Graduate and Professional School Orientation Programs

Table of Contents
Introduction ............................................................................................................................................. 2
Center for Allied Health Programs ........................................................................................................ 3
College of Design –Design Program ....................................................................................................... 3
College of Design –Landscape Architecture Program .......................................................................... 4
College of Education and Human Development –Child Development .............................................. 4
College of Education and Human Development –Curriculum and Instruction .................................. 5
College of Education and Human Development –Educational Psychology ........................................ 5
College of Education and Human Development –Family Social Science .......................................... 6
College of Education and Human Development –Kinesiology ............................................................. 6
College of Education and Human Development –Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development... 6
College of Education and Human Development –Postsecondary Teaching and Learning .................. 7
College of Education and Human Development –Social Work .............................................................. 7
College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences ............................................................. 8
College of Liberal Arts ........................................................................................................................... 8
College of Pharmacy ............................................................................................................................. 9
College of Science and Engineering ..................................................................................................... 9
College of Veterinary Medicine ............................................................................................................ 10
Humphrey School of Public Affairs .................................................................................................... 10
Law School ........................................................................................................................................... 11
Medical School ..................................................................................................................................... 11
School of Dentistry ................................................................................................................................. 11
School of Nursing .................................................................................................................................. 12
School of Public Health ......................................................................................................................... 12
Introduction

Beginning in fall 2011, the University of Minnesota Graduate School made the decision to no longer offer a campus-wide orientation program for incoming graduate and professional students. This decision was made when the Provost's Office strategically aligned graduate and undergraduate resources to ensure that the fees being paid by students were used for the appropriate programs. Currently, each graduate and professional program is responsible for holding individual orientation programs for new students as they see fit. Collected in fall 2012, the information provided is a summary of the orientation programs offered by the University's graduate and professional schools on the Twin Cities campus.
Center for Allied Health Programs

Orientation Description: Topics include an overview of CAHP and University services, CAHP resources, program requirements, privacy and data security information, and academic integrity. Orientation is conducted solely online.

Primary Contact Name: Sarah Corrigan, Student Services Associate

Contact email: huhta001@umn.edu

Contact Phone: (612) 625-8936

Orientation Dates: August

College of Design–Design Program

Orientation Description: Orientation includes interaction with faculty members, staff, administrators, and peers; the first meeting of the Design Graduate Student Association; roundtable discussions regarding graduate assistantships, advising, and curriculum; and an overview of general graduate student resources.

Primary Contact Name: Charleen Klarquist, Student Support Services Assistant

Contact email: cklarqui@umn.edu

Contact Phone: (612) 626-1219

Orientation Dates: end of August
College of Design–Landscape Architecture Program

Orientation Description: Orientation includes an overview of the academic program and curriculum; a tour of the facilities including computer labs, the wood shop, design studios, library, etc.; an introduction of all faculty; and discussions pertaining to teaching assistantship and research assistantship opportunities.

Primary Contact Name: Joseph Favour, Associate Professor

Contact email: favou001@umn.edu

Contact Phone: (612) 625-6860

Orientation Dates: end of August

College of Education and Human Development–Child Development

Orientation Description: The full-day orientation program includes information about program requirements, finances, and health insurance. Students also meet with program faculty and the Director of Graduate Studies.

Primary Contact Name: Danielle Bordeleau, Institute of Child Development Coordinator

Contact email: borde021@umn.edu

Contact Phone: (612) 625-9778

Orientation Dates: one week before fall semester begins
**College of Education and Human Development–Curriculum and Instruction**

**Orientation Description:** Topics include an overview of the teacher education philosophies; student services; information on costs, scholarships, and financial aid; an introduction to career services; a meeting with representatives from Education Minnesota; breakout sessions for each teacher program area to provide students with an opportunity to meet their cohort and faculty; and the first class for the Great Lessons series.

