



WOLFPACK

Welcome

AUGUST 2026

Wolf Pack Welcome

Friday, August 21

8:00a-12:00p

Move-In Check-In: *Barnett Center Parking Lot, Wolf Truck*

Students living in the Residence Halls will receive detailed instructions prior to arrival. Staff and volunteers will be at each of the Halls to assist with move-in.

Complete this form to schedule your move-in time.

11:00a-1:00p

Lunch on Campus: *The Wolves Den, Student Center*

Dining Services will be offering a move-in day lunch special in the Wolves Den located in the Student Center.

11:00a-2:00p

One Stop Shop!: *Student Center Mall*

All you need at one stop! Students may access a wide array of services all in one convenient location. Services available at the One Stop Shop! are:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| - Aberdeen Chamber | - Counseling Services | - Parking and Permits |
| - Academic Advising | - Banking Providers | - Student Accessibility |
| - Admissions | - Finance Office | Services |
| - Student Health Services | - Financial Aid | - Technology Services |
| - Career Services | - Meal Plans | - Wolf Shoppe |
| - Student Employment | - Pack Pass (Student ID) | - Post Office |

12:30p-3:00p

TRIO Student Support Services Orientation (Invite Only): *Berggren Recital Hall, Johnson Fine Arts Center*

Welcome orientation for newly accepted TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) students. Learn about program services, expectations, and resources.

3:00p-3:45p

Off-Campus & Commuter Student Reception: *Science Center Lobby*

Students living off-campus and their families are invited to join members of the Orientation team for your welcome to Northern before walking as a community to New Student Convocation. Parents are encouraged to attend the Parent Reception.

- 3:00p-3:45p **Parent Reception:** *Johnson Fine Arts Center Art Gallery*
 Parents are invited to leave their student in the capable hands of our Community Assistants to kick off life on campus, then head over to enjoy snacks, beverages, and meaningful connection with other families. Northern President Dr. Alan LaFlave and university leadership will be present to welcome you, and the Johnson Fine Arts Center Gallery will be open with *nice;04*, a Midwest Nice-curated exhibition.
- 3:30p **Convocation Meet Up:** *Residence Halls*
 While parents and commuter students enjoy their receptions at the Johnson Fine Arts Center Art Gallery and Science Center, all residential new students will meet with their CAs in their hall lobby before walking as a hall community to New Student Convocation.
- 4:00p-5:00p **New Student Convocation (Mandatory):** *Jewett Theater, Johnson Fine Arts Center*
 New Student Convocation is a tradition at Northern and your formal welcome as a member of the Wolf Pack Family. New Student Convocation is the bookend to graduation - the start of your journey and the first formal gathering of the newest students at Northern. *Parents and families are invited to attend.*
- 5:00p-5:15p **Scholar's Walk:** *From the Johnson Fine Arts Center to the Campus Green*
 After convocation, newly minted Wolves join Northern employees as scholars in a traditional march to the pillars on 12th Avenue. Each new class passes between the pillars to formally begin its academic journey at Northern. Students who carefully observe this tradition may have fewer 8 a.m. classes!
- 5:15p-6:30p **Wolf Pack Picnic:** *Campus Green (Students & Families)*
 Enjoy a meal together to welcome our new Wolves to the Pack!
Sponsored by Residence Life and the President's Office.

Saturday, August 22

The One Stop Shop!, located in the Student Center, will be open from 11am-2pm.

- 9:00a-9:50a **Speed Friends:** *Campus Green*
 Start your weekend off with donuts, sweet treats, an iced coffee bar, and meeting as many of your fellow Wolves as possible!
- 10:00a-10:45a **Technology Knowledge (Mandatory):** *Krikac Auditorium*
 Bring your laptop! This session goes over the technology you will need to get started at Northern, getting connected to the internet, and how to get your tickets for Wolves Athletics games.

