not automatically change your meal plan. Please be aware that your housing assignment may affect your meal plan options.

To change your meal plan or view the available options, select the "Meal Plan" tab in your MyHousing, then select Fall 2023 and choose the meal plan you prefer.

Parking Decals (required for on-campus parking):

If you plan to bring a vehicle on campus for the fall, you must register for your parking decal online [here](#). Online registration is now available and closes on Thursday, August 24th.

Decals will be distributed on Saturday, August 26th (New Students ONLY) in the Farnham Programming Space from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Returning students can pick up their parking decals on Monday, August 28th at the University Police Department in Granoff Hall starting at 10:00 am.

Please be sure to bring your SCSU student ID, a current valid driver's license, and a current valid vehicle registration.

Tips on what to bring with you on move-in day.

[Click here](#) to check out our suggested list of items to bring and more information regarding living on campus!

We look forward to seeing you all on campus very soon! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Office of Residence Life at 203-392-5870 or reslife@southernct.edu.

Housing Assignments

You can view your housing assignment and roommate information online through your MyHousing which can be found by going to [myapps](#), selecting Banner Student, and then selecting MyHousing.

Early Move-In

Early move-in will be available for students with transportation conflicts (or other issues with their assigned move-in date) as early as August 21st; the fee is \$40/night. Please complete the early arrival application on your MyHousing Portal (available now). The application will remain available until August 24th at 4pm. **Requests will not be received or approved after the this time.**

Please reach out via email (reslife@southernct.edu) or phone (203-392-5870) if you have any questions or concerns.

Information Sent to NEW first-year students regarding New Owl Welcome-

Hi New Owls,

We are so excited to have you join our nest and we have a lot of fun things planned! New Owl Welcome is a way to welcome you to campus, get you excited about the journey you are starting, and provide you with the tools to start your time at SCSU off right! Below is an overview of N.O.W. A detailed schedule and more information will be provided early next week so be sure to continuously check your SCSU email for important information – see you all on campus soon!

If you have any questions, please contact us by replying to this email or calling our office at (203) 392-5189.

Go Owls!

Sal Rizza
Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement

All first-year students are expected to attend New Owl Welcome!



Hi Student,

New Owl Welcome is this Sunday, and we are so excited to have you join our nest. We have a lot of fun things planned! New Owl Welcome is a way to welcome you to campus, get you excited about the journey you are starting, and provide you with the tools to start your time at SCSU off right!

Below is important information regarding NOW as well as a schedule overview.

A detailed schedule will be located on https://linktr.ee/SCSU_Orientation.

Your Group is: 00N

Expectations

All first-year students (freshmen) are required to participate in New Owl Welcome!

Attendance Expectations For First-Year Students:

Sunday, August 27th from 9:00 am- 5:00 pm- all programs required.

Monday, August 28th from 9:45 am- 5:00 pm- all programs required.

Attendance is not mandatory for Transfer Students.

Students living on campus move in on Saturday, August 26th.

Arrival & What to Bring

Students should arrive by 9 am on Sunday, August 27th, and meet in the Buley Library Quad to meet their groups.

On Monday, August 28th, students should meet in the Buley Library Quad by 9:45am to meet their groups.

Please bring the following:

- Commuter Students should park in the Wintergreen Parking Garage
- Comfortable Clothes and Walking Shoes
- A backpack with a notebook, pen, or device to take notes
- Be sure you can access your course schedule
- Water bottle as we will not be providing bottled water

All meals are provided as specified in the schedule (breakfast, lunch, and dinner on 8/27 and 8/28)

Assistance

If you need any assistance during New Owl Welcome, please visit the New Owl Welcome Information Tent in front of Buley Library or call Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement at (203) 392-5189 or The Office of Student Involvement and Leadership Development at (203) 392-5782 between 8:30 am- 4:30 pm. After hours, please see a NOW staff member at our evening activities.

First Day of Classes

The first day of classes is Tuesday, August 29th.

If you have any questions, please contact us by replying to this email or calling our office at (203) 392-5189.

Go Owls!

Sincerely,

Sal Rizza, Director
Avery Simmons and Kyra Catubig, Graduate Interns