Center for the First-Year Experience
January 2019
Student Confirmation
Welcome to UW–MADISON!

Thank you for making a reservation to attend Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR). We look forward to seeing you on campus in January. Please see your confirmation email to be sure your SOAR session and date are correct. If you need to modify your SOAR reservation, you can do so by returning to soar.wisc.edu, where you made your original reservation.

SOAR Expectations

UW–Madison has the following expectations of SOAR participants:

- **Review** your confirmation email and online information. Make any necessary changes online at soar.wisc.edu at least one week before your session. You will not be eligible for a refund for changes made less than one week in advance of your SOAR session.
- **Work** with your parents/guests to make any necessary travel plans.
- **Pay your SOAR fee.** Your payment is due one week prior to your attendance. Two weeks before you arrive, you will receive an email with your complete invoice and payment instructions. No fees were collected at the time you made your reservation.
- **Prepare.** Review the website: soar.wisc.edu for more information about preparing for SOAR.
- **Attend all activities** during SOAR. If you leave SOAR early, you won’t be able to enroll in courses.
- **Be open to new ideas.** At SOAR, you will work with academic advisors to create a course schedule that works for you!
- **Get social.** Connect with the Center for the First-Year Experience (CFYE) at facebook.com/uwnewstudent, twitter.com/uwnewstudent, and instagram.com/uvw newstudent. Use the hashtag #uwsoar or #futurebadgers to share your experience at SOAR.
SOAR Preparation

WHAT TO BRING

- Any academic / scholarship information you have received from UW–Madison that relates to your course enrollment.
- A government-issued ID (e.g., passport, driver's license, state ID card). You need this to obtain your Wiscard.
- Your campus ID number. Memorize this number.
- Your login and password for your NetID. This is used to log in to MyUW and email. You will also need this info to enroll in courses.
- Score reports. If you have taken any AP/IB or other college-level exams, please bring the score report(s) with you. Reports must also be sent to the Office of Admissions and Recruitment from the exam company for official records.
- Final transcripts. Bring any completed college credits from other institutions. Official transcripts must also be sent to the Office of Admissions and Recruitment from each school you have attended.
- A pencil or pen.
- Appropriate attire for the weather. January in Madison is cold; be prepared!
- Complete the “Preparing for SOAR” module through MyUW. This module must be completed before you attend your SOAR session; the information you provide helps advisors give you the most appropriate course recommendations.

ARRIVAL TIME & CHECK-IN

Check in at the Annex Room (2214) of Memorial Union, 800 Langdon Street, between 8 and 8:45 a.m. the day of your SOAR session. At check-in, you will receive a detailed SOAR schedule and program materials. Plan to stay at the program until 4 p.m.

Use the information below to help plan your arrival on campus. UW–Madison is a large campus, and it can take more time than you expect to move between program locations and parking. Please plan your travel—we don’t want you to miss anything!

Parking & Getting Around

If you plan to drive to campus, the closest parking lot is the Helen C. White Garage (600 North Park Street). Parking costs $12 per day. You can pull a ticket when you enter the garage and pay on exit. If the Helen C. White Garage is full, there is a city-owned lot located at 400 North Lake Street that costs $1.30 per hour.

Overnight Accommodations & Residence Hall Move-In

There is no temporary housing provided by SOAR. If you are living in a University Residence Hall, please consult the University Housing move-in website at housing.wisc.edu/residencehalls-moving.htm for more information, and review your housing contract for specific move-in dates. If you will be living off campus, you should consult your lease/contract for move-in dates. For those needing hotel accommodations, rooms are available at a discounted rate at the Lowell Center. More information available at bit.ly/soarjan2019.

Participants with Disabilities

Disability accommodations are available for student participants and their parents/guests for both permanent and temporary disabilities. In order to best serve you, we request advanced notice. If you did not indicate your need for disability accommodations for SOAR when you made a reservation, please call the SOAR Information Line at 608-262-4707.

Reservation Changes & Cancellations

Because resources are committed in advance, any changes to your SOAR reservation must be made at least one week prior to your attendance. SOAR will not grant refunds for changes or cancellations made less than one week prior to your attendance, except in extreme circumstances.

New Student Fee

You will be assessed a New Student Fee your first semester on campus. This fee will appear on your spring tuition bill. More information about the fee can be found at newstudent.wisc.edu/about-us/funding.

