Dear newest students of Notre Dame,

Welcome to the University of Notre Dame! We are a Catholic academic community of higher learning, animated from our origins by the Congregation of Holy Cross and 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 many ways your gifts will enrich our campus.

What is Welcome Weekend?
As your gateway into life as a student at Notre Dame, Welcome Weekend seeks to share the unique characteristics of our Catholic, Holy Cross undergraduate educational experience by introducing and inspiring engagement in academic, residential, and co-curricular life, demonstrating our commitment to a safe and inclusive environment of teaching and learning, and facilitating the transition of University resources available to you and your family. At Notre Dame, education takes place in the context of genuine and meaningful communion with others.

Welcome Weekend takes place during the days immediately preceding the start of classes and is required of all new students. These days consist of moving into your new residence hall, meeting your hall staff and fellow hallmates, connecting with faculty and staff from all corners of campus, accessing academic, spiritual, and wellness resources, and acknowledging this significant, though perhaps challenging, time of transition for you and your family.

When is Welcome Weekend?
Undergraduate classes are tentatively scheduled to begin on Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2022. The University will soon announce a definitive start date. Welcome Weekend will begin for all new students and their guests on Friday, Aug. 19. Parent and family programming is currently scheduled to conclude in the evening on Saturday, Aug. 20.

These dates are tentative and may change. We invite you to continue to review updated information throughout the summer on the Welcome Weekend website for confirmation and additional details.

Summer Communication
The Welcome Weekend planning team and our partners will be in touch via your Notre Dame Gmail account to offer updates, recommendations, residence hall assignments, and opportunities for engagement with the Notre Dame community. We encourage you to share all information with your family so that they might walk through this time of transition alongside you. Since communications will be sent to your Notre Dame Gmail account, it is important that you activate your ND Gmail account as soon as possible.

In a few days, you will receive an email from “Okta.” Notre Dame uses Okta to manage the IT services central to your success as a student. The email from Okta contains a unique link that will enable you to activate your NetID, access your new email account, and check your inbox daily. All communications can also be viewed within Welcome Weekend’s Canvas site, described in the section below.

Summer To-Do Lists
As an incoming student, you should regularly consult and complete two key “To-Do List” in preparation for your arrival on campus.

First Year Advising’s Fall Semester Registration Checklist outlines concrete steps incoming first-year students must take in preparation for course registration in late July. By following these requirements and recommendations, you’ll be ready to register for your first courses as a first-year student at Notre Dame. The first item on this list is available on May 6, 2022.

Welcome Weekend’s Canvas Site is a tool you can use to complete other required tasks as you prepare to begin your first semester at Notre Dame. About one week after you’ve activated your NetID and enrolled your account in Okta, you will have access to the Welcome Weekend Canvas site. While many of these items are already available for your completion, some are accessible only after a specific date. Return to this list regularly throughout the summer to access newly-launched items.

This is a time of joyful anticipation for our entire community. As you and your family close one chapter of your journey and enter the next, the entire University of Notre Dame is humbled and delighted by your decision to join us. We look forward to welcoming you home.

Sincerely,
Emily Orsini
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

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