NEW STUDENT & FAMILY ORIENTATION ASSESSMENT REPORT SUMMER 2018
ABOUT NEW STUDENT PROGRAMS

This Assessment Report serves as general overview of summer 2018 New Student and Family Orientation programs and reports summary results of program evaluations.

About New Student and Family Orientation
Under the Office of New Student Programs (NSP), the New Student and Family Orientation (NSFO) program is mandatory for all incoming, degree-seeking first-year and transfer students and optional for family members. Summer 2018 was comprised of 20 two-day sessions for first-year students (including one specifically for Summer Start participants) and five (5) one-day sessions for transfer students. These numbers include an August session for both domestic and international first-year and transfer students.

As part of the Division of Academic & Student Affairs, NSP reports to the Provost’s Office and offers an academically-based Orientation program that also includes significant student life messages essential to the success of our students.

Mission of New Student Programs
New Student Programs addresses the holistic needs of each new NC State student to create a foundation of success.

Based on the core value that people matter, New Student Programs achieves this through:

- **CULTIVATING** strategic partnerships across the University
- **PROMOTING** an environment of personal responsibility
- **FOSTERING** inclusivity through a shared campus identity
- **PARTNERING** with parents and families
- **PREPARING** and **EMPOWERING** student leaders to serve the campus
- **STRIVING** to be innovative in meeting the needs of our community

Learning Outcomes
By participating in our programs, students should achieve the outcomes identified below.

- **ACADEMIC SUCCESS**
  *Outcome 1a:* Identify skills, university and college resources, and policies that promote academic success and engagement in co-curricular learning experiences

- **CONNECTION TO CAMPUS**
  *Outcome 2a:* Develop a sense of community with fellow students, faculty and staff by engaging in shared experiences
  *Outcome 2b:* Recognize the value of the different experiences of individuals within the campus community

- **COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS**
  *Outcome 3a:* Examine the role of personal responsibility as it applies to the University’s academic and behavioral expectations and policies
  *Outcome 3b:* Identify behaviors and resources that promote personal and community well-being and safety

- **TRANSITION TO THE UNIVERSITY ENVIRONMENT**
  *Outcome 4a:* Demonstrate the ability to navigate the day-to-day functions of collegiate life by utilizing the available resources

- **STUDENT LEADER DEVELOPMENT**
  *Outcome 5a:* Apply effective leadership skills in interactions with students, families, New Student Programs staff, and campus partners
  *Outcome 5b:* Utilize knowledge of campus to address the transitional needs of new students and families

New Student Programs
ORIENTATION FINANCES

New Student and Family Orientation programs are funded through student fees paid by incoming, degree-seeking first-year and transfer students. The costs associated with these programs, including personnel, materials, food, and housing come from the New Student Programs operating budget.

The fees for students are outlined below.

**First-Year Students**
- First-Year Students: $204.25

**Transfer Students**
- Transfer Students: $54.50

New Student Programs would also like to extend appreciation to on-campus partners for their continued support of the New Student and Family Orientation program and incoming students and families.

Sponsors include:
- Arts NC State
- NC State Dining
- NC State Wellness & Recreation
- Parents and Families Services
- Student Alumni Association
- Student Involvement
- Sustainability Office
- University Student Centers

NEW IN 2018

In Summer 2018, New Student Programs made several changes to components of the student orientation program. These changes are in response to a renewed focus on free speech and expression, prior assessment, and new campus partners. Descriptions of these changes are outlined below.

- **FREE SPEECH & EXPRESSION MESSAGING**
  To assist students in better understanding expectations of the NC State community and the free speech environment on campus, messages from the Provost were shared prior to the Pack Pride performance. These messages related to the freedom of speech and expression as hallmarks of the collegiate environment and encouraged students to engage in an open and honest exchange of ideas with respect and civility.

- **REALIGNMENT OF PRESENTATIONS**
  In response to previous assessments, the schedule of student orientation sessions was realigned with the *Connect and Engage with the Pack* and *Academic Success 101* presentations swapping timeslots. This was done to allow for a discussion regarding involvement on campus prior to students visiting various organizations at the Information Fair. Additionally, this allowed better alignment of the academic messaging to just before students’ time with their colleges/majors, so students were hearing general academic messages directly before their college-specific information.

