

To: Incoming Students
From: Mitch Bailin, Dean of Students
Subject: Welcome to Georgetown Law!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KGLr2N9CrOs>

Dear Rising 1Ls,

Welcome to Georgetown Law! Dean Cornblatt and the Admissions team have been singing your praises all spring, and I am just delighted that you are joining our community this August.

I am writing to give you a sense of what to expect this summer as you look forward to the start of school. Think of my office and my team - the Office of the Dean of Students (happily known around campus as “ODOS”) - as a portal to the law school. We are a good place to turn to with questions large and small, both this summer and beyond. ODOS is home to the Student Life, Residence Life, Sport and Fitness, Accessibility Services, and Academic Success offices. Among the many programs we oversee is the Orientation week, and our whole team is eager to meet you all during this August’s orientation.

Here’s a snapshot of what’s to come:

Orientation Week 2026: August 17-21

ODOS organizes the Orientation Week activities for the entering J.D. class, which will include everything from tours around DC to casual meals with upper-class mentors to your first law school class. **Please note that the required portion of Orientation for J.D. students in the full-time program runs from Wednesday morning, August 19 through Friday afternoon, August 21.** However, most students plan to arrive in DC a few days early if they don’t already reside here, as there will be a range of optional activities on Tuesday, August 18 that will help you get settled and meet your classmates, including campus and city tours, meet & greet gatherings, and service projects. We will send you details on all of this over the next 4-6 weeks.

Peer Advisors

Starting in early July, you can expect to receive messages from your Peer Advisor, an upper-class JD student who is here to be a resource, tour guide, and informal mentor as you acclimate to DC and Georgetown Law. They will be available this summer, during Orientation week, and throughout the fall semester to support your transition into 1L year. We know you may already have some questions about moving to DC and getting ready for 1L. If you’d like to connect with a Peer Advisor before early July, feel free to reach out via our Peer Advisor Hotline by emailing lawstudentlife@georgetown.edu.

Looking Ahead to the 1L Experience: Summer Checklist

There is so much to look forward to in the year ahead! Great professors, lots of new friends, and an incredibly vibrant campus and city await you.

There is lots of advice out there about how to approach your 1L year, so much that it sometimes can be difficult to sort through it all. Our ODOS team, along with a variety of campus partners, will help you create the best possible law school experience for YOU, based on your own personal and professional goals. For now, breathe easy, you just need to take a look at the incoming student checklist on the [JD Orientation website](#) and complete a few items this month.

Career Development Guidance

You will also receive periodic communications this summer from Georgetown Law's career teams - the Office of Career Strategy (OCS) and the Office of Public Interest and Community Service (OPICS). Both of these teams are here to help you navigate the professional development decisions you will make in your 1L year and beyond. It is important that you read each of their communications and spend time this summer reviewing the materials they share.

Immunizations

One important reminder: All students will need to submit immunization information by July 1st. 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 the portal. For more information on the requirements, deadlines, and to access any guides, please visit the [Student Health Center's Immunization Page](#). Please visit the Student Health Center webpage for [FAQs](#). If you have issues logging into the portal, please email hoyavaxa@georgetown.edu for assistance.

A Couple Final Thoughts...

There's truly nothing you need to be doing now to prepare for 1L classes! There will be plenty to learn, read, and do throughout the year, so take this time to relax, spend time with loved ones, and get excited about the adventure you are about to begin.

If you have any questions or concerns, reach out to us anytime at lawdeanofstudents@georgetown.edu. We will be back in your inboxes in a few weeks with details on Orientation Week programs, Peer Advisors, and much more. Until then, Hoya Saxa, and welcome to Georgetown!

Warm wishes,

Mitch Bailin
Associate Vice President and Dean of Students