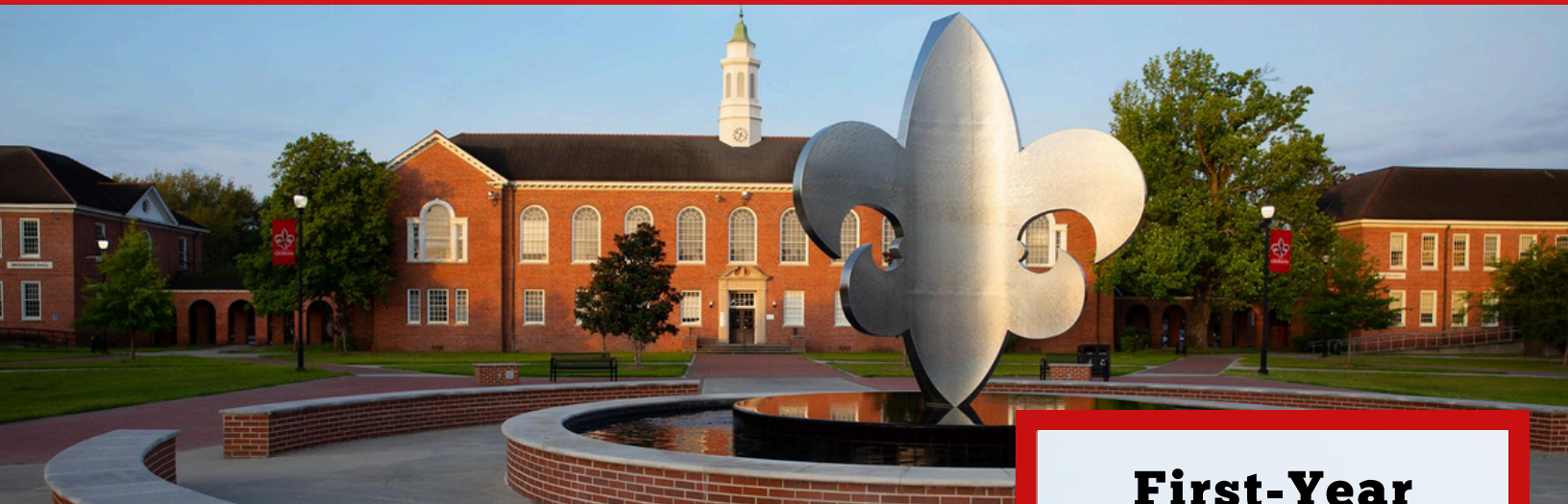


# COLLEGE 101

FOR UL LAFAYETTE PARENTS & FAMILY



## FIRST STOP: ORIENTATION!

School is out, summer is in, and orientation season is officially underway! Although not mandatory, we highly encourage all parents or guardians supporting first-time freshmen to attend [Parent & Family Orientation](#). At orientation, you'll learn all about the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, our academic programs, our many student services, and how you can best support your student as they transition to college life.

Online registration for Parent & Family Orientation is available through the student orientation registration system. When your student registers for orientation online, they will have the option to register up to two guests to attend Parent & Family Orientation. Not sure if you're registered? Have your student log back into the system to view or change your reservation.

Unable to attend Parent & Family Orientation in person? No worries! We also offer an [Online Parent & Family Orientation](#). This virtual orientation contains a variety of helpful resources for the parents and guardians of new students.

While Parent & Family Orientation is optional, **students are required to attend New Student Orientation** and we can't wait to welcome them to campus this summer! [Read more about New Student Orientation requirements](#) on our website.

## First-Year Essentials

Not sure who to contact with your questions? Send them to us:  
**parents@louisiana.edu**

### Office of Orientation

**337-482-1391**  
**orientation@louisiana.edu**  
Buchanan Hall, 3rd Floor  
111 Boucher St.

### SOUL Camp Dates

- **SOUL Camp A:**  
August 15-17, 2026
- **SOUL Camp B:**  
August 19-21, 2026


 The logo for SOUL Camp features the word "soul" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font with a fleur-de-lis symbol inside the letter 'o', followed by the word "camp" in a similar font. The text is set against a red rectangular background with a black, hand-drawn style border.

## Service, Outreach, Unity, & Leadership

The transition from high school to college can certainly be a challenge, but SOUL Camp is here to help! [SOUL Camp](#) is an optional, extended orientation program that emphasizes leadership development and Ragin' Cajuns spirit. Through a combination of social activities, a community service project, educational speakers, interaction with faculty, staff, and upperclass student mentors, team building, and much more, students leave camp prepared to be engaged members of our campus community. **Spots fill up quickly, so register soon because this is an opportunity that your student will not want to miss!**

Visit the [SOUL Camp website](#) to read about the benefits, cost, registration, and other important information. **Questions? Contact [soulcamp@louisiana.edu](mailto:soulcamp@louisiana.edu).**

## Transferring Credits to UL Lafayette

If your student has dual enrollment credit, AP credit, CLEP credit, or any type of credit that could potentially transfer to UL Lafayette, make sure they follow the proper procedure to get the credits transferred.

**Dual Enrollment Credit** - Official college transcripts must be sent to the UL Lafayette Office of Admissions. Have your student contact the college or university that awarded the credits and request that official documentation be sent to UL Lafayette.

**AP and CLEP Credit** - Must be provided by the organization itself, not the student or parent. Visit their website in order to request that the credits to be sent to UL Lafayette.

