

# International Student Orientation Fall 2026

We are so glad you have chosen to attend UNI! Before starting your academic career, you are required to attend the following mandatory orientation sessions. These sessions will help you to understand important policies, meet other students and staff, set up bank accounts, confirm your class registration, and become familiar with the University of Northern Iowa.

*If you have any questions, contact the International Engagement office at [international@uni.edu](mailto:international@uni.edu) or by phone at 319-273-2182. You can also reach out to us via WhatsApp through the Fall 2026 Group Chat.*

## Student Arrival Pick-Up Window: August 14 - 16th, 2026

*\*The Office of International Engagement provides **free airport pickup** for incoming students arriving at either Cedar Rapids Airport (CID) or Waterloo Regional Airport (ALO) through this pickup window. **If your arrival time is outside of this window**, please reach out to us at [international@uni.edu](mailto:international@uni.edu) and we will do our best to accommodate and arrange transportation.*

Event Name	Start Time	End Time	Location	Event Details
<b>Monday, August 17th</b>				
<b>Check in at OIE!</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>MAU113</b>	At check-in, students will meet one another, the entire GPS team, get their welcome bag and schedule for all of orientation, as well as other pertinent information.  Students will also receive a nametag for the duration of orientation once they check in.
<b>Welcome from the Director</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>MAU 109P</b>	The director of OIE, Carolina Coronado Park will be welcoming students to campus and highlighting the services that we provide.
<b>Small Groups + Intros</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>Maucker Union Coffee House</b>	Get to know the people you'll be spending Orientation Week with! Join your small group for some fun icebreakers, conversations, and activities designed to help everyone learn each other's names, share a little about themselves, and start making connections. GPS will take this time to explain what is included in your welcome bag and will explain the schedule for the rest of orientation.

<b>Campus Tour + Photo Hunt!</b>	<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>12:30 PM</b>	<b>Around Campus</b>	<p>Explore UNI while completing a fun photo challenge with your group! As you visit important campus locations, you'll snap pictures, complete challenges, and learn your way around campus.</p> <p>It's a great way to get familiar with UNI, meet new friends, and have some fun along the way.</p>
<b>Student ID's</b>	<b>12:30 PM</b>	<b>12:45 PM</b>	<b>Redecker Center</b>	<p>GPS will help you get your UNI Student ID card, which you'll use across campus for things like dining, campus events, building access, and more. Be sure to bring your best photo-ready smile!</p>
<b>Lunch at Piazza</b>	<b>12:30 PM</b>	<b>1:15 PM</b>	<b>Piazza</b>	<p>Enjoy lunch at one of our campus dining centers. Meal cost is provided through the Orientation Program.</p>
<b>Small Groups</b>	<b>1:15 PM</b>	<b>1:45 PM</b>	<b>Maucker Union Coffee House</b>	<p>Reconnect with your Orientation Group and catch up on everything you've learned so far! This is a chance to ask questions, share your experiences, and spend time with the friends you've been getting to know throughout Orientation Week.</p>
<b>Health Insurance</b> <i>("How To" Health Center + Using Your Health Insurance)</i>	<b>1:45 PM</b>	<b>2:45 PM</b>	<b>MAU 109P</b>	<p>Healthcare in a new country can be confusing, but we're here to help! Learn how your health insurance works, when to visit the Health Center, how to make an appointment, and what resources are available to keep you healthy while you're at UNI.</p>
<b>Immigration</b> <i>(I-94's and MORE)</i>	<b>2:45 PM</b>	<b>3:45 PM</b>	<b>MAU 109P</b>	<p>Learn about your I-94, important immigration documents, travel tips, work authorization, and other essentials for maintaining your status as an international student. We'll break it all down and answer your questions along the way.</p>
<b>Banking with Greenstate</b>	<b>3:45 PM</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>MAU 109P</b>	<p>Meet with GreenState Credit Union to learn how to open a bank account, use a debit card, access online banking, and manage your money while you're a student.</p>
<b>Housewares with Threehouse</b>	<b>3:45 PM</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Threehouse</b>	<p>Stop by ThreeHouse to browse free household items and dorm essentials!</p> <p>From kitchen supplies and bedding to decorations and furniture, you never know what treasures you might find. It's a great opportunity to get settled in and make your space feel a little more like home.</p>
<b>Dinner at Piazza</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Piazza</b>	<p>Enjoy Dinner!</p>

