

New student undergraduate checklist



Congratulations! Now that you have been accepted to NSU and are officially a Northern Wolf, please use this checklist to stay on track for the first day of classes.

Complete all final Admissions steps

Request a final copy of your transcripts be sent to the Admissions office once all final grades have been posted and the graduation date has been documented. This includes all dual credit and PSEO transcripts. These documents must be sent directly from your high school or previous colleges to Northern via mail, secure electronic method (i.e. Parchment, Clearinghouse, etc.), or verified to be sent by a high school official via email.

If you are a transfer student and have already earned an Associate or Bachelor's degree, high school transcripts are not required. If you have completed high school dual credit (HSDC) courses at NSU or another S.D. Board of Regents institution, you do not need to submit those HSDC college transcripts

Submit final ACT or SAT scores to the Admissions office.

*ACT or SAT scores may not be required for admissions but are preferred for some scholarships including the **Wolf PACT Scholarship** and are reviewed as part of the WolfPACT Scholarship and course placement. Consider taking Accuplacer if you do not have ACT or SAT scores. Accuplacer may be used for appropriate course placement. Request a final copy of your transcripts be sent to the Admissions office once all final grades have been posted and*

Submit Advanced Placement (AP) scores to the Admissions office to be considered for college credit. AP scores of 3 or above are needed to earn college credit.

*Please **click here** for more information.*

In accordance with **SDBOR policy**, submit a final copy of your **immunization records** to the admissions office unless you are an online-only student.

For guidance, please contact NSU Campus Health or your Admissions Representative directly.

Participate in HOWL (Helping Our Wolves Learn) new student orientation and register for courses

Register for **HOWL New Student Orientation**. (Registration link will be emailed)

Fulfill all HOWL requirements:

- ✓ Step 1: Set up your **NSU credentials and technology accounts**.
Instructions are sent via email after you have registered for HOWL.
- ✓ Step 2: Check your NSU Wolves email and follow the instructions provided to schedule an academic advising appointment to register for classes.
- ✓ Step 3: Meet with your academic advisor to register for classes, review your course schedule, discuss testing or placement requirements, and prepare for a successful term.
- ✓ Step 4. Attend a **HOWL event** (or participate virtually if eligible).

Questions?

If you need assistance with any of these items, please contact NSU Admissions:
admissions@northern.edu | 605-626-2544

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Take Care of Business

Apply for **financial aid** by completing the FAFSA. Learn more about the **FAFSA**.

*After you have completed your FAFSA, log into your **SelfService Banner** within three weeks to complete any outstanding action items and accept/reject your financial aid offer.*

Explore other options for financial aid, including outside **scholarships**; **student employment**; Tribal assistance; **Military Service Member, Veteran, and eligible dependent benefits**; Vocational Rehabilitation services; and **payment plans**.

Make final arrangements for **tuition and fees payment**. *You will not receive a paper statement. Statements are posted on **Self-Service Banner** and are updated weekly statements are also sent to your NSU Wolves email. You can access your billing statement online through **Self Service Banner Student Billing**. Payment is due the day after Census Date each semester. Find this and other critical dates on NSU **Important Dates calendar**.*

Complete **attendance confirmation** on **Self-Service Banner** each fall and spring semester. Attendance confirmation must be completed by the Census Date each semester and is required for all students.

Review student privacy and FERPA guidelines; submit a FERPA release form if preferred.

Confirm Your Tech

Check your NSU Wolves email each day to stay on top of important information regarding your enrollment, updated billing statement, and campus announcements.

Download the **Navigate360** app; **Navigate360** provides students with timely information on academic progress; notifies students of upcoming tasks, important dates, and deadlines; and connects students with advisors, tutors, and peer study groups.

Receive your **Pack Pass** (NSU student ID) during HOWL or at the start of the semester

Review the **NSU laptop policy** and ensure your personal device meets requirements.

Download the Brightspace Pulse app, which is the application for Desire 2 Learn (D2L) to easily access your courses from your smartphone or tablet. **D2L is the learning management software** at NSU.

Prepare for classes

Review and purchase necessary course materials and textbooks via the **online bookstore** before classes begin.

Review your course schedule on **Self-Service Banner** or the **Navigate360** app. Be mindful of important dates for each term including schedules unique for partial term and summer courses.

Create a plan for studying and academic success using support resources available through the **Student Success Center** and **others**.

Complete the **TRIO Student Support Services (SSS)** program application.

Actively participate in every class whether online or in person and connect with your faculty directly.

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Plan campus life

Complete the [Residence Life housing application](#) to secure on-campus housing.

Make plans to purchase a University Parking Permit if you intend to have a vehicle on campus in Aberdeen. Permits may be purchased [online](#) annually and are required for use of university parking lots.

Review [campus dining](#) options and select a plan that's best for you.

Complete the required Sexual Assault Prevention training. This training is required for all students and will be sent to your NSU email. For more information, please contact [NSU Student Rights and Responsibilities](#).

If you live in an on-campus residence hall, a campus mailbox will be assigned to you at the NSU Post Office in the lower level of the Student Center. Please stop there to pick up your mailbox combination after you have moved in.

Explore [wellness](#) offerings available through the [Counseling Services](#), [Student Accessibility Services](#), [Student Health](#) and [others](#).

Semester start up

Participate in your orientation program:

- ✓ *Aberdeen On-Campus: If you will attend classes on the Aberdeen campus, make plans to attend [Wolf Pack Welcome](#). Orientation and move-in details will be updated prior to the start of each term.*
- ✓ *Online-Only: If you are an online-only student, orientation details will be provided to you prior to the start of the term.*
- ✓ *HCC: If you attend classes at the Huron Community Campus, orientation details will be provided to you prior to the start of each term.*

Connect with [Career Services](#) about on-campus and off-campus employment and work-study opportunities if needed.

Become active in campus life through recognized [student organizations](#); [student government](#); campus activity board ([CAB](#)); [homecoming](#); [intramurals](#); [American Indian Circle Program](#); [music](#), band, and [fine arts events](#); [HOWLING Wolves and student athletic event tickets](#); and much more!

As part of the enrollment process, international students must also:

Submit the [necessary documentation](#), including:

- ✓ *English Proficiency Scores (TOEFL/IELTS/Duolingo)*
- ✓ *A statement of finances*
- ✓ *A scanned copy of your passport and visa*
- ✓ *A signed I-20*
- ✓ *Proof of health insurance*

Make plans to activate a U.S. mobile phone plan and bank account.

Attend International Student Orientation. Orientation details will be provided to you prior to the start of each term.

Stay connected with the International Programs office.

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