- **PARTNERSHIP WITH PNC BANK**
  PNC Bank (PNC) was named as the NC State banking partner this past year with a branch opening on campus in June 2018. As a new campus resource to assist students in managing their financial health, PNC partnered with New Student and Family Orientation to share information with program participants in a multitude of ways, including providing student staff training, hosting a table at the Information Fair, and presenting with Campus Enterprises during Family Orientation.
### FIRST YEAR ORIENTATION ATTENDANCE
(STUDENT & FAMILY)

#### Attendance by Session Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer Orientation</td>
<td>4,378</td>
<td>6,231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Start</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August Orientation</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Orientation</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Attendance</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,941</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,724</strong></td>
</tr>
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#### Attendance by College/Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/Program</th>
<th>Students Attended</th>
<th>Family Members Attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Institute</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture &amp; Life Sciences</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>145</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>1,320</td>
<td>1,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploratory Studies</td>
<td>773</td>
<td>1,024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities &amp; Social Sciences</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Sciences First Year</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poole College of Management</td>
<td>474</td>
<td>594</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources*</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sciences</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textiles*</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*First-year students in Textile Engineering students are coded as College of Textiles students; first-year Paper Science and Engineering students are coded as College of Natural Resources students.
# Transfer Orientation Attendance (Student & Family)

## Attendance by Session Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session Type</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer Orientation</td>
<td>1,126</td>
<td>1,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August Orientation</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Orientation</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Attendance</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,270</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,127</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Attendance by College/Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/Program</th>
<th>Students Attended</th>
<th>Family Members Attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Institute</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture &amp; Life Sciences</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities &amp; Social Sciences</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poole College of Management</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sciences</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textiles</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As in previous years, information was gathered through the *Incoming First-Year Student Survey* administered by the Office of Institutional Research and Planning. In 2018, 2,576 first-year students responded to the survey for a response rate of 52%. All results reported are responses indicated as “Strongly Agree” or “Agree” by survey participants.

An integral component of the orientation program is the academic transition of first-year students and as such is discussed through multiple institutional and college-specific messages. Significant time is placed on the academic advising and course registration process with an emphasis on specific academic requirements in a student’s given college or program. Delivered messages also include the university resources and policies that may impact a student’s success at NC State, such as the University Tutorial Center and the Career Development Center.

Consistent with previous years, students indicated high levels of agreement and satisfaction with the information and attention provided during their orientation experience. 97.0% of those who responded reported NSO provides useful information about the policies that may impact their experience at NC State (up from 94.7% in 2017). New in 2018, respondents were asked about the role personal responsibility may play in adhering to academic and behavioral expectations on campus, as well as their ability to access information related to these policies. In both instances, those who responded indicated high levels of agreement (99.4% and 95.8% respectively).

During New Student Orientation, a majority of academic messages specific to a student’s major are presented during a student’s time with their college or program. Again in 2018, the items measuring the student experience with their college or program remained consistent with previous years. In 2018, 90.9% of those students who responded reported the information/advice received from their college or department during Orientation helped to plan their fall schedule (down from 92.7% in 2017), while respondents in 2018 also indicated their satisfaction with the attention received at Orientation (91.0% in 2018 compared to 93.0% in 2017). Related specifically to getting their questions answered, 92.3% of respondents reported having the opportunity to get academic questions answered during time with their college/department (remained consistent with 2017).

Unique to NC State is the self-registration process for a handful of colleges/programs, in which approximately 30% of the incoming first-year class is advised and registers for their fall semester courses prior to attending Orientation. In assessing the student experience with advising and course registration before Orientation, respondents indicated similar experiences as in previous years with slight decreases from 2017. In 2018, 86.6% of those self-registration students who responded indicated that the information and advice received from their college or program prior to Orientation helped them in planning their fall schedule and 89.3% of those self-registration students who responded indicated satisfaction with the attention they received prior to Orientation.

