

# SOAR

STUDENT ORIENTATION ADVISING & REGISTRATION

Center for the First-Year  
Experience

Freshman Student  
Confirmation



**WISCONSIN**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# Welcome to UW-MADISON!

Thank you for making a reservation to attend Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR). Please see the enclosed confirmation letter to be sure that your SOAR session and date are correct. If you need to modify your SOAR reservation, please contact the SOAR office at 608-262-4707 or [soar@studentlife.wisc.edu](mailto:soar@studentlife.wisc.edu).

## SOAR Expectations

UW-Madison has the following expectations of SOAR participants:

- **Complete your placement tests** prior to attending SOAR. There are no exceptions. For more information about testing, go to [testing.wisc.edu](http://testing.wisc.edu).
- **Review your reservation confirmation letter** and update your online information at [soar.wisc.edu](http://soar.wisc.edu). Make any necessary changes online at least one week prior to your session. *Because resources are committed in advance, the SOAR Program is not able to offer refunds less than one week ahead of your program date.*
- **Pay your SOAR fee.** 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.
- **Prepare for SOAR.** Learn how to best prepare for your SOAR experience at [soar.wisc.edu](http://soar.wisc.edu). Complete the online module in MyUW prior to your SOAR session.
- **Attend all activities** during SOAR. If you leave SOAR early, you won't be able to enroll in courses, and you'll miss important information. Plan to be on campus until noon on the second day of your SOAR session.
- **Be active and open to new ideas.** At SOAR, you will work with professional academic advisors and peer advisors to help create a course schedule that works for you!
- **Verify that you have completed all steps** necessary to finalize your admissions: [admissions.wisc.edu/admitted/checklist/fall\\_freshmen.php](http://admissions.wisc.edu/admitted/checklist/fall_freshmen.php).
- **Get social.** Connect with the Center for the First-Year Experience (CFYE) on social media. (See the next page for more information.)

## SOAR Preparation

### WHAT TO BRING

- **A government-issued photo ID** (i.e., passport, driver's license, or state ID card). You'll need this to obtain your Wiscard.
- **Your campus ID number.** (Memorize this number!)
- **Your Net ID and password.** (You will need this info to register for classes.)
- **A pencil or pen.**
- **Any academic/scholarship information** you have received from UW-Madison that relates to your course enrollment.
- Complete the Preparing for SOAR module in your MyUW. Bring any **documentation for AP/IB tests and transcripts for college classes** you reported.
- **Essentials.** Bring comfortable shoes and a sweater; student programming for SOAR takes place in various locations on campus, and you will need to walk between locations. Check the weather before attending; summer weather in Wisconsin can be unpredictable!
- **Optional: Bring socks** for evening activities.

### COMPLETE PLACEMENT TESTS BEFORE SOAR

All incoming freshmen are required to complete placement testing in English (or English as a Second Language) and mathematics, regardless of previous coursework. Students are strongly encouraged to test in a world language as well. For more information about testing, see [testing.wisc.edu](http://testing.wisc.edu).

### ARRIVAL TIME & LOGISTICS

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! View the online campus map at [map.wisc.edu](http://map.wisc.edu) prior to arrival to help navigate campus.

For recommended places to stay during SOAR, please visit [soar.wisc.edu/hotels](http://soar.wisc.edu/hotels), and refer to the insert included in this confirmation packet.

### PARKING & GETTING AROUND

If you plan to drive to campus, you should have indicated a need for a parking space during the SOAR reservation process. If you requested parking, enclosed in this packet are your gate code and parking instructions. If you didn't reserve a parking space and anticipate needing to park on campus, a list of lots with real-time vacant stall counts can be found at [transportation.wisc.edu/parking/lotinfo\\_occupancy.aspx](http://transportation.wisc.edu/parking/lotinfo_occupancy.aspx). Parking costs \$12 per day. If you reserved a space, the cost will be billed with your SOAR fees; otherwise, you can pay when you exit the parking ramp.

## PROGRAM CHECK-IN

**For students *not* staying in University Housing during SOAR**

11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Union South (1308 West Dayton Street)

**For students staying in University Housing during SOAR**

Smith Hall (SOAR sessions June 11–July 13)

- 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
- Smith Hall Lobby (35 North Park Street)

Sellery Hall (SOAR sessions July 23–August 9)

- 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
- Sellery Hall Lobby (821 West Johnson Street)

Please note that there is no parking available at the residence halls. For these locations, you will need to drop off passenger(s) and luggage and continue to parking as directed by SOAR staff.

## 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 walk up to 2.1 miles per day on gentle (0–6 percent) and moderate (6–9 percent) grades. Students who may need assistance traveling this route should contact the SOAR Information Line at 608-262-4707.

## CHANGES/CANCELLATIONS

Because resources are committed in advance, 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.

## DINNER

During SOAR, dinner will be provided. If students or parents/guests have food allergies or specific dietary restrictions, contact the SOAR Office at 608-262-4707 or [soar@studentlife.wisc.edu](mailto:soar@studentlife.wisc.edu) as soon as possible. All dinners will include a vegetarian entree option.

## FINALIZE YOUR ADMISSION

Verify that you have completed all the steps necessary to finalize your admission. Check your status on your Student Center on MyUW, the same place you accepted your admission. The Office of Admissions and Recruitment must receive a final transcript with confirmation of graduation, even if you self-reported your final grades online. Please review email correspondence from the Office of Admissions and Recruitment for important information about this requirement.

## STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

Visit [soar.wisc.edu](http://soar.wisc.edu) to view the SOAR checklist and to learn about:

- UW placement testing.
- Where to stay.
- Parking during your visit to campus.
- Academic advising preparation.
- SOAR program overview (both students and parents/guests) and more!