<b>Soccer and Volleyball with GPS</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>8:30 PM</b>	<b>Bender Hall Field</b>	Hang out with your GPS group for some fun, low-key soccer and volleyball games. Whether you're super competitive or just want to play for fun, this is a great way to relax, meet people, and enjoy some time outside with new friends.
<b>Tuesday, August 18th</b>				
<b>Wilson College of Business, New International Student Welcome</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Wilson College of Business Building TBD</b>	Start your business school journey at UNI! Meet your professors, connect with other new students, and learn what to expect from your classes and programs in the Wilson College of Business.
<b>Small Group Meet Up!</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Maucker Union Rooftop</b>	Hang out with your Orientation Group again! Catch up, talk about your first days at UNI, and spend some relaxed time getting to know each other better.
<b>Career Services + Jobs on Campus</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>10:45 AM</b>	<b>MAU 109P</b>	Learn how to find on-campus jobs, make a strong resume, and start building experience for your future career. Career Services will show you where to look and how to get started.
<b>Social Security + Taxes</b>	<b>10:45 AM</b>	<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>MAU 109P</b>	Working in the U.S. can feel confusing at first, but we'll break it down! Learn how to apply for a Social Security Number ( <i>if you need one</i> ), what taxes mean for international students, and what steps you should take to stay on track while working on campus.
<b>E-Learning Overview</b>	<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>12:30 PM</b>	<b>MAU 109P</b>	Get to know the online tools you'll use in your classes at UNI! We'll walk you through platforms like your course management system, email, and other digital resources so you know where to find assignments, submit work, and stay on track throughout the semester.
<b>Lunch at Piazza</b>	<b>12:30 PM</b>	<b>1:15 PM</b>	<b>Piazza</b>	Enjoy Lunch!
<b>Small Group + Panther Welcome Sign Up</b>	<b>1:15 PM</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>	<b>TBD</b>	Hang out with your Orientation Group and get set for Panther Welcome! We'll do a quick check-in, answer questions, and help you sign up so you're ready for the big campus celebration.
<b>Academic Success</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>	<b>2:45 PM</b>	<b>Rod Library</b>	This session will help you figure out what to expect at UNI and how to stay on top of your work. You'll learn about study strategies, academic support, and where to go when you need a little extra help.

<b>Paying Your U-Bill</b>	<b>2:45 PM</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>	<b>MAU 109P</b>	Learn how to check your U-Bill, make payments, set up a payment plan, and use different payment options so you can stay on top of your university costs.
<b>Scholarships and Financial Aid Student Panel</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>MAU 109P</b>	Come hear from current UNI students as they share their experiences with scholarships and financial aid. Ask questions, get real advice, and pick up tips to help you navigate funding your education.
<b>Outdoor Activity!</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Maucker Union Lawn</b>	Join your group for some fun outdoor games and activities. It's a great way to take a break, enjoy the weather, and hang out.
<b>Dinner at Piazza</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Piazza</b>	Enjoy Dinner
<b>Karaoke and Game Night with GPS</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>8:30 PM</b>	<b>TBD</b>	Come hang out with your GPS group for karaoke, games, snacks, and lots of laughs. You can sing, play, or just chill—either way, it's a great way to end the day with new friends.

**Wednesday, August 19th**

<b>Undergraduate Student Check In</b>	<b>7:45am</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Redecker Center</b>	Reconnect with your Orientation Group before your Health Screening on Campus.
<b>Undergraduate Student Health Screening</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Student Health Center</b>	Undergraduate students will complete their required health screening during this session. Health staff will review immunization records, verify required documentation, and address any outstanding health requirements.
<b>Advisor Meeting, Undergrad Students</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>12:00 AM</b>	<b>2nd floor of Rod Library</b>	Meet with your academic advisor to discuss your class schedule, degree requirements, and academic goals. This meeting is an opportunity to ask questions about your courses, make any necessary schedule adjustments, and gain a better understanding of what to expect during your first semester at UNI.
<b>Graduate Student Check In</b>	<b>8:45am</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Redecker Center</b>	Reconnect with your Orientation Group before your Health Screening on Campus.
<b>Graduate Student Health Screening</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Student Health Center</b>	Graduate students are required to complete a health screening as part of their enrollment at UNI. During this session, students will meet with health staff to review required documentation, complete any necessary screenings, and ensure all health requirements have been met.

<b>Graduate Students Meet with Advisors</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>12:00 AM</b>	--	Graduate students are given this time to explore campus and possibly meet with their academic advisors. This is a great opportunity to ask questions about your program, research opportunities, academic expectations, and available campus resources.
<b>Lunch at Piazza</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>12:45 PM</b>	<b>Piazza</b>	Enjoy Lunch
<b>Finding Community at UNI</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>	<b>MAU 109P</b>	Building connections is an important part of your university experience. In this session, you'll learn about student organizations, campus events, volunteer opportunities, cultural groups, and other ways to get involved at UNI.
<b>Small Group Check In</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>	<b>2:30 PM</b>	<b>Maucker Union Rooftop</b>	Take a break and reconnect with your Orientation Group! This check-in is an opportunity to share experiences, ask questions, discuss what you've learned so far, and get support from your GPS leaders and fellow students.
<b>Security and Safety</b>	<b>2:30 PM</b>	<b>3:15 PM</b>	<b>MAU 109P</b>	Your safety is a top priority at UNI. During this session, you'll learn about campus safety resources, emergency procedures, personal safety tips, and the services provided by UNI Police and Public Safety.
<b>Cedar Falls Tourism</b> <i>(What to do in CF?)</i>	<b>3:15 PM</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>MAU 109P</b>	This session will introduce you to some of the most popular attractions, restaurants, parks, trails, shopping areas, entertainment venues, and community events in Cedar Falls and the surrounding Cedar Valley.
<b>Panther Welcome Kick Off</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>6:15PM</b>	<b>McLeod Center</b>	Welcome to Panther Nation! Let's kick off your UNI journey with high energy; hear from President Nook, be part of the incoming class photo, get your exclusive t-shirt, and enjoy a tailgate dinner!
<b>Panther Palooza</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>10:00PM</b>	<b>WRC</b>	Come dressed and ready to do all things WRC - from the climbing wall to the leisure pool or the racquetball courts and fitness center, you can do it all! Check out Intramurals and sports club teams with kickball and flag football. Crafts and other activities will be available too!

**As the week continues on, UNI offers other Programming through Panther Welcome!  
Please scan the QR code below to explore other activities and ways to engage before classes start on Monday!**

