



Office of Orientation and Transition Programs

The Office of Orientation and Transition Programs is home to the three-part orientation process to help students transition to life at Southern Miss. Our mission is to welcome new students and their families and to connect them to the people, offices and resources that will make them successful at Southern Miss and beyond.

Southern Style

Southern Style is a diverse group of student leaders selected to serve as the official host group for the University of Southern Mississippi. Responsibilities include serving as hosts for University events, serving as orientation leaders and supporting transition efforts through the Office of Orientation and Transition Programs.

Round One | Wednesday, November 1

Round Two | Friday, November 3 *(if selected to advance)*

Individual Interview | Monday, November 13 – Friday, November 17 *(By appointment; if selected to advance)*

2024 Southern Style | Dates*

**Subject to change*

| | |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Individual Contract Meeting | By Appointment, December 2023 |
| Welcome Meeting | Friday, December 1, 2 – 5 PM |
| Spring Orientation | Friday, January 12 |
| UNV 325 Enrollment | Spring 2024, Tuesdays, 1:00 – 3:45 PM |
| Spring Retreat | Friday, March 8 – Monday, March 11 |
| Founders' Day | Thursday, March 28 |
| Eagle Fest/Going Gold Day | TBD |
| Spring Commencement | Thursday, May 9 – Friday, May 10 |
| Intensive Training | Monday, May 13 – Friday, May 17 |
| | Tuesday, May 21 |
| Orientation | See Reverse |
| Office Hours | See Reverse |
| Move-In | Tuesday, August 13 – Wednesday, August 14 |
| GEWW | Thursday, August 15 – Tuesday, August 20 |
| Homecoming | Fall 2024 |
| Southern Style 2025 Selection Process | Fall 2024 |
| Southern Style Closing Banquet | Wednesday, November 20 |
| Lighting the Way for the Holidays | Fall 2024 |
| Winter Commencement | December 2024 |
| Spring Orientation & Prep | Spring 2025 |
| Various University Events (Explained Below) | TBA |

2024 Summer Orientation*

**Subject to change*

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Transfer Orientation | Monday, May 20 |
| Scholarship Orientation | Thursday, May 23 – Friday, May 24 |
| Freshman Orientation | Thursday, June 6 – Friday, June 7 |
| Freshman Orientation | Monday, June 17 – Tuesday, June 18 |
| Freshman Orientation | Thursday, June 20 – Friday, June 21 |
| Freshman Orientation | Thursday, June 27 – Friday, June 28 |
| Transfer Orientation | Friday, June 12 |
| Freshman Orientation | Thursday, July 18 – Friday, July 19 |
| Transfer Orientation | Monday, July 22 |
| Transfer Orientation | Friday, July 26 |
| Fall Orientation | Friday, August 9 |

2024 Summer Office Hours*

**Subject to change*

Wednesday, May 22

Wednesday, June 5

Thursday, June 13

Wednesday, June 19

Wednesday, June 26

Wednesday, June 21

Thursday, July 11

Wednesday, July 17

Thursday, July 25

Thursday, August 8

Uniform Requirements

Members of Southern Style will be provided with the majority of their uniform pieces. You may need to purchase replacements or additional items, so each member can expect to spend up to \$100 on the components of their uniform. Successful candidates can expect additional information at the welcome meeting.

Other Expectations

As the official host group, members will be called upon to host various university events throughout the year.

Members of Southern Style will be required to live on-campus during the summer in a designated residence hall. Costs associated with summer housing will be covered by the Office of Orientation and Transition Programs. Members of Southern Style are unable to take in-person summer classes and outside employment must be approved. Due to the unique role of Southern Style, members will be compensated for employment during the summer months and will be expected to serve in a variety of volunteer roles throughout the year. The total compensation will be \$3000 split between four checks (\$750 per check) which will be issued in May, June, July, and January of the following year.

For additional information or questions about Southern Style, please email orientation@usm.edu