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

### SOAR Information

608-262-4707

8:30 a.m.–6 p.m. CDT, Monday–Thursday

8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. CDT, Friday

[soar.wisc.edu](http://soar.wisc.edu)

[soar@studentlife.wisc.edu](mailto:soar@studentlife.wisc.edu)

### McBurney Disability Resource Center

608-263-2741 (voice) / 608-225-7956 (text) /

608-265-2998 (fax)

[mcburney.wisc.edu](http://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

[testing.wisc.edu](http://testing.wisc.edu)

### Undergraduate Admissions

608-262-3961

[onwisconsin@admissions.wisc.edu](mailto:onwisconsin@admissions.wisc.edu)

### University Housing

Academic year: 608-262-2522

[AssignMe@housing.wisc.edu](mailto:AssignMe@housing.wisc.edu)

SOAR housing: 608-262-5576

[soar.housing@housing.wisc.edu](mailto:soar.housing@housing.wisc.edu)

## GET CONNECTED



[facebook.com/uwnewstudent](https://facebook.com/uwnewstudent)



[twitter.com/uwnewstudent](https://twitter.com/uwnewstudent)



[instagram.com/uwnewstudent](https://instagram.com/uwnewstudent)

#uwsoar

Connect with new Badgers:

[youatw.com](https://youatw.com)

#youatw

## UW GUIDE APP

For more detailed information about SOAR schedules, construction updates, and other program details, download the UW Guide app by Guidebook Inc. from the App Store or the Google Play Store or visit [go.wisc.edu/soar2018](http://go.wisc.edu/soar2018).

# SOAR OVERVIEW

Students and parents/guests will receive a detailed itinerary during SOAR check-in. Please use the following schedule to arrange your arrival and departure logistics. **You are required to remain at SOAR for the entire program.** Please do not plan to arrive late or leave early. Dinner is included on Day One. Visit [soar.wisc.edu](http://soar.wisc.edu) for more information.

## OPTIONAL PRE-SESSIONS: DAY ONE (FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS/GUESTS) Starting at 11:00 a.m.

There are many things to do on campus prior to the start of your SOAR session. More information will be sent via email and will be available on the UW SOAR app.

- Pick up your Wiscard
- Attend the Multicultural Student Welcome and Social
- Ask questions at the Office of Student Financial Aid resource area
- Hear about resources available at the UW Credit Union
- Check out the DoIT Tech Store for student-only deals
- Have lunch on campus at Union South

## STUDENT PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### DAY ONE

#### SOAR Program Check-In

See "Program Check-In" section for details. The SOAR program (pre-sessions and welcome session) begins at Union South.

#### Welcome & Introduction to Academic Advising

(Students & Parents/Guests)  
1–2 p.m.

#### School/College Advising Sessions

(Students)  
2–5:30 p.m.

#### Resource Fair (Students & Parents/Guests)

4:45–6 p.m.

#### Dinner (Students & Parents/Guests)

5:45–6:35 p.m.

#### Student Evening Program (Students)

6:40–9:20 p.m.

### DAY TWO

#### School/College Advising Sessions

(Students)  
Begins at 8:30 a.m.

#### Student Life and Support Sessions

(Students)  
10–12 p.m.

## PARENT/GUEST PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Parents and guests will attend separate sessions about the transition to college and the resources available at UW–Madison. You will receive your full schedule at check-in.

### DAY ONE

#### SOAR Program Check-In

See "Program Check-In" section for details. The SOAR program (pre-sessions and welcome session) begins at Union South.

#### Welcome & Introduction to Academic Advising

(Students & Parents/Guests)  
1–2 p.m.

#### Sessions for Parents/Guests

Advising and Enrollment, Bills, Wiscard, Safety, and Housing  
2–4:25 p.m.

#### Resource Fair (Students & Parents/Guests)

4:45–6 p.m.

#### Dinner (Students & Parents/Guests)

5:45–6:45 p.m.

#### Family Evening Program

7–9 p.m.

### DAY TWO

Concurrent sessions on Technology, Careers, Involvement, Health, Study Abroad, Service Opportunities, Recreational Sports, and Academic Success  
8:45 a.m.–12 p.m.

## CAMPUS TOURS 1–2 p.m.

All SOAR participants will have the opportunity to participate in a 60-minute campus walking tour in the afternoon.



## SOAR TIPS

UW–Madison has been hosting SOAR for many years, and in that time, we have heard from previous attendees about what they wish they had known before arriving. Here are a few tips!

- Keep an open mind; UW–Madison has more than 150 majors and more than 1,000 student organizations; take some time to explore!
- Summer weather in Wisconsin can be unpredictable; check the forecast before arriving, and bring umbrellas or any other relevant gear. SOAR takes place rain or shine!
- The SOAR program happens all over campus. Over the course of the day, students will walk up to 2.1 miles (0.8 miles at a time) outside. Wear comfortable shoes! If you need accommodations for this travel, please contact the SOAR front desk at 608-262-4707.
- The temperature in campus buildings varies. We recommend bringing a sweatshirt or light sweater to help keep you comfortable.
- Bring a snack to help keep you focused during advising.



## Center for the First-Year Experience

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

The University of Wisconsin–Madison does not discriminate in its employment practices and programs and activities on a variety of bases including but not limited to: age, color, disability, national origin, race, or sex. For information on all covered bases, the names of the Title IX and Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinators, and the processes for how to file a complaint alleging discrimination, please contact the Office of Compliance, 361 Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison WI 53706, Voice 608-265-6018, (relay calls accepted); Email: [uwcomplianceoffice@wisc.edu](mailto:uwcomplianceoffice@wisc.edu).

Cover photo: University Communications