WELCOME TO OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

A guide to your next steps as an incoming freshman.
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ADMISSION TO OAKLAND UNIVERSITY!

You are about to join our community of 19,000 students who live, learn and work on Oakland’s campus in southeast Michigan. You’re almost part of the Golden Grizzlies, ready to pursue excellence with 140 undergraduate degree programs and ready to stand out from the competition.

But before all that, you need to complete a few steps to guarantee your spot at OU.

ACTIVATE YOUR ACCOUNT NOW
Go to oakland.edu/activate to activate your student account (NetID). You’ll need your Grizzly ID number from your acceptance letter.

Your NetID allows you to:
- Register for orientation
- Apply to live in on-campus housing
- Accept scholarships
- Review financial aid awards and requirements
- Receive direct deposit and billing (eBill) notifications
- Check your OU email and calendar
- Access grades, transcripts and more

Once you activate your account, get in the habit of checking your OU email regularly for important updates, notifications and announcements.

oakland.edu/activate

REGISTER FOR ORIENTATION BEGINNING OCTOBER 1
New Student Orientation is your gateway to a strong start at OU. The required two-part orientation empowers you to take charge of your education and paves the way for a smooth transition to university life.

Part One takes place during the summer months where you’ll connect with new students, be introduced to OU’s campus, meet your first-year academic adviser and register for courses. Family members are encouraged to attend with you and take part in designated sessions exclusively for them.

Part Two is a student only kick-off to the academic year. More information will be sent about this event in July.

You can register for Part One beginning October 1 at oakland.edu/orientation. You’ll need your NetID and password to register.

When registering for orientation, remember to:
- Pick the earliest orientation date that your schedule allows
- Include the full name and email address for any family members attending with you (optional)
- Look for a confirmation email after registering

oakland.edu/orientation

COMPLETE THE FAFSA BEGINNING OCTOBER 1
We’re proud to make an exceptional education affordable. More than half of all OU students receive financial assistance totaling more than $150 million annually. You can benefit from those funds too.

Apply for financial assistance by filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) beginning October 1 to be considered for federal, state and/or OU need-based aid. Be sure to use OU’s federal code: 002307.

oakland.edu/financialaid
SUBMIT A HOUSING CONTRACT BEGINNING OCTOBER 1

Living on campus is the best way to achieve the full college experience. More than 3,000 students live at OU, and each year more and more want to — and for good reason: OU is ranked one of the safest college campuses in the country and the overall safest in Michigan.

Residents receive academic, emotional and social support with highly trained staff members, chosen for their proven ability to work with students, who live right in the residence halls. Living options are a quick 15-minute walk to classrooms, labs, Kresge Library, the Rec Center, dining and more.

You can submit your housing contract beginning October 1 at oakland.edu/housing/apply. You’ll need your NetID and password to log on. Housing space is limited; please set a reminder now to submit your contract on October 1.

In addition to housing, students can choose from special interest floors:
- Business
- Education
- Engineering and Computer Science
- International Village
- Health Sciences

Residents enjoy free:
- Wireless Internet
- Lounges with big-screen TVs
- Parking
- Laundry facilities
- Tutoring and academic support

ACCEPT SCHOLARSHIPS (if applicable)

OU offers scholarships based on academic achievement. As an admitted student, you have automatically been considered for these scholarships and may have received one upon admission. Go to oakland.edu/scholaraccept to accept your scholarship now.

Explore additional scholarship opportunities at oakland.edu/financialservices.

CHECK YOUR FINANCIAL AID STATUS CONTINUOUSLY

If you complete the FAFSA in early October, you will receive award notifications for other scholarships, grants and loans beginning in December (and continuing as new awards are made). Often, we need additional information or documentation to process your aid. Be sure to check your OU email regularly so you can respond promptly.

Incoming freshmen are not required to live on campus — but we love when they do!

Photo credit: John D’Angelo
REVIEW COURSE PLACEMENT BEFORE ORIENTATION
Oakland University uses SAT, ACT and AP scores as well as previous college credit for course placement, as needed. Placement testing is also available for math and foreign language courses.
oakland.edu/fyac/courseplacement

SEND OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS BEFORE SUMMER
Don’t forget to request that your final high school transcript be sent to OU upon graduation. Transcripts may be emailed to oakuniv@oakland.edu. Remember, high school counselors are available to assist with your transcripts.

SUBMIT COLLEGE CREDIT BEFORE ORIENTATION
Let all your past hard work count at OU. Submit scores and transcripts before orientation. We grant credit and/or exemption for selected Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) and College-Level Examination Placement (CLEP) tests.
Credit may also be granted for university or college courses taken through an early/middle college program or dual enrollment in high school. Before summer orientation, submit all your scores and official college transcripts to:
Office of the Registrar
O’Dowd Hall, Room 100
586 Pioneer Drive
Rochester, MI 48309-4482
Transcripts may also be emailed to trcredit@oakland.edu.
oakland.edu/collegecredit

ENROLL IN AN OU PAYMENT PLAN
If you plan on using financial aid, it’s important to understand what your aid covers and what it doesn’t. For any miscellaneous charges posted to your student account (i.e., lost ID charges, etc.), you’ll need to determine how to pay for them. OU offers a payment plan which allows you to spread your tuition and costs into smaller, more manageable payments. Check eBill to enroll in a plan.
oakland.edu/paymentplan

NO DEPOSIT IS REQUIRED AT OU!

ADDITIONAL SERVICES
Disability Support Services
If you have a physical, psychological, sensory and/or learning disability, please contact Disability Support Services to discuss eligibility for services and accommodations. If you plan to live on campus and need specific residential support, please contact Disability Support Services for additional details.
oakland.edu/dss

Veterans Support Services
OU’s Veterans Support Services offers veterans and their dependents assistance in receiving military service-related benefits and provides information about VA work-study opportunities, social and networking events, and veteran-specific scholarships.
oakland.edu/veterans

Student Financial Services
Our knowledgeable advisers will help you understand OU’s payment due dates and cancellation process, navigate financial resources (including emergency grants), and explain payment options.
oakland.edu/financialservices

DON’T FORGET
• If you’re interested in majoring in music, theatre or dance, you must audition. Auditions are separate and in addition to the application for OU.
oakland.edu/smtd/futurestudents
• The Honors College offers small class sizes, special research funding, study abroad opportunities, preferential registration and additional advising support.
oakland.edu/hc
• Review the Golden Grizzly Guide.
oakland.edu/ggg
Have questions about becoming a Golden Grizzly?
We’re ready to answer them.
Call (800) OAK-UNIV or email visit@oakland.edu.

Want another tour of campus?
We’d love to show you around.
Sign up for one on campus or virtually at oakland.edu/visit or take a self-guided tour at oakland.edu/map.

Not quite ready to attend OU?
No problem, you may be able to defer your admission to a future semester. Find out more at oakland.edu/futurestudents/defer.

Attending another college or university?
We’re sorry to see you go. Please cancel your admission at oakland.edu/futurestudents/admitted-students/cancel-admission, and cancel your housing at oakland.edu/housing/policies-and-procedures.