Overall, first-year students again in 2018 indicated high levels of satisfaction prior to and during New Student Orientation with their experiences related to academic advising and course registration although 2018 numbers represent a slight decrease from the previous year.
As a result of participating in NSO:

97.8%
I am excited to start my first semester at NC State

95.9%
I feel better prepared to start my first semester at NC State

NSO provided useful information about:

99.3%
The prohibition of sexual violence, relationship violence, and stalking at NC State

99.1%
The resources available if help is needed to prevent or report sexual violence

To complement the strong academic messages presented, New Student Orientation (NSO) strives to assist students in developing an understanding of the resources available to navigate their day-to-day experience on campus, as well as the NC State community and the inherent expectations of membership in this community.

To assess the information presented at NSO regarding the management of their day-to-day experiences, respondents were asked whether they can better envision what their day-to-day life may be like during their first year with 91.8% of students strongly agreeing or agreeing.

Through a follow up question asking them to identify the resource they believed would be most helpful in promoting personal wellness at NC State, students responded by overwhelmingly identifying various campus resources (advisors, faculty, etc.), taking personal time, maintaining an appropriate sleep schedule, and managing their time effectively. While these messages are delivered throughout NSO, these items strongly reiterate the messages in the Learning to Howl presentation from the Counseling Center.

To assist students in gaining information about the variety of high impact practices available on campus, NSO promotes learning about these activities through student engagement breakout sessions. Students were asked whether NSO provided useful information about resources available to students wanting to participate in these activities (i.e., career development, leadership and civic engagement, study abroad, and undergraduate research) with over 93.0% of respondents strongly agreeing or agreeing to each prompt.

As mentioned previously, a significant portion of the NSO program strives to assist students in understanding the expectations for members of the campus community. New in 2018, information related to free speech and expression in a collegiate environment was included. Students were asked to reflect on prompts related to whether New Student Orientation provided useful information about these messages.

In response, 98.3% of those who responded reported NSO provided useful information about NC State’s acceptance and encouragement of the free and open exchange of ideas and opinions. Additionally, of those students who responded, 94.6% reported that NSO provided useful information about the resources available to students if they have questions about free speech and free expression at NC State.

In conjunction with multiple campus partners, NSO also covers expectations related to sexual assault and interpersonal violence prevention education through the Impact Your Community presentation. Similar to 2017, of those who responded, 99.3% indicated useful information was provided about the prohibition of sexual violence, relationship violence, and stalking at NC State. Respondents also indicated that useful information was provided about the resources available if help is needed to prevent or report sexual violence with 99.1% of those responded either strongly agreeing or agreeing. Of those who responded, 98.0% also reported NSO provided useful information about the tactics students can use to be an active bystander to prevent or disrupt violence.

Overall again in 2018, first-year students overwhelmingly indicated that they were excited (97.8%) and better prepared (95.9%) to start their first semester at NC State as a result of participating in New Student Orientation.
As in previous years, assessment information was gathered through the *Incoming Transfer Student Survey* administered by the Office of Institutional Research and Planning. In 2018, 579 students responded to the survey for a response rate of 45%. All results reported are responses indicated as “Strongly Agree” or “Agree” by survey participants.

To address the academic transition of transfer students, Transfer Orientation focuses significant time and energy in sharing relevant campus resources, connecting students to their academic homes, and discussing ways students can mitigate transitional academic issues that may impact their success at NC State. Unlike a majority of first-year students, entering transfer students are encouraged to speak with an academic advisor and register for fall semester course prior to attending Transfer Orientation. To this end, students were asked to evaluate their experiences prior to and during orientation. In 2018, 89.5% of those who responded reported the information and advice they received from their college/department prior to Orientation helped them plan their fall schedules compared to just 81.5% of those who responded indicating this occurring at Orientation. Given the expectation for students to register for fall courses prior to Orientation, the decrease in perceived assistance is expected; however, both percentages indicate decreases from 2017.

Consistent with 2017 (although slightly lower), students indicated high levels of satisfaction with the attention they received from their college/department prior to (86.6%) and during (91.1%) Orientation. While there are most likely some frustrating issues faced by some students in the advising and registration process, an overwhelming majority of those who responded indicated satisfaction with the service provided by their college/department.

