

Summer 2024

**START ORIENTATION
AT OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY**



**Oregon State
University**

The goals of START are:

1. WE EMPOWER STUDENTS TO SUCCEED IN THEIR ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS AT OREGON STATE.
2. WE PREPARE FAMILIES TO SUPPORT THEIR STUDENTS IN THEIR FIRST YEAR AT OREGON STATE.
3. WE WORK TO FOSTER CONNECTIONS WITH NEW STUDENTS TO INITIATE THEIR SOCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL BELONGING AT OREGON STATE.
4. WE INTRODUCE THE CULTURE OF OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY TO INCOMING STUDENTS.

WE THINK OF START AS A THREE-LEGGED STOOL, BALANCING EQUALLY ON ACADEMIC ORIENTATION, SOCIAL ORIENTATION, AND THE CULTURE OF OSU ORIENTATION. SUPPORTING PARENTS AND FAMILIES THROUGH THEIR OWN TRANSITION HELPS US ACHIEVE ALL THREE OF THESE GOALS HOLISTICALLY.



Oregon State
University

START by the numbers

- 400 - Corvallis campus student capacity limit for each FY session
- 10 – Number of FY START sessions hosted in Corvallis this year
- 3 – Number of TR START sessions hosted in Corvallis this year
- 2(3) – Number of special population sessions hosted this year
 - Hawai'i START, Black & Indigenous START, and Bilingüe (which is counted in the FY START sessions above)

- \$45,000 – Average cost of each START session

When is START?

START Date	Advising Date	Population
Saturday June 15	Saturday June 15	First-year and transfer Hawai'i and Pacific Island students
Tuesday June 25	Wednesday June 26	First-year 1 (FY1)
Thursday June 27	Thursday June 27	Transfer 1 (TR1)
Sunday June 30	Monday July 1	FY2 and Bilingüe
Tuesday July 2	Wednesday July 3	FY3
Tuesday July 9	Wednesday July 10	FY4
Thursday July 11	Friday July 12	FY5
Sunday July 14	Monday July 15	Black & Indigenous START (FY and TR)
Tuesday July 16	Wednesday July 17	FY6

When is START?

START Date	Advising Date	Population
Thursday July 18	Thursday July 18	TR2
Friday July 19 – Tuesday July 23	Wednesday July 24 – Friday July 26	Virtual START 1, FY and TR
Tuesday July 30	Wednesday July 31	FY7
Thursday August 1	Friday August 2	FY8
Sunday August 4	Monday August 5	FY9
Tuesday August 6	Wednesday August 7	FY10
Thursday August 8	Thursday August 8	TR3
Friday September 6 – Tuesday September 10	Wednesday September 11 – Friday September 13	Virtual START 2, FY and TR
Friday September 20	Friday September 20	Make-up START, FY and TR

Student requirements before START

Students are eligible to sign up for START once they have:

- Confirmed their enrollment through deposit or exemption
- Plan to enroll in Oregon State in Summer 2024 or Fall 2024

Before attending START, students must:

- Take the ALEKS math assessment
- Activate their ONID and set up DUO
- Upload their student ID photo

When do new students sign up for START?

May 2nd at noon

- Early access populations can sign up for START, including:
- Presidential Scholars
- Military Veterans
- Summer admit students

June 3rd at noon

- We'll open all remaining spots for FY students who have just confirmed

May 6th at noon

- Special population sessions and TR sessions – all spots open
- For our 10 FY sessions:
 - We'll open half of all available spots in all FY sessions
 - If needed, we'll add spots to all FY sessions throughout May to ensure there are options as students confirm enrollment
 - We'll reserve a minimum of 1/3 of spots until June 3rd
 - This ensures that students waiting to decide until they receive aid packages are not disadvantaged in choosing their START session

Budget and Fees Context

- START budget is 10% E&G funds and 90% fees collected from participants each year
- Our costs have continued to climb post-pandemic from catering, dining, housing, staff wages, mailing, parking, and printing materials
- We've pursued every cost savings to stabilize our budget, including:
 - Venue changes to reduce costs of campus rentals
 - Bulk orders of supplies to reduce per-item costs
 - Coordinated staffing to reduce overtime costs
 - Coordinated Hawai'i advisor travel costs to pool savings

Benchmarking Fees

- Accessibility to attend START in person is one of our highest priorities as a land grant institution
- Our closest competitors all charge students to attend their orientations (U of O, WSU, Colorado State, and Portland State)
 - Some utilize a “new student fee” of \$300 to \$600, beyond their matriculation fee, to pay for this (Portland State and Colorado State)
 - Others require a matriculation fee and charge \$350-\$400 for orientation (WSU and U of O)
 - Some require students to stay overnight for a fee, as well as charging for orientation (WSU and U of O)
 - Some group their fees together, removing choice from families who cannot stay overnight or are not able to send a family member to orientation (WSU and U of O)

Results

- We have consulted with our campus partners and weighed the pros and cons of this year's fees
- After considering several models, we will move forward with implementing a new fee structure that will charge students a modest fee to attend START
- This will not close the gap we have between our costs and revenue this year, but it will begin to make our budget more sustainable for the long term.
- We will maintain choice for students and families, continuing with the “à la carte” model of fees instead of a “prix fixe” model.

