



Franklin College

# WELCOME WEEK 2026

## WEDNESDAY, AUG 26

9:00-11:00 a.m.

**Residential Student Move-In**

**RESIDENCE HALLS**

3:30-4:00 p.m.

**Commuter Student Check-In**

**NAPOLITAN STUDENT CENTER  
(NSC) ATRIUM**

4:00-4:30 p.m.

**Student & Family Welcome**

**SPURLOCK CENTER**

Begin your Welcome Week journey here! Listen to welcome remarks from college leadership, get pertinent updates and suggestions on how to get the most out of your Welcome Week experience, and find out how to stay connected with us all year long.

4:30-6:15 p.m.

**Dinner**

**NSC DINING HALL**

Beginning with tonight's dinner through August 30, all meals will be provided for commuter students, regardless of their meal plan status.

6:15 p.m.

**Launch Group Meet-up**

**NSC ATRIUM**

Walk with your Launch Mentor and Launch Lab classmates to the Artcraft Theatre in downtown Franklin.

7:00-10:00 p.m.

**Movie at the Historic Artcraft Theatre, hosted  
by President and Mrs. Prather**

**HISTORIC ARTCRAFT THEATRE  
IN DOWNTOWN FRANKLIN**

Join President and Mrs. Prather for a night of introductions and entertainment at the Historic Artcraft Theatre in downtown Franklin. Enjoy a free movie, popcorn, and soft drinks along with the opportunity to win prizes!

## THURSDAY, AUG 27

7:00-9:00 a.m.

**Breakfast**

**NSC DINING HALL**

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

**Launch Lab & Group Advising**

**LAUNCH LAB CLASSROOMS**

Connect in-person with fellow Launch Lab classmates, your Launch Mentor, and your First-Year Advisor.

12:00-1:00 p.m.

**Lunch**

**NSC DINING HALL**

12:00-12:45 p.m.

**TRIO SSS Orientation Lunch**

**JCFA HENDERSON  
CONFERENCE ROOM**

Enjoy lunch while connecting with fellow TRIO Scholars. More information about the program, exciting events, and resources will be shared. Students should get their lunch from the cafeteria and meet in the Atrium, where a Launch Mentor will walk the group over to Henderson Conference Room in JCFA.

1:00-3:30 p.m.

**Be A Good Neighbor**

**NSC BRANIGIN ROOM**

Hear from Student Development staff members about the expectations of being part of our Franklin College community, and the resources available to support students on campus.

1:00 p.m. Launch groups A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H || 2:15 p.m. Launch groups I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P

1:00-3:30 p.m.

**Be Social**

**ASSIGNED LOCATIONS**

Spend time getting to know your Launch group and mentors!

1:00 p.m. Launch groups I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P || 2:15 p.m. Launch groups A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H

5:00-7:00 p.m.

**Dinner**

**NSC DINING HALL**

5:00-7:00 p.m.

**Commuter Dinner and Discussion**

**NSC DINING HALL**

During dinner, join other new students and Launch Mentors to chat about life as a commuter student at FC.

7:00-7:30 p.m.

**Residence Life Meeting** (residential students only)

**NSC BRANIGIN ROOM**

7:30-9:00 p.m.

**Meet S'more Grizzlies** (optional)

**DAME MALL**

Following the Residence Life meeting, join the Resident Assistants in playing yard games and making s'mores on Dame Mall!





