

August 2021 FOCUS Orientation

Parent/Family Member Schedule



International Student Arrival and Orientation

International students should plan to arrive in Valparaiso on Sunday or Monday, August 15 or 16. Please note: the United States currently requires a negative COVID test within three days of boarding a flight to the U.S. ([see details here](#)). All international undergraduates must attend [International Student Orientation](#) on Tuesday, August 17. Students should watch for details via their Valpo email from the Office of International Programs. Then, international students and any parent(s)/family member(s) will attend FOCUS university undergraduate orientation on Wednesday, August 18. Class registration occurs at FOCUS (see schedule below). Students will have two days after FOCUS to get settled before [Welcome Week](#), part two of orientation, begins.

Domestic Student Move-In

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

5-7 p.m.

U.S. students living on campus this year can move into their residence area tonight before FOCUS tomorrow. Students check in at the front desk of their residence hall anytime between 5 and 7 p.m. Central Standard Time. Then, move their belongings into their room. There are no orientation activities tonight, and not very many students moving in this evening. Students will also have time on Thursday and Friday this week to unpack and settle into their room before [Welcome Week](#) events begin on Friday.

This is an example schedule from August 2020. The August 2021 FOCUS schedule is anticipated to be similar and will be available in July. All times are Central Standard Time (the same as Chicago).

FOCUS Orientation

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Campus Offices and Bookstore Open

8-8:30 a.m.

FOCUS Check-in

Harre Union, Atrium

Students pick up their FOCUS materials and check their guests in for FOCUS, then proceed Harre Union, Grand Lounge to get pick up their OneCard ID. You can help by taking a head and shoulders photo of your student against a white background (like a passport photo) and so they can upload their ID photo at apps.valpo.edu/idExpress before FOCUS.

8:05-8:50 a.m.

Review Your FOCUS Schedule

Harre Union, Founders Table or Ballrooms

Read through your FOCUS schedule so you know what is happening today. Breakfast is available at Founders Table.

9-9:30 a.m.

Opening Welcome

Harre Union, Ballrooms

Valpo staff and Orientation Assistants (OAs) officially welcome you to campus as we kick-off FOCUS together!

9:50-10:35 a.m.

Introduction to the Colleges

Various Locations

Now that your student has chosen Valpo, there are details to learn that are more in-depth than anything covered during a visit day. Representatives from the Colleges talk about curricular expectations, academic resources, and students' transition to academics at Valpo.

College of Arts and Sciences	Harre Union, Ballroom C
College of Business	Urschel Hall, Room 202
College of Engineering	Gellersen Hall, Room 120
College of Nursing and Health Professions	Neils Science Center, Room 234

10:45 a.m.-12 p.m.

Supporting Your Student Q&A Discussion Panel

Harre Union, Ballroom C

How do you support your student without doing things for them? Learn about campus resources, programs, practices, etc. in this general information and question/answer session hosted by Student Life. Panelists include staff from Residential Life, Health Center, and Counseling Center.

12:10-12:55 p.m.

Lunch

Harre Union, Founders Table

Eat lunch with and get to know other Valpo family members

1-1:30 p.m.

Student Account, Billing, and Payment Plan Overview

Neils Science Center, Room 234

Student Accounts presents an overview of Student Account Self-Service, billing information, payment plans, and more.

1:45-2:15 p.m.

Campus Services Overview

Center for the Arts, Theatre

This session introduces basic information regarding OneCard, Dining, Transportation, Mail Services and more.

Create Your Afternoon, Choose From:

2:30-3:15 p.m.

Real World 101: Internship and Career Planning Resources

Christopher Center, Room 205

Career Center representatives provide an overview of their services, the significance of internships and the track record of Valpo graduates. Learn about the resources that can be used beginning your first year at Valpo through graduation.

2:30-3:10 p.m.

Faith Life Meet & Greet

Chapel of the Resurrection Meet Chapel staff to learn about myriad ways students can explore their faith during their time at Valpo. Lutheran traditions, other faith resources, and programs will be discussed. Families of all faiths are welcome and encouraged to learn about opportunities on campus and in the region.

3:15-4:30 p.m.

Financial Aid Drop-In Appointments

Harre Union, Student Organization Suite/Commuter Lounge, Room 230

Come and go as you are able. Financial Aid Counselors are available for quick consultations regarding financial aid. Financial Aid is also available any day before or after FOCUS; book online at vufinancialaid.youcanbook.me for non-FOCUS days.

3:15-5 p.m.

Campus Offices and Bookstore Open

Various Locations

This is a good time to take care of any Valpo business you still need to do or get questions answered at offices around campus.

5-7 p.m.

FOCUS Student Move-In

Residence Halls

Residential students who did not move-in last night can move in today between 4 and 8 p.m., after they complete class registration. The student checks in at their residence hall.

6 p.m.

Dinner

Harre Union, Founders Table

Dinner is free if you show your FOCUS nametag.

Welcome Week 2021

Don't miss out on Welcome Week 2021! It begins when the rest of your classmates move in on Friday, August 20, and continues through the first week of classes. Details will be announced by the end of July. See [last year's schedule](#) for a sampling of events that happen during Welcome Week. Valpo students are very involved in and out of the classroom. Plan to start your Valpo experience the same way by enjoying all the Welcome Week activities and Valpo will feel like home quickly!

See valpo.edu/registrar/calendar for 2021-22 dates including:

August 21-24	Required Welcome Week Activities (Move-in Day is Friday, August 20)
August 25	First Day of Classes
August 25-29	Welcome Week Events Continue
October 14-15	Fall Break – No Classes, Residence Areas Remain Open
November 20-28	Thanksgiving Break – No Classes, Residence Areas Close
December 13-17	Final Exams
December 18	Residence Areas Close for Semester Break

Roommate Requests

Students who are signed up for FOCUS by mid-June should watch for an email from Residential Life to complete their housing preferences and submit a roommate request, if they have one. Residential Life has the greatest ability to help with your requests before June 30, 2021. After that time, Residential Life will still email for housing preferences as students sign-up for FOCUS, but housing/roommates will be assigned based on space availability. If students have questions, they should contact Residential Life at 219.464.5413 or email reslife@valpo.edu.

Campus Offices

Campus offices are open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday throughout the summer, including on FOCUS days. If you need directions to a campus office, ask any FOCUS staff member or stop by the Harre Union Welcome Desk for assistance. Locations of frequently visited offices include:

Dining Services

Harre Union, Suite 170

Financial Aid

A counselor is available in the Harre Union Commuter Lounge/Student Organization Suite 230 during FOCUS or you can book an appointment for any day before or after FOCUS at vufinancialaid.youcanbook.me.

OneCard, Parking and Transportation Services

Harre Union, Suite 244

Residential Life

Harre Union, Suite 250