



UC SANTA CRUZ ORIENTATION PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What is Orientation?**

Orientation is a program for newly admitted students. It is a great way to begin your university experience and to ensure a successful academic and social transition into the UC Santa Cruz community. The program is designed to serve as an introduction to the university resources and to welcome students and families to the university.

Previous attendees have found that Orientation helped them feel more connected to the campus and made the transition in the fall much smoother. Jessica Cirilo says, "I feel attending Orientation was the most important decision I made before coming to school at UCSC. I was way ahead of the game in the fall, and gained only valuable information."

2. **When is Orientation held?**

Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. We recommend you register prior to 12/1/09. Orientation is a one-day program scheduled on **Friday, December 11, 2009**. Check-in and registration start at 8:00 a.m., so we recommend arriving early; the program begins promptly at 8:30 a.m.

3. **Is there a Family Program?**

Family members play a vital role in your successful transition to college life. To fully inform them about UCSC and all its resources and services, we offer a Family Orientation Program that runs concurrently with, but separately from, the student program. The Family Orientation session is designed to help family members gain knowledge and develop skills that reinforce a sense of family support for your education. Due to space constraints, there is a two-guest limit.

4. **How do we go about registering and paying for an Orientation date?**

To register for orientation, students must first complete the Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) process. After you have completed the SIR process, follow the steps below to register for orientation:

1. Log onto your MyUCSC portal (my.ucsc.edu) by entering your student ID number (begins with a capital "W") and password in the spaces provided
2. Click on the Orientation Reservation link in the left hand tool bar
3. Check the box, enter family/guest information, and provide any special accommodation information
4. Pay for orientation: Payments take approximately three to four weeks to reflect on the student account. You may view your student account by going to your MyUCSC.

There are 2 ways to pay for orientation, on-line and by mail. (See next page for details.)

1. Pay on-line at the time you confirm your orientation registration (one-time option): You have the option of paying the total amount by electronic check or credit card at the time you register.
 - Credit Card: Please note that if you choose to pay by credit card, UC Santa Cruz accepts MasterCard, Discover and American Express. You will need your account number, expiration date, and the name of the cardholder as it appears on the card
 - i. The only opportunity you will have to pay with credit card is at the time of registration.
 - E-check, you will need your checking or savings account number, bank routing number, bank name and the name of the person on the account
2. Pay by mail: Mail a check or money order,
 - payable to, UC Regents, along with a copy of your registration page to (from your MyUCSC portal),
 - mail to, UCSC Orientations Office, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Once you complete the orientation registration process on your portal, you will see bright blue bold text stating, "You are scheduled to attend an Orientation Session on [date]." This page is your confirmation that you completed the registration process - a check mark on your Orientation reservation page confirms your reservation.

We encourage you to register early, since sessions fill up fast! Online registration ends **December 1, 2009**. Once you schedule your session date, any changes will include a processing fee. Two weeks prior to your orientation, you will receive a confirmation letter with specific arrival information, including a list of items to bring to Orientation.

If you are unable to register via my.ucsc.edu, contact the Orientations Office.

5. What level of advising will I receive at Orientation?

During Orientation you will have the opportunity to meet with proposed major Department Advisers, and your College Adviser to discuss your fall course load. Student Orientation Leaders are also available to assist with course enrollment and to answer student-life questions.

6. Will I be able to enroll in classes during Orientation?

Students will be able to enroll in classes after 1:00 p.m. on their scheduled orientation day. Advisers and Orientation Leaders are available to assist at the enrollment sites during orientation.

7. Do I need to take a Math Placement Exam?

Not all students are required to take a Math Placement Exam. To determine whether or not you need to take a math course in the Winter Quarter, or if you are exempt from taking the Math Placement Exam, ***contact your intended major's department***. You can locate your department by going to the following website: <http://advising.ucsc.edu/student/department/index.html>. The exam is also administered by the Math Department at the beginning of each quarter and on Fridays each quarter. For more information, visit the www.math.ucsc.edu/placement/index.html

There is no fee associated with this exam. Orientation will offer the Math Placement Exam later in the day's schedule; students do not need to register for the test.