FRIDAY, AUG 28

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                |                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 7:00-8:30 a.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Breakfast</b>                               | <b>NSC DINING HALL</b>               |
| 8:30-9:00 a.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Line up for Bell Ceremony</b>               | <b>NSC PATIO/SIDEWALK</b>            |
| 9:00-9:30 a.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Opening Convocation and Bell Ceremony</b>   | <b>DAME MALL ELLIPSE</b>             |
| Celebrate the official opening of the 189 <sup>th</sup> Franklin College academic year with a welcome from President Prather, college leadership, returning students, faculty, and staff.                                 |                                                |                                      |
| 9:30-9:45 a.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Class Picture</b>                           | <b>NSC STEPS</b>                     |
| 10:00-11:00 a.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Be Inclusive</b>                            | <b>LAUNCH LAB CLASSROOMS</b>         |
| Start living our core institutional value of inclusivity through activities and conversations designed to help you communicate across differences and foster a culture of respect within our community.                   |                                                |                                      |
| 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Lunch</b>                                   | <b>NSC DINING HALL</b>               |
| 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Class Schedule Tours (optional)</b>         | <b>LEAVING FROM HAMILTON LIBRARY</b> |
| Let the Launch Mentors help you find your classes, explore campus on your own, or enjoy some down time.                                                                                                                   |                                                |                                      |
| 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Individual Advising Meetings (optional)</b> | <b>ASSIGNED LOCATIONS</b>            |
| Meet 1-on-1 with your first-year advisor to get to know more about them and how you will be working with them throughout the year.                                                                                        |                                                |                                      |
| 1:30-3:00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Be Resourceful</b>                          | <b>CAMPUS OFFICES</b>                |
| Stop by important campus offices to accomplish last-minute errands, meet staff and faculty, and learn where important resources are located. Get your Be Resourceful Guide stamped to be entered into a bookstore raffle. |                                                |                                      |
| 3:10-3:40 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Be Connected</b>                            | <b>NSC BRANIGIN ROOM</b>             |
| Begin connecting with the technology that will help power your academic success. You'll learn from our Information Technology team how to access and navigate our networks and academic software programs at FC.          |                                                |                                      |
| 3:45-5:00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Be Together</b>                             | <b>ASSIGNED LOCATIONS</b>            |
| Build connections with your Launch lab group, mentor, and instructor!                                                                                                                                                     |                                                |                                      |
| 5:00-7:00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Dinner</b>                                  | <b>NSC DINING HALL</b>               |
| 7:00-8:00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Magical Beginnings</b>                      | <b>NSC BRANIGIN ROOM</b>             |
| Release all of your power, energy, and imagination to create a meaningful community through magic!                                                                                                                        |                                                |                                      |
| 8:30-9:00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Tower Tradition</b>                         | <b>DAME MALL ELLIPSE</b>             |
| Your official induction into the Franklin College student body will be a memorable twilight tradition that connects you to the proud, resilient history of our campus and to the values upheld by our community.          |                                                |                                      |

SATURDAY, AUG 29

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                    |                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 7:00-9:30 a.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Breakfast</b>                                   | <b>NSC DINING HALL</b>            |
| 9:30-11:30 a.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>College &amp; Class Connections with Hooray</b> | <b>SPURLOCK CENTER</b>            |
| Hosted by the Center for Student Success, "Hooray" is an interactive program that will be a spirited kick-off to your time as a Grizzly as well as a time to get to know your peers.                                                                                                                                          |                                                    |                                   |
| 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Tailgate and Cookout</b>                        | <b>CLINE WOODS</b>                |
| Enjoy our time-honored tradition of grilling and games prior to supporting the Grizzlies on the field in Fought Stadium. Join new students and some of FC's student organizations under the trees behind Cline Hall.                                                                                                          |                                                    |                                   |
| 1:00 & 5:00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>FC Athletics Scrimmages (optional)</b>          | <b>SPURLOCK CENTER</b>            |
| "Stand up and cheer for Franklin College!" Show us your Grizzly spirit by cheering on our athletics teams in their first contests of the season.                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                    |                                   |
| 5:00-7:00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Dinner</b>                                      | <b>NSC DINING HALL</b>            |
| 8:00-10:00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>Griz Game Night</b>                             | <b>NSC ATRIUM &amp; DAME MALL</b> |
| Get to know your fellow Grizzlies! Show off your skills playing yard games and bingo or take on your friends in Mario Kart and Just Dance on a giant screen. Sign up for corn hole, shuffleboard, pool, and euchre tournaments. Or just hang out, eat snacks, and listen to live music. Win great prizes and bragging rights! |                                                    |                                   |





## SUNDAY, AUG 30

9:00-11:00 a.m.

**Continental Breakfast**

**NSC DINING HALL**

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

**Brunch**

**NSC DINING HALL**

11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

**Center Yourself**

**ASSIGNED LOCATIONS**

Practice self-care by choosing among various activities that will focus on stress reduction, movement, and/or mindfulness. Activities include yoga, meditation, coloring mandalas, basketball open gym, and more. You can also attend a local worship service!

1:00-2:30 p.m.

