Dear Families of the Class of 2026,

Welcome to the University of Notre Dame! We see a Catholic academic community of higher learning, animated from its origins by the Congregation of Holy Cross and which is enriched by the presence and voices of diverse scholars and students. As leaders of Welcome Weekend, it is our privilege to welcome you and your family on behalf of the entire University community. We are thrilled that you have chosen Notre Dame, and look forward to the many ways your gifts will enrich our campus.

What is Welcome Weekend?
As your gateway into life at Notre Dame, Welcome Weekend seeks to provide an opportunity to engage in academic, residential, and co-curricular activities. It is a time that demonstrates the University’s commitment to excellence in teaching and learning, and to preparing students for a lifetime of meaningful engagement.

Welcome Weekend is a time for students, families, and the University community to gather together for a number of activities that help students make the transition to college. Through Welcome Weekend, we hope to introduce you and your students to the Notre Dame community and culture, to help you prepare for college life, and to engage you and your family in the Notre Dame community.

What is Welcome to Do?
Welcome to Do Lists are key resources to prepare students, families, and the University community for the transition to college. They are designed to help students, families, and the University community prepare for the transition to college and to help students make the most of their time at Notre Dame. They are used to track the progress of students and families in preparing for Welcome Weekend and to help students and families stay on track for the start of classes.

Supporting Your Student’s Success in College
During the time of transition to college, we will communicate with students and their families regularly to ensure that they are prepared for their arrival on campus. After Welcome Weekend, we will focus our communications on students and encourage students to maintain open communication with their families and to seek out resources and support for themselves as questions or issues arise. There are a number of resources and layers of support for every student at Notre Dame, and we strongly encourage you and your families to use them. This includes the University’s Academic Advising Office, the Career Development Center, the Office of Student Care and Wellness, and the Residential Life Office. We are committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment of teaching and learning, and to preparing students for a lifetime of meaningful engagement.

Thank you for supporting your student and the University of Notre Dame. We look forward to welcoming you to campus.

Sincerely,
Emily Clary
Program Director for New Student Engagement and Formation
Division of Student Affairs
E. Andrew Whittington
Program Director for First-Year Student Engagement
Center for University Advising