



Schedule

First-Generation College Students Track

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Arrival & Check-in

Check-in at the La Paz Rd entrance. You will then be directed to your residence hall where you may begin unpacking your belongings and settling into your new room. If you've already moved onto campus, as, for example, an athlete, please do check in during this timeframe.

Location: La Paz Rd Entrance

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Move-in & Unpack

Once checked in, take some time to unpack your things and settle into your room.

Location: Residence Halls

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch

Enjoy lunch in your new Dining Commons.

Location: Dining Commons, Kerr Student Center

12:00 p.m. Campus Tour (optional)

A student guide will show you and your guests around campus, highlighting key points in the student life experience.

Location: Dining Commons, Kerr Student Center

1:30 p.m. Welcome (Students & Guests)

Students and guests hear from your community members who also identify as first-generation college students. Come and be inspired as you start your academic journey at Westmont.

Location: Global Leadership Center

2:40 p.m. Getting Acquainted: New Connections (Students)

Our first-generation student leaders will help you break the ice and get to know other student participants. Meet outside the Global Leadership Center, and walk over together.

Location: Carroll Hall Lawn

2:40 p.m. Supporting Your Student (Guests)

Hear practical ways that you can support your student through the new journey they are embarking upon. Learn about the many resources available to them, and how you can New Connectionbest challenge, encourage, and support them from afar.

Location: Global Leadership Center

3:30 p.m. Faculty and Staff Speed Connections (Students)

This is a First Connections favorite! Get to know your faculty and staff from across campus, two minutes at a time. Developing deep interpersonal relationships with your friendly faculty is a strong Westmont value. Speed Connections provides a fun, easy, and fast-paced opportunity to launch these new friendships.

Location: Global Leadership Center

4:30 p.m. Residence Life Staff Meet-and-Greet (Students & Guests)

Residence Life staff will introduce themselves and their roles on campus. Each Resident Director will be available for students and guests in their assigned residence hall to ask questions.

Location: Global Leadership Center

5:00 p.m. Family Dinner (Students & Guests)

Students and their guests are invited to share a family-style meal with all First Connection participants including our international and first-generation attendees. Enjoy lawn games and camaraderie in a relaxed outdoor environment.

Location: Deane Lawn

8:00 p.m. Student Game Night (Students) - optional

Join several other incoming students for a fun evening of casual, involved or potentially silly games.

Location: Clark A Lounge



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8:30 a.m. Breakfast (Students)

Grab your breakfast and join us for conversation and connection.

Location: Founders Room, Kerr Student Center

8:45 a.m. Coffee and Donuts with the Westmont Parents Council (Guests)

Parents and other guests enjoy coffee and donuts while mingling with faculty, staff, and members of the Westmont Parents Council.

Location: Physics Patio, Winter Hall, 3rd floor

9:45 a.m. Concurrent Sessions 1 (Students & Guests)

10:35 a.m. Concurrent Sessions 2 (Students & Guests)

Students and guests select from one of the four options below for each of the two sessions. Each session will be offered twice.

Financial Aid and Budgeting Tips & Tricks

A representative from Student Financial Services will go over some financial aid essentials and discuss ways to make college more affordable (scholarships, work-study, etc.). Come hear advice about how to stretch your funds and use what you have wisely.

Location: Winter Hall 106

Spanish interpretation is available for Session 1 only

Academic Planning & Career Readiness

We will have representatives to share about general education, majors, graduation requirements, global education, and the Cove (Career Opportunities and Vocational Exploration).

Location: Winter Hall 206

Spanish interpretation is available for Session 2 only

Thriving in Your Classes

Hear from one of your student success coaches (SSCs) how to not just survive but to thrive in your academic work. This session will focus on practical and proven strategies for college success. Some of the topics will include: syllabus review, navigating Canvas, note-taking, seeking support and communicating with professors, time management, and study skills.

Location: Winter Hall 212

Cultural Transitions

A faculty member with experience living abroad will lead us in a discussion about transitioning into a new culture. How do I retain and celebrate important elements of my culture and upbringing in this new place? How do I appropriately embrace aspects of this new culture? How do I have conversations about these topics with classmates who may not know how to do so? And how do I do it all with grace and mercy for those around me and for myself?

Location: Winter Hall 216

11:30 a.m. First Connections Closing (Students & Guests)

Come and be encouraged as you are launched into this new journey of higher education, focused on the end goal of graduation and attaining your degree.

Location: Winter Hall Lawn

You will then join Warrior Welcome, the all-student orientation. Check in at the Welcome tent on Kerrwood lawn and make sure to get your Student ID photo taken.