**Primary Contact Name:** Shuji Asai, Senior Academic Advisor

**Contact email:** asai0003@umn.edu

**Contact Phone:** (612) 626-0997

**Orientation Dates:** mid-May

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**College of Education and Human Development–Educational Psychology**

**Orientation Description:** General orientation includes information on departmental requirements, an introduction to the student handbook, tours, library sessions, and information about COGS. Five degree program tracks conduct individual sessions including degree specific information and advisor appointments.

**Primary Contact Name:** Lori Boucher, Office Supervisor

**Contact email:** bouch004@umn.edu

**Contact Phone:** (612) 624-4540

**Orientation Dates:** Thursday before the start of fall semester
College of Education and Human Development–Family Social Science

**Orientation Description:** Orientation includes meeting with the department head, Director of Graduate Studies, faculty, and advisors. Sessions include information on program requirements, administrative logistics, libraries, and technical support.

**Primary Contact Name:** Mary Beard, Student Personnel Coordinator

**Contact email:** mgualdon@umn.edu

**Contact Phone:** (612) 625-3116

**Orientation Dates:** last Monday of August

College of Education and Human Development–Kinesiology

**Orientation Description:** In one afternoon session, the face-to-face orientation includes information about program processes and procedures and an overview of University policies.

**Primary Contact Name:** Marta Fahrenz, Graduate Studies Coordinator

**Contact email:** mfahrenz@umn.edu

**Contact Phone:** (612) 625-4380

**Orientation Date:** one week before fall semester begins

College of Education and Human Development–Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development

**Orientation Description:** Orientation includes an initial departmental welcome and break-out sessions covering topics such as financial aid, information for working professionals, library orientations, and resources for student parents.

**Primary Contact Name:** Brianne Keeney, Coordinator

**Contact email:** keen0113@umn.edu

**Contact Phone:** (612) 626-9145

**Orientation Dates:** Thursday before the start of fall semester
College of Education and Human Development–Postsecondary Teaching and Learning

**Orientation Description:** Orientation is an opportunity for new students to meet faculty and other students. Topics include information about the program and the University and an explanation of the departmental student handbook. Time is provided for individual meetings between new students and advisers, informal social time, and a short presentation from GAPSA.

**Primary Contact Name:** Jeanne Higbee, Professor and Director of Graduate Studies

**Contact email:** higbe002@umn.edu

**Contact Phone:** (612) 625-8015

**Orientation Dates:** last week in August

College of Education and Human Development–Social Work

**Orientation Description:** The August orientation is preceded by a May session covering program logistics such as financial aid, registration, program planning, an introduction to OneStop, and a library orientation. The August orientation includes an overview of student schedules and classes, meetings with advisors, a diversity component, and an introduction to program faculty.

**Primary Contact Name:** Karen Borchardt, Graduate Program Assistant

**Contact email:** kborchar@umn.edu

**Contact Phone:** (612) 624-4905

**Orientation Dates:** last week in August
College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences

Orientation Description: Orientation is structured as a general welcome. CFANS has twelve graduate programs, many of which do supplemental orientations. The general orientation provides information on student services, student resources, etc.

Primary Contact Name: Lisa Wiley, Graduate Programs Coordinator

Contact email: lwiley@umn.edu

Contact Phone: (612) 624-2748

Orientation Dates: end of August

College of Liberal Arts

Orientation Description: The Office of the Dean provides links to the centrally organized resources for CLA programs, but each CLA graduate program holds its own orientation. There are 34 separate CLA graduate programs.

Primary Contact Name: Wendy Friedmeyer, Assistant to the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs

Contact email: fried053@umn.edu

Contact Phone: (612) 624-9815

Orientation Dates: Vary by program
College of Pharmacy

Orientation Description: The first day of orientation consists of an in person retreat in Sandstone, MN. The goal of this day is for students on both campuses to meet one another, better understand and accept the responsibilities of a pharmacy professional student, and help foster team-work skills through various activities and small group discussions. The second day consists of informational sessions presented at each campus, followed by the White Coat Ceremonies. Topics covered include student services and resources, the honor code and council, introductions from faculty members, professionalism in social media, ITV classroom delivery, e-textbooks, inter-professional programs, student health insurance, and financial aid.

