Office of Orientation and First-Year Programs

University of Rochester Spring 2021 Orientation and Welcome Week
Sent December 7, 2020

Congratulations on your enrollment at the University of Rochester!

We are excited to welcome you to the Rochester community. This is the first of a few emails you will receive to help prepare you for the Spring semester. Be sure to check your Rochester email account regularly going forward as this will be the primary email address used to send all official communications.

Setting up Your Credentials
Upon enrollment, you were sent an email requesting that you activate your NetID and Rochester email. Your NetID and Rochester email are unique to you and will allow you to access many of the University systems. If you have not yet activated these two items, please do so prior to completing the Incoming Student Checklist.

Incoming Student Checklist
The Incoming Student Checklist is a list of all the important items that you'll need to complete prior to the start of the Spring semester. All items can be completed electronically except the University Health History form. The form will be mailed to your home address and must be completed and mailed back in paper form. Please take a moment to review the checklist as there are deadlines as early as December 15th.

Online Orientation
Online Orientation will begin Monday, January 4th. Along with the Incoming Student Checklist, there will be a series of mandatory and optional webinars for students and families to attend. These webinars are meant to prepare you and provide important information you will need to be a part of the Rochester community. The full schedule will be available soon on the Orientation website. Students will be required to watch all mandatory sessions prior to the start of the Spring semester. In addition, some webinars will have modules in our learning management system, Blackboard, that will also need to be completed in conjunction with the webinar. Full instructions on those modules can be found within Blackboard, which you will be given access to on January 4th.

In addition, International students will be required to participate in the International Student Orientation, which is comprised of pre-arrival modules, a virtual immigration check-in and a final live program on Friday, January 8, 2021 via Zoom. International students should have received an email with detailed information from the International Services Office.
In the event that you are unable to access our Online Orientation due to connectivity or access issues, please let us know as soon as possible and we will work with you to find a solution.

**Advising and Course Registration**
All new students (first-year and transfer) will be assigned a College advisor in the first weeks of January. Advising will take place beginning January 13th. Your advisor will reach out to you directly via email to begin discussing your academic plans and schedule. Prior to connecting with your advisor, please review the [First-Year Guide](#) and complete the Spring Advising Questionnaire in your MyRoc account (by January 1st). The guide contains important information about degree requirements, course options and placements as well as an academic planning sheet for you to use for your advisor meeting. The Spring Advising Questionnaire gives you the opportunity to provide a list of courses you’re interested in taking and additional information about yourself, which will assist your advisor in helping you plan your Rochester education.

You can access our collection of [departmental and program open house videos](#) on the Orientation website to help you learn more about our different disciplines.

Registration for Spring classes will be held on January 26th. Full instructions and training will be provided prior to registration.

**Orientation Leaders**
Our team of Orientation Leaders will communicate with you in the time leading up to your arrival at the University, helping to prepare you for course registration and life at Rochester. They will also help you meet fellow incoming students and serve as your point for any questions you have as you begin your University of Rochester journey. You should receive an email from your designated Orientation Leader shortly.

**Rochester Ready Newsletters**
You will soon receive the first edition of the Rochester Ready newsletter. The newsletter is full of information on important resources, upcoming deadlines and updates. This newsletter coupled with emails from the Orientation team, Orientation website, webinars and Blackboard modules will provide all the information you need to get ready for the Spring.

**Spring Arrival and Welcome Weekend**
All students must complete a housing contract through their [MyRoc account](#) with Admissions before working with Residential Life to sign-up for a designated testing and arrival time. You should not sign-up for a time on the Residential Life housing page until you have received notification from Residential Life regarding your housing application.

All students must follow [all quarantine guidelines](#) set forth by the University and New York State. If completing a 14-day quarantine, you should plan to arrive in time to enter quarantine on January 15th. If completing the 4-day quarantine, students will likely be assigned a check-in time to enter quarantine on January 24th. Please note that this information is subject to change based on guidelines received from the CDC, New York State and our University Health Services office.

**Spring Planning Form**
All students in Arts, Sciences & Engineering should complete the [Spring Planning Form](#) as soon as possible. Some questions may not be applicable. Please answer to the best of your ability. The form asks you to confirm your enrollment status for the spring 2021 semester and provide your addresses for the spring 2021 semester. Information collected in this form will be instrumental in helping the University plan for the next several months and will be used for billing and financial aid.
Students may update their information in the form after submitting if plans change. The deadline for final submissions is January 10 for Spring 2021 plans.

**Contact Us**
Although we are currently working remotely, we are available Monday – Friday from 9am-5pm EST to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have. You can reach us via email at orientation@rochester.edu. Please also feel free to reach out to your Orientation Leader who can also help in answering any questions you may have.

**Meliora!**
Crystal Cusimano-Figueroa ‘05, ‘09S
Senior Director of Orientation, Summer and Continuing Studies