Covering important information related to the personal and academic transitions facing transfer students, *Life in Pack Lane: Merging into NC State* [a new presentation in 2017] combined messages from the Counseling Center and Academic Advising Program and Services. This presentation shared important resources and policies, among other messages, with students and families. In assessment, 96.3% of those transfer students who responded reported Transfer Orientation provided useful information about policies that may impact their experience at NC State. Additionally, 87.4% of those transfer students who responded indicated that they could better envision what their day-to-day life may be like in their first year at NC State as a result of participating in Transfer Orientation.
Due to the importance of transfer students understanding the expectations of the community they are entering, Transfer Orientation (TO) places an emphasis on assisting students in developing an understanding of those expectations of membership and the resources available on campus to help them succeed. As such, students were asked to reflect on prompts related to whether Transfer Orientation provided useful information about various related items.

Throughout Transfer Orientation, the importance of personal responsibility is promoted when discussing students adhering to the behavioral and academic expectations of the institution. As a result, students were asked, as a result of participating in Transfer Orientation, they were aware of this responsibility and whether they knew how to access information related to these expectations (e.g., Code of Student Conduct, Progress Towards Degree, etc.). Of those transfer students who responded, 99.1% reported an awareness that it is their personal responsibility to adhere to the academic and behavioral expectations of the University and 95.1% reported knowing how to access information related to academic and behavioral expectations and policies.

As a new addition to the program in 2018, information related to free speech and expression in a collegiate environment was delivered as part of the Valuing Your Community presentation. In response, 97.0% of those who responded reported TO provided useful information about NC State’s acceptance and encouragement of the free and open exchange of ideas and opinions. Additionally, of those students who responded, 95.3% reported that TO provided useful information about the resources available to students if they have questions about free speech and free expression at NC State.

In conjunction with multiple campus partners, Transfer Orientation also covers expectations related to sexual assault and interpersonal violence prevention education through the Impackt Your Community presentation. Similar to 2017, of those who responded, 98.2% indicated useful information was provided about the prohibition of sexual violence, relationship violence, and stalking at NC State. Respondents also indicated that useful information was provided about the resources available if help is needed to prevent or report sexual violence with 98.6% of those responded either strongly agreeing or agreeing. Of those who responded, 97.7% also reported Transfer Orientation provided useful information about the tactics students can use to be an active bystander to prevent or disrupt violence.

As with first-year students, a follow up question was asked of transfer students to identify the strategies they believed would be most helpful in promoting their personal wellness at NC State. In line with first-year students as well, transfer students responded by overwhelmingly identifying various campus resources, discussing ways to effectively use personal time (stress and time management), ways to maintain physical wellness, and getting involved on campus.

While representing similar results from 2017, overall in 2018, transfer students who responded overwhelmingly indicated that they were excited (97.7%) and better prepared (92.1%) to start their first semester at NC State as a result of participating in Transfer Orientation.
Family members of incoming, domestic undergraduate first-year students enrolling in the fall semester may attend an optional two-day orientation session that runs concurrently with their students’ orientation. Transfer family members are provided the option of a one-day session that runs concurrently with the student program. During the Family Orientation program, families are exposed to various student support services and resources, as well as their student’s academic college. Note: In 2017, Parents’ Orientation was renamed Family Orientation to be inclusive of the various support systems students bring with them to campus.

New Student Programs administered surveys to family members after their attendance at Family Orientation. In 2018, the response rate was approximately 24.3% for first-year family members and 18.6% for transfer family members. All results reported are responses indicated as “Strongly Agree” or “Agree” by survey participants.

Throughout the morning presentations at Family Orientation, participants hear from University administrators, staff, and current students regarding the experience of students in their first year at NC State. Expectations of the first year are presented to students and family members based around three facets of the student experience: building their community, opening their minds, and shaping their lives. These ideas assist students and family members in re-envisioning the concepts of student success outside of the traditional GPA mindset. As seen below, of those first-year and transfer families who responded, a high level of agreement was reported for “what student success may look like during your student’s first year at NC State, which represents a slight increase from 2017.

To provide concrete avenues through which family members are able to support their students during their transition, New Student Programs partners with the Counseling Center to present Helping Your Wolf Howland Academic Advising Program and Services to present Academic Success 101 for first-year families and Life in the Pack Lane: Merging into NC State for transfer families. These presentations include a variety of campus support resources and a current student panel component. In assessing whether or not participants felt that useful information was presented in these areas, respondents were asked whether Family Orientation provided useful information about “resources available to help your student succeed at NC State” and “ways to support to your student and yourself during this transition”.