Primary Contact Name: Katie Vukelich, Events and Student Personnel Coordinator

Contact email: vukelich@d.umn.edu

Contact Phone: (218) 726-6038

Orientation Dates: end of August

College of Science and Engineering

Orientation Description: CSE does not conduct college-wide orientations; each program holds individual orientations. These orientations introduce students to the department and each other, review program expectations, and provide information regarding resources. Some orientations include safety or teaching assistant training; some orientations ask COGS or a library staff member to attend.

Primary Contact Name: Jill Johnson, Executive Assistant to the Dean

Contact email: jill@umn.edu

Contact Phone: (612) 624-5101

Orientation Dates: last week in August
College of Veterinary Medicine

**Orientation Description:** Orientation is called Gopher Orientation and Leadership Experience (GOALE) and runs the entire first year of the D.V.M. program. Orientation begins with a three-day kick off session, followed by eight to ten sessions throughout the first year. The first day on campus covers typical new student information such as health insurance, the honor code, workplace confidentiality, etc. The goal of this session is to introduce the professional skills that are essential components for success in the curriculum and the profession, and to allow students to begin building connections with their classmates.

**Primary Contact Name:** Dr. Laura Molgaard, Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs

**Contact email:** molga001@umn.edu

**Contact Phone:** (612) 625-1719

**Orientation Dates:** end of August

Humphrey School of Public Affairs

**Orientation Description:** The goal of orientation is to introduce students to the Humphrey community through interaction with faculty members, staff, administrators, peers, current students, and alumni. Only the first day of orientation is required. Additional days include other School and University orientations and tours, career services, and information sessions.

**Primary Contact Name:** Alicia George, Student Services Officer

**Contact email:** albe0138@umn.edu

**Contact Phone:** (612)624-2909

**Orientation Dates:** two weeks before fall semester begins
Law School

Orientation Description: Orientation includes information on the structure of the program, building access, professionalism, diversity, research and writing, technology, a meeting with the first year advisor, and an introduction to student organizations.

Primary Contact Name: Noelle Noonan, Senior Executive Assistant

Contact email: noona020@umn.edu

Contact Phone: (612) 625-2456

Orientation Dates: one week before fall semester begins

Medical School

Orientation Description: The four day orientation includes course simulations; an introduction to policies, procedures, and processes; information on how to access program information; and peer learning time. Orientation acts as a general transition from undergraduate to professional school.

Primary Contact Name: Jill Eck, Director of Student Support

Contact email: jeeck@umn.edu

Contact Phone: (612) 625-5180

Orientation Dates: first week in August

School of Dentistry

Orientation Description: Orientation provides an opportunity to meet faculty, staff, and students in the School of Dentistry and to begin building a community. Throughout orientation, resources and key contacts to assist with the transition to professional school are also identified.

Primary Contact Name: Nicki Black, Student Support Services Associate

Contact email: cook0118@umn.edu

Contact Phone: (612) 626-5533

Orientation Dates: beginning of August
School of Nursing

Orientation Description: Orientation introduces nursing school student services, University-wide resources, and provides an introduction to academic programs.

Primary Contact Name: Wachen Anderson, Director of Student and Career Advancement Services

Contact email: ande4173@umn.edu

Contact Phone: (612) 626-4651

Orientation Dates: third week in August, first and second week of classes

School of Public Health

Orientation Description: Orientation sessions include career services, financial aid, general information presentations, a program specific orientation, networking time among students, and an optional tour.

Primary Contact Name: Sherlonda Clarke, Coordinator for Diversity and Experiential Learning Programs

Contact email: sdclarke@umn.edu

Contact Phone: (612) 624-9970

Orientation Dates: end of August