Costs for START for students/families

- \$10 - Students attending in Corvallis
 - While our competitors and comparators continue to increase charges for students, we are committed to keeping this fee as low as possible.
- \$80 – First-Year Parents and families attending START in Corvallis
 - Covers costs for food, printed materials, and subsidizes costs for building reservations, staff wages, and student costs (siblings under age 10 years free of cost)
- \$65 – Transfer Parents and families attending START in Corvallis
 - Covers costs for food, printed materials, and subsidizes costs for building reservations, staff wages, and student costs (siblings under age 10 years free of cost)
- \$60 – Student overnight cost, if they choose to stay in housing
 - Covers housing, linens, dinner, evening social activities, and breakfast
- \$75 – Families overnight cost per person, if they stay in housing
 - Covers housing, linens, dinner, evening activities, and breakfast

Costs for START for students/families

- \$150 - Students attending in Hawai'i
 - While our competitors and comparators continue to increase charges for students, we are committed to keeping this fee as low as possible.
- \$75 –Parents and families attending START in Hawai'i
 - Covers costs for food, printed materials, and subsidizes costs for building reservations, staff wages, and student costs
(siblings under age 10 years free of cost)
- \$0 – Students attending virtual START
- \$0 – Parents and families attending virtual START

What is the format of START this year?

In Person FY START

- Students
 - Some sessions with their guests and some without
 - All day event from 8am-4pm
 - Invited to stay for dinner and stay in housing
 - Advising the following day
- Parents & Families
 - Some sessions with their student and some without
 - All day event from 8am-4pm
 - Invited to stay for dinner and stay in housing

In Person TR START

- Students
 - Most sessions with their guests attending together
 - All day event from 8am-4pm
 - Invited to join for dinner and social activities the evening before START
 - Advising during START day
- Parents & Families
 - Most sessions with their student attending together
 - All day event from 8am-4pm

What is the format of START this year?

Virtual START

Students

- Asynchronous – 5 days to complete Canvas content
- Synchronous – will have advising appointment in 3 days following
- Opt-in synchronous connections

Parents & Families

- Synchronous Q&A offered each session during 8 days of START
- Synchronous zoom panels with campus partners hosted throughout the summer
- Panel videos posted to be viewed asynchronously when convenient for families

Costs

- There is no cost to students or families for participating in virtual START.

Orientation is more than on campus visits!

Pre-START

- 5 preparatory emails from **Beaver Basecamp** covering topics like:
 - Diversity values at OSU
 - Basic Needs Center, DAS, Financial Aid introductions
 - Immunization requirements
 - What is a START Leader?
 - What to bring and where to go on your START day
- Checklists in Slate

Post-START

- 5 emails from **Beaver Hub** covering topics like:
 - Learning Beaver Hub
 - Fall transportation
 - Setting up your email
 - Finding a job
 - Code of conduct
 - Roommates and move-in info
 - SHS required programs
 - Textbooks
 - Getting involved on campus
 - OSUWelcome info
 - Transition messaging from ASC

Bilingüe and Black & Indigenous START

- Bilingüe is Sunday June 30
 - Partnership with CAMP and the Centro Cultural César Chávez, as well as additional interested parties
 - Some sessions presented simultaneously in English and Spanish via earpiece live translation
 - Some sessions presented in parallel tracks for families, one in English and one in Spanish
 - All materials presented in both languages
 - Began in 2008, making this the 16th year
- Black & Indigenous START is Sunday July 14
 - Partnership with the Dr. Lawrence Griggs Office of Black & Indigenous Student Success, Kaku-Ixt Mana Ina Haws, Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center, and Nia & munk-skukum Living Learning Communities
 - Programming for families and students, highlighting resources and community for Black and Indigenous students
 - Began in 2021 with a toe-dip into in-person events at the end of summer and fully in 2022 with the first Black & Indigenous START
 - This marks the first year it will be a stand alone event, allowing transfer students to participate and START staff to focus on one population during the START day

Off-Site Hawai'i START

- June 15 at Windward Community College in Kaneohe, HI
- 7 advisors and 5-6 staff are traveling to host this session
- Content will contain Housing and Dining, Dollars and Sense, Academic preparation, student resources, and more
- Students will be advised day-of during this START

How will advising and registration work?

In-Person START

- Colleges will know if students are planning to stay in person for advising day or have requested remote options. This is part of the START sign-up process.
- Colleges can choose to pre-schedule students and hand out appointments to students during their college session at START OR ask students to pre-schedule for their appointments on Advising Day using bookings links sent via email.
- If students request remote advising after their in person START day, colleges will each have a plan to get those students scheduled during the advising day.

How will advising and registration work?

Virtual START

- Virtual START students will all be advised in the three days following their five day asynchronous START.
- Each college has a module in Canvas that leads students to sign up for advising after they've completed all of the material.
- Each college will manage this process slightly differently and will maintain contact with their students to ensure completion.

Where to learn more

- Internal website
 - newstudents.oregonstate.edu/internal **START**
 - This site is meant for you! Please don't send it to students and families as it's not meant for them.
- START updates
 - Sign up here: <https://beav.es/SEp>
- Webchat on newstudents.oregonstate.edu
 - Staffed by student staff from 10am-4pm weekdays
 - Increased hours once START season begins
 - Best for quick questions or locating resources