Tufts University Pre-Orientation Frequently Asked Questions

Please review all frequently asked questions below regarding Pre-Orientation Programs at Tufts University. Should you still have questions after reviewing this document please see the Pre-Orientation Office contact information at the end of this FAQ list. We would be happy to answer any further questions you may have.

1. What are the Pre-Orientation Programs at Tufts University?
Tufts University offers five optional Pre-Orientation programs. Each of these programs takes place prior to the Undergraduate Orientation program which is required for all incoming students. The five Pre-Orientation Programs are CAFÉ (Conversation, Action, Faith & Education), FIT (Fitness and Individual Development at Tufts), FOCUS (Freshmen Orientation CommUnity Service), GO (Global Orientation) and TWO (Tufts Wilderness Orientation). More information on each program can be found at http://studentservices.tufts.edu/orientation/.

2. When can I register for a Pre-Orientation Program?
Registration will be open sometime the first week of May, 2015. Students will receive an email introducing them to the First Year website. From this site you will be able to register for a Pre-Orientation program. The registration deadline is June 1, 2015.

3. I need to make travel arrangements, when will I find out if I have been accepted to a Pre-Orientation Program?
Decisions regarding your acceptance to a Pre-Orientation Program will be sent out through e-mail on June 15, 2015. Unfortunately we are unable to guarantee acceptance into a specific program however we can tell you that in the past students who wanted to participate in Pre-Orientation had the option of one of the four programs.

4. I am only interested in participating in one of the programs. What happens if I do not get in?
Each program has a maximum number of participants. Unfortunately due to the specifics of each program we are unable to significantly increase the maximum participant numbers. If you are only interested in one program and you do not get in, you will be placed on a waiting list. Should a spot open in that program we will contact you. Should you not get into your first choice program and you indicated on your application a second or even third choice then you may be assigned to one of those programs.

5. How is selection determined?
Registration deadline is June 1, 2015. Selection is done by a random selection process.

6. Can I be assigned to a program and be on a waiting list for another program?
No, once decisions go out you have three choices: To remain in the program you have been assigned, to be on a waiting list for a program or to reject your program assignment and not choose to remain on a waiting list.

7. Can I be on a waiting list for a specific program, and then eventually if I do not get off the waiting list, then decide to go into another program?
Yes, you can do this as long as there is still space in the program you want to move in to.

8. How do I confirm my acceptance/pay for spot?
Once you are accepted to a program, you must pay the program fee by July 6, 2015 in order to confirm your spot. If you do not pay by July 6, 2015, you will be removed from that program’s list and your spot will go to someone on the waiting list. Payment is on-line through a credit card. Should you not be able to pay with a credit card please contact the Pre-Orientation Office so that we may discuss other payment options with you.
9. Is there financial assistance available to help with the program costs?
Yes, should you receive financial aid from the University; the cost of your Pre-Orientation program will be based on the percentage of aid you receive. This award in no way affects your overall University financial aid package. When you receive your acceptance to a program you will receive information on how much you owe and a link to pay on-line. If you would like to know your specific cost ahead of time please contact the Pre-Orientation Office at preorientation@tufts.edu.

10. What happens if I change my mind?
Prior to July 6, 2015, if you change your mind and decide not to participate in the program you have been accepted, please send us an e-mail at preorientation@tufts.edu and let us know you are choosing not to participate. If we do not hear from you and you do not pay the fee as of July 6, 2015 we will automatically remove you from the program’s list. If you change your mind and are unable to participate after you have already paid the fee please contact us through e-mail at preorientation@tufts.edu or call the Pre-Orientation Office at 617-627-3212. There are NO REFUNDS available after August 1, 2015.

11. Will I get more information on the specific program I get accepted to?
Yes, once you have been accepted to and have paid for your spot, you will receive a lot of information from your program’s leaders. You can also contact the individual programs with specific questions. Please refer to the Orientation website for further information on Pre-Orientation and the links to the websites of the individual programs. http://studentservices.tufts.edu/orientation/

12. Is there a waiver and/or health form I need to complete?
Yes, as part of your acceptance you will need to electronically sign off on a standard program waiver and complete a standard pre-orientation health and information questionnaire. NOTE: This pre-orientation health questionnaire DOES NOT take place of the health form required by the University for all first year students. You must make sure you are cleared by Health Services to participate in Pre-Orientation. You will find the information on what you need to complete with all your other entering forms on Tufts Student Connection.