As with the previous student success prompt, of those first-year and transfer family members who responded, high levels of agreement were reported indicating that Family Orientation provided useful information about available resources to help their students succeed and ways to support themselves and their students during the transition. These results represent similar numbers from the previous year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRST-YEAR FAMILIES</th>
<th>Useful information was provided about:</th>
<th>TRANSFER FAMILIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>98.7%</td>
<td>What student success may look like during your student’s first year at NC State</td>
<td>97.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99.7%</td>
<td>Resources available to help your student succeed at NC State</td>
<td>98.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99.4%</td>
<td>Ways to support your student and yourself during this transition</td>
<td>97.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FAMILY ORIENTATION

FIRST-YEAR PARENTS

98.2%
Indicated being better prepared for their student to start their first semester at NC State due to the information provided

99.7%
Indicated being excited for their student to start their first semester at NC State due to their participation in orientation

97.7%
Indicated feeling more a part of the NC State community due to their participation in orientation

TRANSFER PARENTS

94.4%
Indicated being better prepared for their student to start their first semester at NC State due to the information provided

98.9%
Indicated being excited for their student to start their first semester at NC State due to their participation in orientation

95.0%
Indicated feeling more a part of the NC State community due to their participation in orientation

As with the student orientation programs, it is hoped Family Orientation participants leave their experience feeling better prepared and excited for their students to start their first year at NC State due to the information provided. As in previous years, family respondents indicated high levels of feeling both better prepared and more excited as a result of Family Orientation.

98.2% of those first-year family members who responded (a decrease of 0.1% in 2017) and 94.4% of those transfer family members who responded (an increase of 0.7% from 2017) reported the information provided at Family Orientation helped them feel better prepared for their student to start to their first year at NC State. In conjunction, 99.7% of those first-year family members who responded (up from 99.1% in 2017) and 98.9% of those transfer family members who responded (an increase of 1.0% from 2017) indicated feeling excited for their student to start their first year at NC State as a result of their Family Orientation experience.

Throughout the Family Orientation programs, NC State hopes to share community values, history, and traditions, while also providing participants an opportunity to meet current, faculty, staff and fellow incoming family members, in order to build a sense of community among incoming family members with NC State.

As in previous years, family members were asked about their feelings of being a part of the larger NC State community as a result of Family Orientation. 97.7% of those first-year family members who responded (an increase of 0.4% from 2017) and 95.0% of those transfer family members who responded (an increase of 0.6% from 2017) indicated feeling more a part of the NC State community as a result of their participation in the Family Orientation programs.
2018 ORIENTATION STUDENT STAFF

Student Coordinators
Madi Blais (Psychology)  
Lee Daniel (Microbiology)  
Arian Ferreira (Fashion & Textile Mgmt)  
Yahssain Khan (Business Administration)  
Shelby White (Accounting)

Office Assistants
Sam Blue (Math Education)  
Rachel DeLange (Biological Sciences)

Orientation Leaders
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Zach Anderson (Political Science)  
Williesha Bannister (Communication)  
LouLou Batta (Chemistry)  
Nathan Berley (Nutrition Science)  
Lauren Bills (Life Sciences First Year)  
Pauline Bulala (Nutrition Science)  
Calista Caballero (Political Science)  
Coltan Compton (Psychology)  
Brandon Daggerhart (Computer Science)  
Jeremy Dela Paz (Communication)  
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Ryan Edmonds (Psychology)  
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Nathen Foster (Human Biology)  
Seth Garrett (Applied Mathematics)  
Arianna George (Chemistry)  
Jasmine Gregory (Environmental Science)  
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Cody Holtman (Biomedical Engineering)  
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Carley Maierhofer (Food Science)  
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Amara Obi (Management First Year)  
Karen Sanchez (Biomedical Engineering)  
Alex Singleton (Accounting)  
Kaleigh Stites (Criminology)  
Sarah Sylvestre (Engineering First Year)  
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Emma Wilson (Elementary Ed.)
NEW STUDENT PROGRAMS
DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

North Carolina State University is a land-grant university and a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina System

For more information, visit New Student Programs at http://newstudents.ncsu.edu
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