**Modern Languages Confirmation Exam**

**HAMILTON LIBRARY 309**

Check your Welcome Week schedule sticker to find out if you need to attend this session, which is only for those who want to confirm their language proficiency. Required is for those who want to test out of the modern languages requirement, and optional is for those enrolled in an upper-level language course who may optionally attempt to test out of the language requirement.

1:00-3:00 p.m.

**Chill with the Greeks (optional)**

**DAME MALL ELLIPSE**

Come and meet the Greeks while playing yard games and enjoying a cool treat! Questions about Greek Life on campus? Members will be there to tell you about their experiences and how you can get involved.

1:00-4:00 p.m.

**IT Helpdesk (optional)**

**NSC ATRIUM**

Need help with your laptop? Having IT issues? The Office of Information Technology will be available to support you and make sure your technology is up and running for the first day of class.

3:00 p.m.

**Shopping Shuttles (optional)**

**LEAVING FROM HAMILTON  
PARKING LOT**

Need notebooks or pens for class on Monday? Want to stock up on snacks for your room? Catch a ride to our local Meijer on one of the shuttle vans leaving from the parking lot behind Hamilton Library.

3:00-5:00 p.m.

**TRIO SSS Orientation for all TRIO Scholars**

**NSC BRANIGIN ROOM**

Meet with all TRIO SSS students and enjoy fun activities, opportunities to connect with other TRIO scholars, and information on all the exciting events and workshops planned for the academic year.

5:00-7:00 p.m.

**Dinner**

**NSC DINING HALL**

7:00-8:00 p.m.

**Residence hall floor meetings**  
(required for residential students)

**LOCATIONS POSTED IN  
RESIDENCE HALLS**

## MONDAY, AUG 31

8:00 a.m.

**Classes Begin**

7:30-10:00 a.m.

**First Day of Class Pictures with Donuts + Coffee**

**NSC PATIO**

5:00-8:00 p.m.

**Welcome Bash and Campus Picnic**

**NSC/DAME MALL**

Join the entire Franklin College community to celebrate the beginning of the year. Enjoy a night of inflatable activities, karaoke, giveaways, amazing food, and more!

## TUESDAY, SEPT 1

11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

**Religious Life Welcome Lunch (optional)**

**RICHARDSON CHAPEL  
PORCH/LOBBY**

Join the Office of Religious Life for a come-and-go lunch where you can meet the interfaith Religious Life Team and local churches. We will have food, music, and casual conversation for students of any background and class year.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPT 2

7:00-8:30 p.m.

**Greeks with the Greeks (optional)**

**DAME MALL**

Grab some free pizza from Greeks Pizzeria and play games with members of FC's Greek organizations.

## THURSDAY, SEPT 3

11:00-11:50 a.m.

**Launch Lab**

**LAUNCH LAB CLASSROOMS**

6:00-7:30 p.m.

**Be Engaged Fair**

**DAME MALL**

Student organizations, campus departments, and off-campus partners will be at this event, sharing information about avenues for involvement and resources to help you be successful. There are always lots of great giveaways, too!





## FRIDAY, SEPT 4

5:00-7:00 p.m.

### **FC on the Town (optional)**

### **HOOSIER CUPBOARD**

Celebrate the end of the first week of classes with **FREE** ice cream from the Center for Student Engagement! Meet us at Hoosier Cupboard for our first FC on the Town event of the year. Located at 370 East Jefferson Street, Hoosier Cupboard is just a short walk from campus!

## AUG 30-SEP 16

Various Dates & Times

### **Sorority and Fraternity Recruitment Information Sessions (optional)**

Interested in becoming a part of Greek Life? Want to learn more about recruitment? Follow @FCGreek on Instagram for information regarding information sessions and pre-recruitment events leading up to Greek recruitment, which will take place September 8-15.

Welcome Week is one component of several required elements in your Launch experience. The goals of Welcome Week include building meaningful relationships, developing core skills for academic and personal success, gaining confidence in your ability to navigate college resources, communicating across differences, and deepening a commitment to community. These goals are achieved through various types of programming scheduled throughout the week. Participation requires listening to presentations, engaging in small and large group discussions, reading written materials and handouts, using campus technology, and moving to various locations throughout campus. If you require accommodations for a disability in order to fully participate in Welcome Week, please contact the Center for Student Success at [studentsuccess@FranklinCollege.edu](mailto:studentsuccess@FranklinCollege.edu).

