

CONSIDER PRE- ORIENTATION

Get an earlier start to your Harvard experience.



While all first-year students participate in a week-long orientation before classes begin, our experience is that students who get an even earlier start in one of our pre-orientation programs feel especially well-prepared for the challenges of college life, and look back on their participation with tremendous gratitude. I hope you will consider the programs described on these pages.

Over half the entering class typically participates in a pre-orientation program, and participants enthusiastically attest to their value:

- I made amazing friends and learned from the upperclassmen.
- I felt more comfortable with my decision to attend Harvard and confident about my ability to contribute. On move-in day, I felt connected and ready to go.
- It was really fun, low-key, and supportive. It's December and our group still meets to ask the big questions and laugh.
- The physical and mental challenges put me in the right frame [of mind] for Harvard.

Whatever you decide, we look forward to seeing you in August.

With all good wishes,
Thomas A. Dingman
Dean of Freshmen





PRE-ORIENTATION AT HARVARD

First-Year Arts Program

The First-Year Arts Program (FAP) is a week-long, multidisciplinary introduction to the arts at Harvard, bringing together 70 incoming freshmen and 16 upperclass proctors who are passionately involved in various aspects of art, enthusiastic to share their interests, and eager to learn about the experiences of their peers. Centered around workshops and master classes given by seven resident and 20 visiting artists in drama, music, theater design, studio arts, film, dance, and creative writing, FAP culminates in the Pageant, a collaborative presentation of entirely original student work. No formal training required.

→ fap.fas.harvard.edu

First-Year International Program

The First-Year International Program (FIP) is a four-day orientation program for international students and US

citizens who have lived and studied primarily overseas. In FIP, 35 upperclass leaders mentor 150 incoming freshmen, introducing them to Harvard and helping them adjust to life in the United States. Specifically, participants receive foundational information for a happy, successful start at Harvard, including discussions about American education, culture, and stereotypes; how to set up a bank account; and how to cope with homesickness. Sessions give international students a head start for the year. By invitation only.

→ fdo.fas.harvard.edu/fip

First-Year Outdoor Program

The First-Year Outdoor Program (FOP) is Harvard's largest and oldest pre-orientation program. 400+ participants explore New England's finest forests, mountains, and lakes in small groups. But FOP is not just a six-day outdoors trip; it is an opportunity to build



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a sense of community, reflect on your hopes for college, and enter with both confidence and a network of close friends. No outdoor experience required. Trips are designed for all levels of experience and fitness, and are led by trained and experienced students.

→ fop.fas.harvard.edu

First-Year Urban Program

The First-Year Urban Program (FUP) catalyzes a commitment to public service, community advocacy and support, diversity, equity, and social justice work on campus, and introduces students to Boston and Cambridge. 110 participants divide into worksite groups led by 35 returning undergraduates to assist grassroots community organizations. Discussion groups reflect on issues of race, class, gender, sexuality, and equity, as well as how to create impactful social change. Workshops include sessions with alumni and

community leaders who work with Harvard public service programs. Fun activities help first-years bond with one another and their leaders.

→ fup.fas.harvard.edu

Fall Clean-Up with Dorm Crew

Fall Clean-Up is a week-long program run by Dorm Crew that employs 350 incoming first-year students and 50 upperclassmen to clean the dorms and Houses for move-in. Though challenging, the camaraderie and community make the experience fun, and participants earn a paycheck (\$13.25/hour, approximately 40 hours of work). Students get to know campus and Harvard Square, while talking with upperclassmen about life at Harvard, classes, and the transition to college. Meals and social events provide opportunities for students to get to know one another before move-in.

→ dormcrew.harvard.edu





Important details

Housing and meals are included for all programs. Students who require accommodation for disability status, medical conditions, or religious observance should notify the director of the program at the time of application or registration. Programs occur simultaneously; students may only participate in one program, though FIP participants may come early for Fall Clean-Up. Admitted students are encouraged to speak with program leaders, ask questions, and learn more during Visitas 2017!

Cost and financial aid

Some programs are completely free for participants, while others have fees. For programs with cost, significant financial aid is available and is based

on the student's relative level of need. Cost should not be a barrier to participation! See program websites for specific costs.

Program dates

Fall Clean-Up with Dorm Crew: August 16 - 21
FAP: August 15 - 21
FIP: August 18 - 21
FOP: August 16 - 22
FUP: August 16 - 21

How to register

A detailed overview of each program is available on the Freshman Dean's Office website: fdo.fas.harvard.edu/pages/pre-orientation. Registration is available on individual program websites included in this brochure. With the exception of Fall Clean-Up, which accepts applications on a rolling basis throughout the summer, program registration is due by Wednesday, May 10. Registration and qualification details vary for each program.

