

# HI-TIDE

*A Parent and Supporter's Guide to SUNY Oswego*



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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR ASSOCIATE COORDINATOR

Hello and welcome to the Oswego family! My name is Jennifer Joyce, and I serve as the Associate Coordinator for New Student Orientation. My team is responsible for supporting your student's successful transition to the social and academic culture at our College. This includes deploying the online orientation experience, connecting students to our Laker Leaders (returning student mentors) through our optional, in-person summer orientation programs, hosting our semester welcome programs for new students, and coordinating collaborative support efforts throughout their first semester on campus. My team and I are so excited to meet you and your students and share why we “bleed green and gold!” If you have questions or need to be connected to a campus service, please contact us at **(315) 312-5522** or **orient@oswego.edu**.

## WELCOME

### **OLIVIA HARRINGTON, CLASS OF 2021**

Congratulations on your student's decision to attend SUNY Oswego. I would like to welcome you to our Laker family, and your students to their new home. My name is Olivia (Liv) Harrington, I am a recent graduate and now work professionally with the Office of New Student Orientation. I majored in Human Development with a minor in Health Science. In these newsletters leading up to the start of the Fall 2021 semester, our team and I will offer information to help you support your student through their transition to our institution through the lens of our current students. We are excited to connect you with the appropriate resources.

Before your student matriculates, they must complete their “next steps” outlined in the New Student Menu. The New Student Menu is a centralized location for your student to complete all of the required tasks prior to the start of their first semester. This includes activating their Oswego email account, submitting all required health documents, completing their Academic Information Sheet to influence their first semester schedule, uploading a photo for their Student ID, and agreeing to complete



the orientation experience. Our New Student Orientation staff and team are here to help your student navigate these requirements! More information on the New Student Menu can be found at [oswego.edu/orientation/your-next-steps](https://oswego.edu/orientation/your-next-steps).

Following the completion of “Step 3: Agreement to your Orientation Experience” in the New Student Menu, they will gain access to the Online Orientation program in Blackboard, our Learning Management System, and have the option to register for an optional, in-person summer orientation program. Online Orientation is a virtual orientation experience filled with content that prepares students for the transition to college, highlights academic resources, and much more. Please note, access to the Online Orientation in Blackboard begins in late June.

If your student needs help navigating their “next steps,” please reach out to the Office of New Student Orientation. We are happy to help!

## ADVISEMENT + FIRST SEMESTER COURSE SCHEDULE

Whether your student is attending college for the first time or transferring from another institution, we are here to help. All students go through a transition phase and we want to assure you that we will be here to help them at each step; with academics, as well as social life.

All first-year and transfer students are assigned an advisor at the time of deposit. Students will begin working with their advisor after they have completed Steps 1, 2, and 3 of the New Student Menu. Advisors utilize the New Student Information Sheet, transcripts, math placement exam (if necessary) and Degree Works to build an appropriate schedule for the students. After a schedule is constructed students will receive an email from their advisor and any necessary changes can be made. Changes can be made at any time by simply contacting the Advisor and working directly with them. Schedules will be made

prior to a student’s Orientation program, with the exception of late registration to a program, and students will be able to meet their advisors in person at the program.

First-year students will remain with their assigned advisor during the first year at Oswego. They will meet regularly to discuss a wide range of topics including; course registration, major choices, student success strategies, and much more. Transfer students will be reassigned to a Faculty Advisor prior to the first day of classes. This ensures that they get connected to their major department as soon as possible to discuss upper division academics and networking.

You can view more about our Advisement Process on the Advisement Center’s website: [oswego.edu/advisement/advising-oswego](https://oswego.edu/advisement/advising-oswego).

## ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Oswego has an abundance of resources to support students academically. First, their academic advisor is there to ensure all the right courses are being taken in order to move forward in degree completion. They are also a great first step resource for academic advice. New students are welcome to contact the Advisement Center or visit their office for drop-in advisement hours.

Once on campus, students can seek out academic support in a variety of places on campus—each professor holds scheduled office hours where students can check in on course requirements, discuss their progress or status, or just chat about the course, careers or life in general! Other free resources available to students include the Writing and the Tutoring Center through the Office of Learning Services. These services can be used on campus on the first floor of the library, and even remotely. These can be one on one appointments for help in a specific class or general guidance/proofreading before writing assignments are turned in.



Students who need classroom accommodations are encouraged to contact Accessibility Resources. Accessibility Resources is dedicated to working with the staff and faculty on campus to meet the needs of students with disabilities. The office provides support services, adaptive technologies, and other assistance required to help all students succeed. The team in Accessibility Resources can pair students with accommodations that will champion their academic success.

To learn more about the types of accommodations or to register with Accessibility Resources email [access@oswego.edu](mailto:access@oswego.edu) or visit our website at [oswego.edu/accessibility-resources/accessibility-resources-1](http://oswego.edu/accessibility-resources/accessibility-resources-1).

## STUDENT SUCCESS

As a primarily residential college where students live, learn and play, Oswego is committed to helping students find success inside and outside of the classroom. Students are encouraged to get involved, to be engaged, and to make the most of their college experience. Here are just some of the ways we encourage their success:

- **Clubs/organization and activities:** We encourage students to get involved in things of interest, not only to allow them to meet new people, but also so they can develop skills and competencies that will help in their future careers. With over 200 clubs and organizations (including club sports), as well as 24 NCAA athletic teams, and an abundance of arts/culture programs and activities, there is something for everyone to engage in.
- **Service:** Students are encouraged to participate in community service—whether it is one time events like cleaning up a local playground, or in long-term programs like volunteering in an after-school program or participating in an ‘alternative’ spring break... the goal is that they will learn more about themselves and others, and will commit to a lifetime of giving back or contributing to the greater good.
- **Research:** Students can also do research with faculty, either contributing on a larger project or developing their own research topic and presenting their results locally or nationally.
- **Internships/career development:** Students can explore future career options by doing informational interviews with professionals, by ‘shadowing’ professionals, by doing short-term or long-term internships, and by meeting with Career Coaches in Career Services.
- **Student employment:** Students can earn money and develop skills by working on campus—areas that hire students include the library, the residence halls, offices, and dining halls/catering operations.

SUNY Oswego has so many resources to make sure your student is successful in every way possible. Keep a lookout for future newsletters this Summer with more information, tips, and services.



### CONTACT LIST

Office of New Student Orientation  
(315) 312-5522  
[orient@oswego.edu](mailto:orient@oswego.edu)

Accessibility Resources  
(315) 312-3358  
[access@oswego.edu](mailto:access@oswego.edu)

Advisement Center  
n/a  
[advisement@oswego.edu](mailto:advisement@oswego.edu)

**Please note:** SUNY Oswego’s official form of communication is college email. Please encourage your student to check their email daily for important messages from their academic advisor, campus offices, and more.