WELCOME TO UW–MADISON!

Thank you for making a reservation for Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR). If you need to change or cancel your SOAR reservation, go to soar.wisc.edu to revisit the reservation system or contact the SOAR office at 608-262-4707 or soar@studentaffairs.wisc.edu.

The SOAR program consists of completing one required online course in Canvas and one in-person day-long orientation session on the UW–Madison campus. You will need to follow the process outlined in this confirmation to complete the entire SOAR Program and be able to enroll in spring courses. For more detailed information, visit soar.wisc.edu.

Get Ready

- Complete your scheduled placement tests prior to attending SOAR.
- Review your SOAR session selections and date at soar.wisc.edu. Make any necessary changes online at least one week prior to your session.
- Pay your SOAR fees. Two weeks before you arrive, you will receive an email with your complete invoice and payment instructions. No fees were collected at the time you made your SOAR reservation.
- Complete the “Preparing for SOAR” module in Canvas prior to your SOAR session.
- Plan to attend all activities during SOAR. If you leave SOAR early, you won’t be able to enroll in courses.
- Review information about MFA-Duo in this confirmation. At SOAR, you will select and activate your chosen device.
Bring with You
- A government-issued photo ID (passport, driver’s license, or state ID card). You’ll need this to obtain your Wiscard (student ID).
- Know your Net ID and password. (You will need this info to register for classes.)
- A pencil or pen and a notebook to take notes.
- Any academic/scholarship information you have received that relates to your course enrollment.
- Score reports for AP, IB, A-levels or other college-level tests and unofficial transcripts of college classes in which you have participated.

What to Wear
SOAR programming takes place at several different campus locations; please wear comfortable walking shoes. Check the weather forecast before attending, SOAR will include brief walks outside.

ARRIVAL @ SOAR
Please note that UW–Madison is a large campus, and it can take more time than you expect to move between program locations and parking. Plan your travel accordingly!

Where to Park
You are encouraged to park in State Street Campus Garage (415 N. Lake Street). The cost is $1.50 per hour.

Where to Check in
Arrive between 8 and 8:45 a.m. at the Memorial Union Annex Room, located on the second floor (800 Langdon Street). A continental breakfast will be served, and various campus offices will be present at tables to answer your questions on the fourth floor.

Where to Stay
Need to stay overnight in Madison? We encourage SOAR participants to stay at the Wisconsin Union Hotel located in Union South, near Camp Randall and the west end of campus.

Placement Testing (90 min per test)
The UW System offers free online placement testing for incoming students. Placement testing registration for spring 2023 students opens Tuesday, January 3. All your required placement tests must be completed by Wednesday, January 11. Failure to complete placement testing on time may delay your ability to enroll in all your semester courses. If you have questions about your placement testing requirements, please connect with the appropriate office below:

Transfer students: Credit Evaluation Services, crediteval@registrar.wisc.edu
Freshman students: Office of Admissions and Recruitment, onwconsin@admissions.wisc.edu

UW System Placement tests — Math, English, & World Languages (Spanish, French, German): On January 3, 2023, please visit go.wisc.edu/uw_testing to register for your UW System placement testing online. Shortly after registering, you will receive an email from candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com with a password and instructions to access the online placement testing system. Contact the Testing and Evaluation Services office at frontdesk@exams.wisc.edu or (608) 262-5863 if you have questions during the registration process.
English as a Second Language Assessment Test (ESLAT): International students required to take the ESLAT will complete the test in Canvas, instead of the UW System English test. If you have registered for SOAR and activated your NetID, you will see the ESLAT exam appear on your UW Canvas dashboard at canvas.wisc.edu on January 3, 2023. Contact the SOAR office if you do not have access to the ESLAT module by January 3, 2023.

COVID-19 Vaccination
UW–Madison recommends that all incoming students receive the COVID-19 vaccine. COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, free, and widely available.

You do not need an ID or insurance to get a vaccine. University Health Services, the student health center on campus, offers no-cost COVID-19 initial doses and booster doses. Booster shots help safely increase protection against infection and severe outcomes in fully vaccinated people. More information on vaccines can be found at covidresponse.wisc.edu/covid-19-vaccine-information.

COVID-19 Testing
Both PCR and antigen testing are offered at no cost to students and employees. For more information, visit covidresponse.wisc.edu/testing.

JANUARY SOAR PROGRAM OVERVIEW
Complete Required Content: Pre-January SOAR 2023 Course (45 minutes)
In this online Canvas course, you will learn important information about course selection and academic advising at SOAR. It is expected that this course is completed by every student before attending SOAR. Visit canvas.wisc.edu to begin.

