

Orientation FAQs

1. What is the PVAMU Advising and Registration Prep for Orientation email, and what should I do with it?

Before orientation, you'll receive a "PVAMU Advising and Registration Prep for Orientation" email. This email includes important next steps to prepare for your academic advising and course registration, such as completing the Pre-Orientation Survey, reviewing your major, and submitting required forms (Consent to Enroll, Promise to Pay Agreement, Tuition Rate Selection).

Be sure to read the email carefully and complete all tasks as soon as possible so your advisor can register you for courses before orientation. If you have questions or didn't receive the email, contact the advising office right away.

2. Will I meet with an academic advisor during orientation?

Yes! During orientation, you'll learn how academic advising works, review your course schedule, and have an opportunity to ask questions or request adjustments.

3. How will I get registered for classes? Do I need to register myself in PantherTracks?

Once you complete the Consent to Enroll, Promise to Pay Agreement, and select your tuition rate, your academic advisor will pre-register you for your first semester of classes based on your major, placement scores, and any credits you've submitted.

No! Your advisor will handle your initial registration. After orientation, you'll learn how to navigate PantherTracks so you can make adjustments if needed and register yourself in future semesters.

4. Can I change my schedule after being pre-registered?

Due to limited course availability, at this time, we are unable to guarantee schedule changes. However, if you have an extenuating circumstance or a justified reason—such as prior credit earned for a course you're enrolled in—please contact your advisor to discuss possible adjustments.

5. What if I'm not sure about my major?

That's totally okay! If you're undecided, we recommend declaring a General Studies major for now. This allows you to take courses that fulfill core requirements while keeping your options open. We also encourage you to meet with a career counselor to explore your interests, strengths, and potential majors as you work toward making a confident decision.

6. What if I want to change my major?

If you've decided to change your major, you'll need to submit the official Change of Major form through PVPlace. Once submitted, your request will be reviewed, and your records—and course schedule, if needed—will be updated accordingly. If you have questions about how the change might affect your current schedule, contact your academic advisor.

7. How do I contact my advisor after orientation?

You'll be introduced to your assigned academic advisor during orientation. Their contact information will be shared with you. To book an appointment, you can email or call them directly, or use the Panther Navigate app—just download it from your app store, log in with your student credentials, and schedule appointments at your convenience.

8. What should I bring to orientation?

Login information for your student portal and email, any placement test scores, unofficial transcripts for dual credit/AP/IB courses, and any questions you have about your schedule.

9. What if I have dual credit, AP, or IB courses?

Let your advisor know about any incoming credits by completing the Pre-Orientation Survey. Please note that dual credit courses will not appear on your final high school transcript, so you must request an official college transcript from the institution that awarded the credit. Send official transcripts and score reports to the Office of Admissions at transferarticulation@pvamu.edu to ensure they are evaluated and applied to your degree.

10. Why do I have a TSI hold even though I already took the exam and submitted my scores?

Even if you've taken the TSI assessment and submitted your scores, you may still see a **TSI hold** for a couple of reasons:

1. Your scores may not have been processed yet – If they were recently submitted, please allow a few business days for processing.
2. Your scores may not have met the minimum college readiness standards in one or more areas (Reading, Writing, or Math). In that case, you may be required to enroll in a developmental corequisite course to support your success in college-level coursework.

Please note: If you have not either passed the TSI Assessment with the minimum score or successfully completed the required co-requisite courses, the TSI hold will remain on your account each semester until those requirements are fully met.

11. What is the Advisor Hold in PantherTracks, and how do I get it removed?

An Advisor Hold is a temporary restriction placed on your account to ensure you meet with your academic advisor before registering for future semesters. This hold will be on your account;

however, your advisor will pre-register you for your first semester, but it must be cleared before you can register yourself in the future.

12. What is the Academic Success Plan and Degree Planning Worksheet, and do I need to complete them?

The Academic Success Plan and Degree Planning Worksheet are tools used to help students set academic goals, plan their coursework, and stay on track for graduation. While these forms are typically required to have your Advisor Hold removed in future semesters, incoming students are not required to complete them for their first term.

You'll learn more about how to complete these documents during your first year, and they will become part of your regular advising process moving forward.

13. How often should I meet with my advisor?

We recommend meeting with your advisor at least twice per semester—more often if you're considering a major change, having challenges, or planning for graduation and beyond.

14. What should I do if I decide not to attend PVAMU?

If a schedule is completed for you, it is your responsibility to withdraw officially from the University immediately, but no later than August 24, 2025. Directions to withdraw from the University can be found here: [Withdrawal from the University](#).

15. What if I'm participating in the Summer Bridge Program?

If you're part of the Summer Bridge Program, your class schedule may look different than the initial schedule created for you. Once the program-specific course sections are finalized, your academic advisor will update your schedule accordingly.

There's no action you need to take right now—just be sure to complete all required orientation steps and stay on the lookout for updates from your advisor or the Summer Bridge team.

16. What if I'm attending Virtual Orientation—how will advising work?

If you're attending the Virtual Orientation, please note that the advising portion is separate from the asynchronous orientation video. You will need to register for one of the virtual advising sessions in order to complete the advising requirement.

These sessions will be held via Zoom, and your academic advisor will guide you through your course schedule and answer any questions you may have. Be sure to check your email for the registration link and attend the session to stay on track for the semester.