FINALIZE YOUR ADMISSION

Verify you have completed all the steps necessary to finalize your admission. Check your status on your Student Center on MyUW, the same place you accepted your admission. Students who have not finalized their admission by either self-reporting their final grades or sending in their final official transcripts may not be able to enroll in their spring courses at SOAR. All students must submit their final transcripts to the Office of Admissions and Recruitment at 702 West Johnson Street, Suite 1101, Madison, WI 53715-1007.
SOAR Overview

You will receive a detailed itinerary when you check in at SOAR. Use the following schedule to arrange your arrival and departure. You are required to remain for the entire program. Please do not plan to arrive late or leave early.

BEFORE

UW PLACEMENT TESTING
See the placement-testing section on the following page for more information.

DAY OF SOAR All SOAR activities will take place at Memorial Union, 800 Langdon Street.

Check-in: 8–8:45 a.m.
Memorial Union, Annex (2214). (Plan to be at the program until 4 p.m.)

STUDENTS
During SOAR, students will receive their placement testing scores, learn about degree requirements for their intended major, and meet with academic advisors:

• At SOAR, professional academic advisors and student peer advisors will help you learn about UW–Madison, share resources, and enroll you in your first semester courses.

• After SOAR, we recommend checking in at least once a semester with your assigned advisor(s). This is also your time to ask bigger picture questions about your academic and career goals, getting involved, and building community.

Following advising, participants will be able to connect to other participants through the New Student Social. Lunch is included!

PARENTS/GUESTS
The SOAR guest program is specifically designed to help parents/guests learn more about campus resources and what they can do to help their students adjust to UW–Madison. Lunch is included in the program.

QUESTIONS?
VISIT SOAR.WISC.EDU TO REVIEW INFORMATION ABOUT:
• UW placement testing
• Arrival and parking logistics
• Academic advising preparation tips
• Information on the SOAR program (both student and parent/guest programs)
• FAQ
• And much more!
Important Contacts

**SOAR INFORMATION**
608-262-4707
9 a.m.–4 p.m. central time
Monday–Friday
soar@studentlife.wisc.edu
soar.wisc.edu

**TESTING & EVALUATION SERVICES**
608-262-5863
testing.wisc.edu
For Placement Testing, click link on the left for “UW–Madison entering students only ..."

**OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND RECRUITMENT**
608-262-3961
onwisconsin@admissions.wisc.edu
admissions.wisc.edu

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES (ISS)**
608-262-2838
iss@studentlife.wisc.edu
iss.wisc.edu

**MCBURNEY DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER**
608-263-2741
608-263-6393 (TTY)
mcburney.wisc.edu
For disability accommodations during SOAR, please call the SOAR Information Line at 608-262-4707.

**CENTER FOR THE FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE (CFYE)**
608-263-0367
newstudent.wisc.edu
transfer.wisc.edu
Social Channels:
facebook.com/uwnewstudent
twitter.com/uwnewstudent
instagram.com/uwnewstudent

**UNIVERSITY HOUSING**
608-262-2522
AssignMe@housing.wisc.edu
www.housing.wisc.edu

**PLACEMENT TESTING**

Be sure to take your placement tests before your SOAR session. See more about placement testing on soar.wisc.edu. If you do not complete your placement testing before SOAR, your ability to enroll in courses will be limited.

**FRESHMEN**
All incoming freshmen are required to complete placement testing in English or English as a second language and mathematics; regardless of previous coursework. Students are strongly encouraged to test in a world language as well.

**TRANSFER STUDENTS**
Some transfer students are required to take placement tests in English, English as a second language, mathematics, and/or a world language. The Office of Admissions and Recruitment will email you shortly after your admittance, outlining the test(s) you need to take, if any. If you have questions about which placement tests you are required to take, contact the Office of Admissions and Recruitment at onwisconsin@admissions.wisc.edu or 608-262-3961.

**TESTING SCHEDULE AND LOCATIONS**

Students needing to complete placement testing must do so prior to your SOAR session.

Please refer to the soar.wisc.edu website for a placement-testing schedule.

Bring a snack, especially if you are taking multiple tests. Although no food or drinks are allowed while students are testing, there will be a 15-minute break between each exam.

Also be sure to bring a battery-operated, non-graphing calculator if you are planning to take the math placement exam.
The University of Wisconsin–Madison does not discriminate in its employment practices and programs and activities on a variety of bases including race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age. For information on other covered bases, and the names of the Title IX and Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinators, contact the Office for Equity and Diversity at 179A Bascom Hall, Madison WI 53706, 608-263-2378, WTRS 7-1-1.

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