

To: Incoming 1L Students  
From: Mitch Bailin, Dean of Students  
Subject: Orientation Week Schedule and Updates

Dear 1Ls,

With Orientation Week just around the corner (August 17-21), I am writing to share some updates and important information, including each section's Orientation schedule, registration for the City Tours and service projects on August 18, and much more. Please read this email carefully!

### **Orientation Schedule**

You can view schedules for the individual sections on the JD Orientation [webpage](#). We don't anticipate significant changes to the schedules, but adjustments may occur over the next two weeks. We will of course send you updates if we make any major changes to the schedule, and you will receive a fully updated schedule upon check-in on Wednesday, August 19.

Students will be able to check-in starting at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 19 in the McDonough Hall second-floor atrium. Every student should check in prior to their required Welcome time listed below. If your Welcome is later in the day, we hope you'll come to campus a little early to take advantage of the various "Breakout Sessions" and many other optional but encouraged events (more on this below).

The Welcome sessions are scheduled on **Wednesday, August 19, by section in McDonough Hall, Room 206 during the following times**. You will need to attend the Welcome for your section.

- Section 1 – 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Section 2 – 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- Section 3 – 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Section 4 – 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Section 5 – 4:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

### **Introduction to the First-Year Classroom**

As you review your schedules, you will notice that all sections are scheduled for an "Introduction to the First-Year Experience" session on Friday, August 21. This session will be your first class with one of your fall semester professors. Prior to this session, you may receive guidance from ODOS or your professor related to required course readings for that session and beyond. Please be sure to review your course [Canvas](#) page if applicable and any updates from our department related to readings for that first class meeting.

### **How the Orientation Schedule Works**

You'll notice in your schedule that events starting Tuesday, August 18, are in different colors.

### *Mandatory Sessions*

Mandatory sessions are in blue and your attendance is required. These are scheduled at different times for each section over the course of Wednesday, Aug. 18 - Friday, Aug. 21.

### *Strongly Recommended Breakout Sessions*

You will also see a number of "Breakout Sessions", in green. Throughout the day on Wednesday and Thursday, we have arranged a series of programs addressing important topics for entering students, ranging from preparing for your first week's classes to engaging productively in classroom dialogue to advice from upperclass peer mentors on what they wish they knew - or at least paid more attention to! - starting law school. These five sessions are optional but highly encouraged.

### *Optional Cultural, Academic, and Wellness Activities: More Fun Stuff!*

Additionally, there are lots of great opportunities to get to know each other, the faculty, and the campus throughout the week, starting on Tuesday, August 18. These include:

**Faculty Talks:** A number of faculty will be giving informal talks on a variety of hot-button legal topics on Tuesday morning and early afternoon, August 18. These are optional and you can simply drop in, with attendance limited only by the number of seats in the room. Please see the [descriptions](#) of each talk.

**City Tours:** In my last email to you, I shared that we are scheduling tours of several historic and cultural sites during Orientation week. I am excited to announce that registration for these tours is now open! Please note that most tours will take place on Tuesday, August 18, starting at 9:30 a.m. Some of the City Tours require advance registration on a first-come, first-enrolled basis. Once you have completed your tour registration, we will follow up with more specific information about your tour. Please note registration is limited to one City Tour per student. If you register for more than one City Tour, you will be automatically assigned to one of the City Tours selected. You can register for tours [here](#). Tour registration will close on Wednesday, August 12th at 5:00 p.m. EST.

\*Note that some but not all of the tours will return to campus in time for students also to attend one of the afternoon faculty talks on Tuesday.

**Service Projects:** I am delighted to share that we have added a few opportunities to connect with the Georgetown and D.C. communities, through volunteer service. On Tuesday, August 18, join our Office of Public Interest and Community Service (OPICS) at So Others Might Eat at the Father John Adams Resource Center or the Father McKenna Center to participate in volunteer service projects that help combat hunger and poverty. Like City Tours, these opportunities are available on a first-come, first-enrolled basis with advance registration required. Once you have

registered, we will follow up with more specific details about the service projects. If you'd like to participate, you can register [here](#). Registration will close on Wednesday, August 12th at 5:00 p.m. EST.