- 10:50a-11:20a **From Campus to Career: Student Employment Opportunities:**
Krikac Auditorium
 Looking for a job that fits your class schedule and a way to build your resume? Learn how Career Services and Financial Aid can connect you with on- and off-campus employment opportunities, helpful job search tools, and experiences that build your skills for the future. *Mandatory for all students receiving workstudy in the fall semester.*
- 11:00a-2:00p **One Stop Shop!: Student Center Mall**
 All you need at one stop! Students may access a wide array of services all in one convenient location. Services available at the One Stop Shop! are:
- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| - Aberdeen Chamber | - Counseling Services | - Parking and Permits |
| - Academic Advising | - Banking Providers | - Student Accessibility Services |
| - Admissions | - Finance Office | - Technology Services |
| - Student Health Services | - Financial Aid | - Wolf Shoppe |
| - Career Services | - Meal Plans | - Post Office |
| - Student Employment | - Pack Pass (Student ID) | |
- 11:00a-1:00p **Brunch:** *Wolves Den, Student Center*
 Residential Student Meal Plans are now active.
- 2:30p-3:15p **Introduction to Life on Campus (Mandatory for Residential Students):**
Jewett Theater
 Presented by the Residence Life staff, learn all of the essentials and expectations of living in the residence halls.
- 3:15p-5:00p **Community Expectations (Mandatory):** *Jewett Theater*
*All new students **must** be in attendance.* College life is full of new experiences, and it is important that all students are able to make informed and safe decisions.
- 5:00p-5:15p **Freshman Class 'N' Photo:** *Campus Green*
 Capture the beginning of your journey at Northern with your entire class as you pose in an 'N' formation on the campus green.
- 5:15p-6:30p **Dinner:** *Wolves Den, Student Center*
- 6:45p-7:30p **Build-a-Wolf:** *Dacotah Bank Stadium*
 Create your very own Wolf to always have a piece of NSU with you thanks to RHA. Enjoy snacks and enjoy connecting with your classmates before watching **Pitch Perfect.**
- 7:45p-9:30p **Movie Night on the Field:** *Dacotah Bank Stadium, Thares Field*
 Enjoy **Pitch Perfect** on the football field thanks to CAB, alongside fellow Wolves, new friends and neighbors, and your CAs and OLs. Bring your Wolf! **Please Note:** *water in sealed containers (bring that Owala!) is allowed on the field. Lawn*

chairs are not permitted, but blankets, beach towels, and bean bags are all welcome. We'll be spraying for mosquitoes, but it's a good idea to bring your own bug spray just in case!

Sunday, August 23

- 10:30a-12:30p **Classroom Tours:** *Student Center Mall*
Stop by any time between 10:30a-12:30p and your Orientation Team will help you find where your classrooms are located and where some of the important offices are on campus.
- 1:00p-2:00p **Student Success & Academic Advising (Mandatory):** *Berggren Recital Hall, JFAC*
Connect with the Student Success Center team in this interactive session. Learn about the advising expectations and goals, and academic support resources to develop strategies for starting your term off on the right foot.
- 2:00p-2:45p **WolfTalk (Mandatory):** *Berggren Recital Hall, JFAC*
Presented by: Dr. Pirlet, Northern 2026 Outstanding Early Career Faculty Award recipient.
- 3:00p-5:00p **Honors Welcome:** *Business and Health Innovation Center, First Floor*
Honors program orientation for all students in the Honors Program.
- 7:00p-8:00p **Colorful Dodgeball:** *Lindberg-Seymour Quad*
Dodgeball, but with a colorful twist! Players throw color powder at the opposing team. A little competition and colorful fun to start the year off!
Sponsored by Campus Activities Board.

Monday, August 24

- 7:30a-3:00p **Welcome HQ:** *Outside the Student Center*
Classes begin! Need help finding your classes? Looking for campus resources? Have questions? Stop by Wolf Pack Welcome HQ and we'll guide you in the right direction!
- 10:30a-1:00p **Cruisin' with the Dean:** *Welcome HQ*
Why walk when you can ride? Dean Blackburn is your chauffeur—golf cart rides available at the Wolf Pack Welcome HQ...hop on and roll out!

Tuesday, August 25

- 7:30a-3:00p **Welcome HQ:** *Outside the Student Center*
Classes begin! Need help finding your classes? Looking for campus resources? Have questions? Stop by Wolf Pack Welcome HQ and we'll guide you in the right direction!

Thursday, August 27

6:00p-9:00p

Wolves Football Game: *Dacotah Bank Stadium*

Come support your Wolves and experience the best stadium in DII football! Follow **@nsu_rec** and **@thepack.nsu** on Instagram for all things Campus Recreation and Wolves Athletics student experiences.