Find out if your student's [credits transfer](#).

## University Housing

Students should continue to monitor their University email throughout the summer for important updates regarding on-campus housing, including housing assignments and move-in information. The first round of housing assignments has already been released, so students who have not yet received an assignment should continue checking their email regularly as additional assignments will be sent out in future rounds.

If you have any questions about housing, please contact the [Office of University Housing](#) at 337-482-6471 or [oncampusliving@louisiana.edu](mailto:oncampusliving@louisiana.edu).

### FALL 2026 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

*(Subject to change)*

**August 23**

*New Student Convocation*

**August 20**

*Tuition & Fees Payment  
Deadline*

**August 24**

*Classes Begin*

**September 2**

*Last Day to Add/Drop Classes*

**September 7**

*Labor Day Holiday*

**October 8-9**

*Fall Holiday*

**October 26 - November 6**

*Advising Session for Spring*

**November 16**

*Last Day to Drop Class with "W"*

**November 26-27**

*Thanksgiving Holiday*

**December 2 - December 6**

*Dead Days*

**December 4**

*Last Day of Classes*

**December 7-11**

*Final Exams*

**December 11**

*Semester Ends*



## Living Learning Communities

First-year students have the unique opportunity to live in a residence hall alongside other students with shared academic or personal interests through a Living Learning Community (LLC). Students in an LLC not only live together but also take classes together, helping them build connections from the start of their college experience. Living Learning Communities are currently full. Students who have already secured a spot should continue monitoring their University email for updates regarding their housing assignment and LLC information. If you have questions about Living Learning Communities, please contact the Office of First-Year Experience at

[ofye@louisiana.edu](mailto:ofye@louisiana.edu).



### LLCs Offered

- Business Secrets*
- Healthcare Innovators*
- Lifetime Recreation*
- Engineering*
- Honors*
- Service & Leadership*
- Gateway to the Arts*
- KINectED*
- Travel, Language, & Culture*

## Money Matters

Paying for college can bring lots of questions, and UL Lafayette has several offices ready to help students and families navigate financial aid, billing, and payment options. As you prepare for the fall semester, be sure to review the Fall 2026 payment deadlines. Students must either pay their account balance in full or enroll in the University payment plan by the deadline to keep their class schedule and, if applicable, their on-campus housing reservation.

Payment Deadlines:

- **Students living on campus: Monday, August 3, by 4:00 p.m.**
- **Students not living on campus: Thursday, August 20, by 12:00 p.m.**

### Financial Aid Office

**About:** Assists with questions about TOPS and financial aid, including grants, loans, and work-study.

**Email:** [finaid@louisiana.edu](mailto:finaid@louisiana.edu)

**Phone:** 337-482-6506

**Website:** [louisiana.edu/financialaid](http://louisiana.edu/financialaid)

**Helpful Tip:** Virtual appointments can be scheduled on the [Financial Aid website!](http://louisiana.edu/financialaid)

### Student Cashier Center

**About:** Financial manager of student accounts; Collects tuition and fees and disperses refunds.

**Email:** [bursar@louisiana.edu](mailto:bursar@louisiana.edu)

**Phone:** 337-482-6385

**Website:** [louisiana.edu/studentcashier](http://louisiana.edu/studentcashier)

**Helpful Tip:** To access your student's statement of account, you must be registered as an [Authorized User](#).

### Scholarship Office

**About:** Awards and processes scholarships for UL Lafayette students.

**Email:** [scholars@louisiana.edu](mailto:scholars@louisiana.edu)

**Phone:** 337-482-6515

**Website:** [louisiana.edu/scholarship](http://louisiana.edu/scholarship)

**Helpful Tip:** [Additional scholarship opportunities](#) become available as your student progresses through their degree!

## Student Health Services

- Located on campus in the Saucier Wellness Center.
- Appointments are required, but same-day appointments are often available.
- Open during semester breaks and University administrative office hours.
- Provides care for minor illnesses, injuries, and stable chronic conditions, as well as some minor surgeries and procedures.
- **Contact information:** SHS@louisiana.edu or 337-482-1293



### Additional Services Provided:

- Physical exams
- Women's health
- Immunizations
- Allergy shots
- IV therapy
- [and more!](#)

## Immunizations

Before attending orientation, all students must submit a [Proof of Immunization Compliance Form](#) to the Office of Student Health Services. If you have any questions, speak to a nurse at 337-482-1293, email [immunizations@louisiana.edu](mailto:immunizations@louisiana.edu), or view the [Frequently Asked Questions for Immunization Compliance webpage](#).

## Cajun Card

The [Cajun Card](#) will be the most important item in your student's wallet during their time at UL Lafayette! First and foremost, it serves as their student ID. But the Cajun Card also gives your student admission to campus events, is their library card, meal card, building, lab, and parking pass, and gets your student discounts at a variety of stores and restaurants on and around campus.



Additionally, your student can load it up with [Cajun Cash](#) and use it like a debit card on campus and at a select list of off-campus favorite shops. Visit the [Cajun Card website](#) for more information.

**Students will receive their Cajun Card when they check out of New Student Orientation.**



## University Bookstore

Visit the [Ragin' Cajuns Store](#) for all of your student's textbook needs! Ragin' Cajuns apparel, gifts, and other merchandise are also available for purchase.

The Ragin' Cajuns Store is located inside of the Student Union and offers any textbook required for a class at UL Lafayette. The bookstore allows students to rent or buy used textbooks to help reduce costs.