**Campus, Fitness Center, and Library Tours:** Take some time to get to know your new law school home! We will have regular tours of our campus and facilities throughout the week.

**Meals during Orientation:** If you have allergies or dietary restrictions, please fill out [this form](#) by August 7 at 5:00 pm EST. If we receive your request by then, we will do our best to accommodate your meal request.

There are many more optional activities throughout the week, so please take a look at your section schedule to see the full slate of activities.

### ***Other Important Information***

**Immunization Clinic:** We will offer an Immunization Clinic on Wednesday, August 19, and Thursday, August 20, from 9:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m. in the Law Center Student Health Services Center, located at 500 First St. for any students who need updated immunizations. We recommend that all students check the [Georgetown University Immunization Database portal](#) by logging in with their NetID and password. Students will need to complete all required forms and documentation within this portal, including the Patient Registration Form. To make an appointment, visit the [Student Health website](#) or call 202-687-2200.

**Accessing University Buildings & Mobile GOCard:** To enjoy all that Orientation week offers, you of course need to get into the buildings! To access university buildings, you will need to register for a mobile GOCard credential using these [instructions](#). This allows for contactless building entry from your mobile phone.

### **FAQs**

Finally, we've included an [FAQ](#) sheet on our website to answer any additional questions you might have about Orientation or starting off the year. If there are questions not covered there, please continue to think of us in ODOS and OSL as a portal to Georgetown Law. Don't hesitate to contact us at [lawdeanofstudents@georgetown.edu](mailto:lawdeanofstudents@georgetown.edu) with any questions or concerns.

### **Need Housing for 2026–2027?**

The Gewirz Student Center—Georgetown Law's on-campus apartment community—is just steps away from your classes and student life. A small number of spaces remain available for incoming first-year students, and applications remain open on the Admitted Students website. Housing is assigned on a rolling basis as space allows. To learn more about on-campus or off-campus housing options, visit: [Housing | Georgetown Law](#).

**Campus Preparedness:**

Ahead of your arrival on campus, we want to share several resources to help support your transition to the Georgetown community. One of those resources is the Georgetown University Police Department (GUPD).

As part of your preparation for Orientation, all students are required to review the [Active Shooter Response](#) video, available on the [GUPD Active Shooter Preparedness](#) website. The video is approximately eight minutes long and provides important information about campus safety and emergency response procedures. Each of you plays a key role in keeping our campus safe, generally and in the event of emergency.

**Information from our Accessibility Services team:**

The [Office of Accessibility Services \(OAS\)](#) works with students, staff and faculty to determine reasonable accommodations in order to remove access barriers for students with disabilities in curricular and co-curricular environments. Students seeking accommodations should visit the Office of Accessibility Services website: [How to Request Accommodations](#). You should submit requests at least one month before the requested accommodation would be implemented. If you are hoping to have an accommodation in place by the first day of classes, then we urge you to email [accessibilityservices@georgetown.edu](mailto:accessibilityservices@georgetown.edu) now to begin the interactive process. We are looking forward to working with you during your time at Georgetown Law!

**Information from the Law Library:**

The Law Library's [Guide for New Students](#) features a welcome from the Director, a virtual tour, class preparation info, study locations, and tips on using available resources and services.

**A Special Welcome Gift from Alumni:**

As you prepare to join us on campus, one more community eagerly awaits you: our alumni! To welcome you to the Hoya Lawya family, alumni have come together to provide each of you with the copy of *The Bluebook* needed for your Legal Practice class. This gift reflects their belief in your success and commitment to supporting you throughout your Georgetown Law journey. You'll receive your copy during your Welcome session at Orientation.

This is a lot of information. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to reach out to us at [lawdeanofstudents@georgetown.edu](mailto:lawdeanofstudents@georgetown.edu). We all are very much looking forward to meeting you in a few weeks!

My best wishes,

Mitch Bailin

Associate Vice President and Dean of Students