Friday, August 28

7:00p-9:00p

Tab on CAB: *Twist Cone*

Serving the Aberdeen community for over 50 years, Twist Cone is a must for all new Wolves! Stop by Twist Cone to grab a cool treat and put it on CAB's tab.

Wednesday, September 2

11:00a-1:00p

Involvement Fair: *Campus Green*

Come learn about all the ways you can get connected on campus and in the Aberdeen community! Student organizations, campus departments, and community groups will be on campus to connect with students.

Thursday, September 3

Last day to add/drop classes, check your bill, make payment arrangements, and get your parking pass before you get ticketed!

3:30p-5:00p

Welcome Back & Tailgate BBQ: *Residential Quad*

Enjoy food and fun on the residential quad before the second home football game of the season. *Sponsored by CAB.*

6:00p-9:00p

Wolves Football Game: *Dacotah Bank Stadium*

Come support your Wolves and experience the best stadium in DII football! Follow **@nsu_rec** and **@thepack.nsu** on Instagram for all things Campus Recreation and Wolves Athletics student experiences.

Tuesday, September 8

7:00p-8:00p

Talk Saves Lives: *Kessler's Champions Club*

Talk Saves Lives: An Introduction to Suicide Prevention is a community-based presentation that covers the general scope of suicide, the research on prevention, and what people can do to help save lives.

Thursday, September 10

5:00p-7:00p

Community Block Party: *Malchow Plaza Downtown*

Join us downtown with the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce for a night of networking, giveaways, and a chance to connect with the Aberdeen community! First 100 students get Aberdeen gifts cards!

Friday, September 11

- 9:00am **9/11 Memorial Event:** *Dacotah Bank Stadium West Entrance*
Join Northern State University, the Aberdeen Fire Department, and community members for remarks honoring the lives lost and the heroes of September 11, 2001. "Taps" will be played at 9:28 a.m.
- 11:00am **9/11 Memorial Stair Climb:** *Dacotah Bank Stadium*
Climb the stadium stairs at your own pace in tribute to the first responders who entered the towers on September 11.
- 12:00p-5:00p **CAB 9/11 Blood Drive:** *Kessler's Champions Club*
Honor September 11 through service by donating blood at this drive hosted in partnership with CAB and LifeServe Blood Center.

Saturday, September 12

- 9:00a **Out of the Darkness Walk:** *Odde Ice Arena*
The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention hosts the Community Walks in hundreds of cities across the country. These events give people the courage to open up about their own connections to the cause, and a platform to create a culture that's smarter about mental health. We walk side-by-side, supporting each other and in memory of those we've lost. Suicide is a deeply impactful issue facing our communities, especially for college-aged students. Join any of Northern's team as we come together with the community to support the Aberdeen Out of the Darkness Walk.

NEW STUDENT PROGRAMS: consists of HOWL (Helping Our Wolves Learn) New Student Orientation and Wolf Pack Welcome in August. These programs help new Northern students transition to college and to campus and offer the first critical retention program experienced by students. HOWL and Wolf Pack Welcome are campus-wide partnerships with Admissions, the Registrar, Financial Aid, Housing, Dining, Student Affairs, and Athletics.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Visit our [website](#). Student Affairs advances the student success agenda of Northern State University through engagement, holistic wellness, providing excellent student-centered services and the [Student Affairs Strategic Plan \(2021-2025\)](#). We are Campus Safety, Counseling Services, Dean of Students Office, Multicultural Student Affairs, New Student Programs (HOWL & Wolf Pack Welcome), Prevention Services, Residence Life and Dining Services, Student Accessibility Services, Student Center, Student Government Association, Student Health, Student Involvement and Leadership, Student Organizations, Student Rights and Responsibilities, Summer Camps and Conferences, and Title IX.

Land Acknowledgement: Northern State University (NSU) acknowledges South Dakota as the ancestral territory of the Santee, Yankton, and Teton Lakota, which is an alliance known as the Oceti Sakowin (o-che-tee sha-koh-ween) (Seven Council Fires). Oceti Sakowin is historically known as the Sioux by non-Native people. The nine Native Nations that share the state's geography include: Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe, Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, Oglala Sioux Tribe, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and Yankton Sioux Tribe. Northern State University acknowledges that before this land was called South Dakota, it was home to many Native Nations indigenous to this area. It is with profound respect that we acknowledge the indigenous peoples of this land past, present and future.