What is “YOU at KU”?  

“YOU at KU” is a week-long orientation program designed to ease your transition to the U.S. and KU. Participants complete all required check-ins, enjoy fun social events, and become better acquainted with the University of Kansas. Participating in orientation is a great way to reduce enrollment stress, meet new friends from all over the world, and start to feel at home in your new environment!

All undergraduate international students, regardless of immigration status, and all graduate students in F-1 and J-1 status are required to participate in “YOU at KU” and are automatically charged a $185 orientation fee on their KU student account. This fee covers the cost to attend. Housing options are available at an additional cost.

Orientation helps you...

- Complete all necessary check-ins with less stress on time to enroll before the start of classes
- Have all of your questions answered in a small-group setting by excited Orientation Leaders
- Hear about KU resources through informational sessions
- Learn how to adjust to life as a new Jayhawk
- Meet friends for the rest of your life!
Housing

Students with an on-campus housing contract through the KU Department of Student Housing will be able to move into their contracted space on January 4 for an additional nightly fee of $19 until the official start of their housing contract on January 16. We recommend this option for any student who has signed a housing contract with the Department of Student Housing. If you would like to sign a contract for on-campus housing for the 2016 Spring semester, visit www.housing.ku.edu and click “Contract” at the heading.

For those not living in on-campus housing, or who have not yet signed a housing contract with the Department of Student Housing, optional temporary housing for “YOU at KU” participants is available at Naismith Hall (1800 Naismith Drive), an off-campus residence hall located next to the KU campus. Accommodations are double-occupancy rooms with a roommate in a two-room, single-gender suite with a shared bathroom. More about Naismith Hall can be found at http://naismithhall.com/internationalprogram/. The cost for orientation housing at Naismith Hall is $272, which includes both room rent and the use of towels, bed sheets, pillow with case, and a blanket for the nights of January 4 - 14. The price is the same whether you stay for all or only a portion of these nights. To stay in Naismith Hall during orientation, you must pre-register for “YOU at KU” Option 2 (Orientation with Temporary Housing). The $272 housing charge is included in the price for this option. You must pre-register by submitting your pre-registration E-Form through i-Hawk (instructions on page 5 of the Pre-Arrival Guide found at http://iss.ku.edu/pre-arrival-guide) by Sunday, December 20. Orientation staff will be available to help students move from Naismith Hall to their new residence on the morning of January 15. Students moving in to a semester residence hall on January 15th will be charged an extra $19 for moving in to their residence hall one day early.

The $272 housing charge is in addition to the orientation and check-in fee. It will be billed to your KU Enroll & Pay account following orientation, and payment is your responsibility. Once you pre-register, there are no cancellations or refunds if you decide not to stay in Naismith Hall during orientation.

You may also choose to make your own housing arrangements someplace else. However, “YOU at KU” transportation is not provided for locations other than Naismith Hall and the KU Residence Halls.

Transportation

For an additional cost, university sponsored transportation will be provided from the Kansas City International Airport to the University of Kansas Lawrence campus on January 4th, 2016. This option will only be provided for travel on January 4th, so please do not select this option if you will be arriving at the Kansas City International Airport on a different date. More information for this option, including price, will be provided no later than December 1st, 2015. Please visit http://iss.ku.edu/airport-lawrence on December 1st if you are interested in this transportation option.

Meals

The Orientation fee includes six evening meals and one lunch for all participants that pre-register by December 20. If you pre-register after this date you will not be guaranteed access to these included meals. All other meals are not provided by orientation and will be your responsibility. However, you will have access to a variety of campus food courts and residential dining centers, local grocery stores, and restaurants.

Benefits of Participating:

- Priority completion of all check-in procedures
- Meet with an advisor & enroll with less stress
- Receive a welcome packet with helpful resources
- Get to know helpful KU staff and resources
- Meet other new students from all over the world
- Get answers to all of your questions about KU, the US, and life as a college student.
- Gain advice for adapting to your new environment
- Make connections for the rest of your time at KU
- Learn how to get involved on campus
- Meet current American and international students
- Have an exciting & informative first week at KU!
The Orientation Program Includes:

- Small groups with trained leaders to help you through procedures
- A guided campus tour
- Explanations and help with all required check-ins
- Opportunities to set up a bank account
- Discussions on US culture, customs, & social expectations
- Assistance with housing
- Presentations about campus and community resources
- Tips for student success at KU
- Explanation of legal issues & maintaining immigration status
- Seven meals, including a special closing event
- An evening out in downtown Lawrence
- Free transportation to many of the Orientation events for those living in KU student housing or Naismith Hall
- Shopping shuttles to help you buy the things you need
- Topics on health and safety concerns
- New friends and fun social events
- Introductions to campus clubs and organizations
- A personal welcoming as a new KU Jayhawk!

Pre-Registration and Payment

Pre-registration for “YOU at KU” is required. A $185 orientation fee that is automatically charged to the KU account of every new international undergraduate and F-1 and J-1 graduate student covers the cost to attend.

Pre-register now for “YOU at KU” by submitting your pre-registration E-Form through iHawk (instructions on page 5 of the Pre-Arrival Guide found at [http://iss.ku.edu/pre-arrival-guide](http://iss.ku.edu/pre-arrival-guide)) by Sunday, December 20th to be guaranteed meal tickets to the seven provided orientation meals (six dinners and one lunch).

Arrival and Registration

Registration for “YOU at KU” is 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 5 on the fifth floor of the Kansas Union (1301 Jayhawk Boulevard). Arrival times will be staggered to avoid waiting in long lines. You will be emailed further instructions about arrival times sometime in the middle of December. At registration, you will also receive your name tag, schedule and welcome packet.

You should plan to arrive to Lawrence in time to attend registration. If you must arrive late, report immediately to the International Student Services Office, Room 2 Strong Hall, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

See [http://www.iss.ku.edu/airport-lawrence](http://www.iss.ku.edu/airport-lawrence) for suggestions on transportation from the Kansas City airport to Lawrence. You may park for free without a permit in any of the “Yellow” (not Gold) parking lots and any of the parking lots around campus housing that are colored dark green on the parking map found at [http://parking.ku.edu](http://parking.ku.edu) until January 18. After that date you will need to purchase a parking permit if you wish to park on campus. Orientation parking is also available in the Mississippi Street parking garage located next to the Kansas Union for a fee of $1.75 for the first hour and $1.50 for each additional hour. You will pay when you exit the garage. Do not park in any of the other colored lots on campus as you will be ticketed and will have to pay a fine.

Please attempt to upload your immigration documents prior to your arrival. Instructions for uploading documents can be found in the Pre-Arrival Guide at [http://iss.ku.edu/pre-arrival-guide](http://iss.ku.edu/pre-arrival-guide) (page 5).

Questions?

Contact us by telephone at 1(785) 864-3617 or by email at issorientation@ku.edu

Here’s what former participants had to say:

- “Excellent way to meet lots of new friends from all over the world.”
- “Very nice and amazingly helpful people.”
- “It’s the platform to meet the right person in getting useful information.”
- “Helpful opportunity for getting to know the processes and important authorities at KU.”
- “A lot of fun!”