

DEAN OF STUDENTS



Dear Student,

Congratulations on your admission to the University of Chicago. I am excited by your decision to join our community. While Orientation and the first day of classes may seem far away, they will be here before you know it. I would like to provide you with some of the information you will need as you begin to prepare for your life at UChicago.

One of the first events that you will have the opportunity to participate in is Pre-Orientation. The College offers a number of Pre-Orientation options for students to choose from that will aid in your transition into the University, allow you to explore the city of Chicago, and give you the chance to meet fellow members of your class. You can find all of the Pre-Orientation options at <http://orientation.uchicago.edu/preorientation>. Each program has a different timeline so please make sure that you read through each description carefully. If you have any questions about Pre-Orientation, please email the College Programming Office at college-programming@uchicago.edu.

Orientation begins with Move-In and Opening Day on Saturday, September 16, 2017. Residence Halls will open at 9:00 am. After settling into your room and meeting your room- and suitemates, you'll check in for Orientation and enjoy an opportunity to socialize with family members and classmates. Mandatory House Meetings for students will take place that evening, followed by dinner with your new classmates. Class Day festivities will take place on Sunday, September 17, 2017. These will include your first Campus Life Meeting and the College's official welcome—the Opening Convocation, Bagpipe Procession, and Class Photo. The College will host Family Orientation Sessions and the Family Reception for your families.

This is the first of many communications from the College that you will receive over the course of the next few months. The next communication will arrive on May 15. It will include a welcome from Director of Academic Advising Kathleen A. Forde and some helpful information to help you prepare for Autumn Pre-Registration. Following this, you will receive monthly Orientation communications from the College Programming Office; please expect the first of these to arrive in early June. All information included in these communications will also be available at <http://orientation.uchicago.edu>. This website will serve as your primary resource throughout the summer, as you prepare for your arrival and acclimation to campus.

You need to create your CNetID by May 31. Your CNetID (Chicago Network Identifier) is a username that you select and will use to access most online services at the University. Your campus email address contains your CNetID. Additionally, popular services such as wireless access, my.UChicago, and Chalk, all use your CNetID and password for access. It also allows you to receive important information from the Registrar, student services, and other University administration offices. You can choose any available CNetID, but since your CNetID cannot ever be changed, I strongly recommend choosing something you'll want in the future. Think of this as the email address you'll use to apply for a job someday. In order to create your CNetID, visit <http://cnetid.uchicago.edu>; you will need your birthdate and social security number or student ID number, which can be found on the upper right-hand side of this letter. If you do not have access to your ID number, please contact the College Programming Office. Please note that for security reasons, student ID numbers cannot be transmitted via email. Once you have created your CNetID, you will be prompted to provide an email forwarding address.

After your CNetID creation, I'd also like to introduce you to another important resource—the self-service home in the Academic Information System at <https://my.uchicago.edu>. Later this summer, my.UChicago will serve as the portal access to your Housing Assignment and Academic and Career Advising Assignments. You will also be able to view and update your contact information in the My Profile pagelet. Before then, please review your information in your UChicago account (<https://collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/account>) to confirm it is accurate. Should you need to make updates, please contact the Admissions Office at collegeadmissions@uchicago.edu.

Students seeking disability accommodations should be in touch with the Student Disability Services office as soon as possible to initiate the accommodation process. As the process to determine eligibility may take many weeks, I urge you to begin now as your accommodations may impact placement tests that you need to complete over the summer. Visit <http://disabilities.uchicago.edu> for more information or call 773.834.1414.

Orientation is an exciting time on campus, and in your future Orientation communications you will find information about preparing to move to Chicago, Orientation Week, placement tests, and other tasks that you are responsible for completing before your arrival. Placement tests will be offered online from May 15 to July 28, 2017. It is very important that you take the online placement tests in the designated time-frame so that test results can be processed prior to course registration. During Orientation, you will be assisted by the Orientation staff with everything from moving into Residence Halls, to learning more about the campus, the Hyde Park neighborhood, and the city. While there are several important tasks to accomplish during Orientation, our program allows plenty of time for you to meet other students, connect with student organizations, and explore your new community.

Throughout the summer, you should consider the College Programming Office your primary resource for any questions or concerns that you or your parents may have about communications, deadlines, the College in general, and of course, Orientation. Please feel free to call 773.702.8616 or email any time at college-programming@uchicago.edu.

Once again, congratulations! I hope you have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you in September.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John "Jay" Ellison
Dean of Students in the College

P.S. For more information, see <http://orientation.uchicago.edu/> (🌱 A 🗎)