13. Do I need Health Insurance to Participate in Pre-Orientation?
Yes all students must be covered by insurance to participate in a Pre-Orientation program. Should you be enrolling in the Tufts student insurance you will be covered at the start of your Pre-Orientation program.

14. When do I arrive for Pre-Orientation? Do I move into my first year residence hall room?
FOCUS, Wilderness and CAFE arrive on Thursday August 27, 2015. FIT and GO arrive on Saturday August 29, 2015. All programs will send out more detailed information regarding arrival day and where to go. All pre-orientation students who are living on campus will get their first year room keys and be able to move belongings into their rooms. CAFÉ, FIT and GO programs take place on campus and participants will be staying in their first year residence hall rooms. FOCUS and Wilderness take place at off-campus locations. Participants in these programs will stay in their first year residence hall rooms on Thursday August 27, 2015 and then depart for their off-campus locations on Friday August 28, 2015. FOCUS and Wilderness participants will return to campus at the end of their programs on Tuesday September 1, 2015.

15. Can I arrive a day early and do you have a place for me to stay that evening?
No, should you arrive early you will have to make your own housing arrangements until the official move in date for pre-orientation.

16. I am a commuter student, can I participate in Pre-Orientation?
Yes, just please contact us directly once you have been assigned to a program and we will make specific arrangements for your housing during the Pre-Orientation program.
17. I am an incoming transfer student, can I participate in Pre-Orientation?
Yes, we welcome you to apply to any of the five programs.

18. What is the level of adult supervision during Pre-Orientation?
While each program as full-time University administrator supervision, all programs are mostly coordinated, managed and supervised by current student leaders who are sophomores, juniors or seniors. Administrator supervision will not be present at all programs and events. However, each program has detailed emergency procedures in place and works directly with the University Emergency Management Office when planning programs.

19. How can I be contacted by parents or family members during my Pre-Orientation program?
For any major emergency parents and family members should contact the Tufts University Police Department at 617-627-3030. TUPD will be able to contact the appropriate administrator to find you in your program. For non-emergency situations parents and family members should contact the Office for Campus Life at 617-627-3212.

20. When is Pre-Orientation over?
All programs end sometime during the evening hours of Tuesday September 1, 2015 and all students will be on campus in their residence hall rooms (commuters depart for home).

21. What happens after Pre-Orientation?
Wednesday September 2, 2015 is the official move-in day and start of general Undergraduate Orientation for all first-year students. Undergraduate Orientation is required for all incoming students and goes from September 2, 2015 – September 7, 2015. More information on Undergraduate Orientation can be found on the Orientation web site, http://studentservices.tufts.edu/orientation/. Questions can be directed to the Undergraduate Orientation Office at orientation@ase.tufts.edu or 617-627-4678.

22. If my parents/family bring my belongings when I arrive for Pre-Orientation do they have to come back for September 2nd?
This is up to you and your family. During the day on September 2, 2015 there are some parent/family programs and the annual Matriculation Ceremony; however parents and family members are not required to be there. Some parents/families come back for this day and others do not. Also, some students arrive for Pre-Orientation on their own with just the belongings they need for Pre-Orientation and then their parents/families bring their other items to move in on Wednesday September 2, 2015. Once again this is up to you and your family.

23. Are there any required programs for parents at the start of my Pre-Orientation program?
No, should you parents/family members come with you when you arrive for Pre-Orientation we ask that once you have moved into your room that they begin their departure as your actual program will start soon after arrival.

24. How many students participate in a Pre-Orientation program?
Usually, approximately about half the incoming class participates in one of the five Pre-Orientation programs.

25. When is the first day of class?
General Undergraduate Orientation is over on Monday September 7, 2015 and classes begin on Tuesday September 8, 2015.
**Important Contact Information:**
Website: [http://studentservices.tufts.edu/orientation/](http://studentservices.tufts.edu/orientation/)

**Pre-Orientation Office:**
Call us at 617-627-3212, e-mail us at preorientation@tufts.edu

**General Undergraduate Orientation Office:**
Call us at 617-627-4678, e-mail us at orientation@ase.tufts.edu