Orientation Schedule Overview
The student orientation program consists of breakfast, a resource fair, and a brief welcome session. The rest of the day will be occupied with academic advising with a break for lunch. After finishing academic advising, we recommend students go to Union South with a government ID to obtain a Wiscard, which is the campus ID card.

AFTER SOAR
Wiscard
Visit wiscard.wisc.edu/soar for instructions on how to obtain a Wiscard (campus ID card.)

Wisconsin Welcome
Winter Wisconsin Welcome will take place January 20–February 11, 2023. A mobile app and website offering a calendar as well as resources available to new students will be available in mid-January. Incoming first-year and transfer students will have a great time meeting new friends and finding their place in the campus community during the events offered during the first three weeks of the semester.
New Student Social at The Sett
Friday, January 20, 2023, Time TBA
Join your peers in Union South to enjoy bowling, billiards, games and more at the New Student Social. Pizza provided! Please bring socks if you would like to go bowling.

Technology Information: MFA-DUO
All students are required to enroll in multi-factor authentication from Duo Security (MFA-Duo). This is an additional step to your NetID login process. Here are your device options (i.e. smartphone, tablet, token/fob or security key) for logging into MFA-Duo and a guide for Prove It’s You! Multi-factor Authentication for Students. Please note: You are not allowed to share your NetID, password or MFA-Duo login information with anyone per the Acceptable Use of Information Technology Resources. Failure to comply may result in suspension or loss of access to UW System IT resources.

International Students Check-In Process (required to activate and maintain visa status)
If you are an international student preparing to come to campus on an F-1 or J-1 visa for the spring 2023 semester, please visit the International Student Services (ISS) website at iss.wisc.edu. This site has helpful pre-arrival guidelines, details about completing mandatory International Student Orientation (ISO) and ISS Check-in within your Terra Dotta portal, COVID-19 FAQs, and information for dependents. Transfer students from another U.S. institution as well as students changing their visa status to F-1 or J-1 and students already at UW-Madison but doing a Change of Level must also complete the ISO and ISS Check-in requirement.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Participants with Disabilities
Disability accommodations for SOAR are available for students and their parents/guests with either permanent or temporary disabilities. During the program, students will travel 0.1 miles from Memorial Union to College Library. Parents and guests will stay in Memorial Union for the duration of the program. Students and guests who may need assistance should contact the SOAR Information Line at 608-262-4707.

Changes/Cancellations
Any changes to your SOAR reservation must be made at least one week prior to your attendance. SOAR will not grant refunds for changes or cancellations made within one week of your attendance, except in extreme circumstances.

PARENTS AND FAMILIES
Welcome to the Badger Family! The Center for the First-Year Experience (CFYE) is committed to providing you with the necessary support to help facilitate a successful transition for your student. We also offer online content for parents and family members of incoming Badgers that covers a wide range of topics. Visit our SOAR for Parents & Families page for more information: soar.wisc.edu/family
GET READY FOR ADVISING

☑ Know your NetID and password. You will need this info to register for classes.

☑ Gather academic/scholarship information you have received that relates to your course enrollment.

☑ Score reports for AP, IB, A-levels or other college-level tests and unofficial transcripts of college classes in which you have participated. Remember to send all final transcripts to the Office of Admissions & Recruitment!

☑ Complete the January 2023 Pre-SOAR course in Canvas prior to your in-person SOAR session.

CONTACTS

SOAR Office
608-262-4707
The phone is answered M–F 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. CST.
soar@studentlife.wisc.edu
soar.wisc.edu

McBurney Disability Resource Center
608-263-2741 (voice) / 608-225-7956 (text)
mcburney.wisc.edu

For disability accommodations during SOAR, please call the SOAR Information Line at 608-262-4707.

Testing & Evaluation Services (Placement Testing)
608-262-5863
frontdesk@exams.wisc.edu

Contact Testing & Evaluation Services for disability accommodation questions for placement testing.
exams.wisc.edu/placement/uw-madison-students.php

Undergraduate Admissions
608-262-3961
onwisconsin@admissions.wisc.edu
wisc.edu/admissions

Social Media
facebook.com/uwnewstudent
twitter.com/uwnewstudent
instagram.com/uwnewstudent

University Housing
608-262-2522 (Voicemails only)
housing.wisc.edu/about/contact/
Housing offices typically reply to contact form submissions within two business days.

University Housing
608-262-2522 (Voicemails only)
housing.wisc.edu/about/contact/
Housing offices typically reply to contact form submissions within two business days.