2026

The P.A.W.S. EXPERIENCE

PREPARING, ADVISING, & WELCOMING STUDENTS

"EMPOWERING EVERY STEP, FROM WELCOME TO GRADUATION"

FISK UNIVERSITY
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

Fisk University produces graduates from diverse backgrounds with the integrity and intellect required for substantive contributions to society. Our curriculum is grounded in the liberal arts. Our faculty and administrators emphasize the discovery and advancement of knowledge through research in the natural and social sciences, business and the humanities. We are committed to the success of scholars and leaders with global perspective.
(Fisk University Mission Statement)

The Preparing, Advising, and Welcoming Students (P.A.W.S.) Experience *is the new student onboarding program that Fisk University requires of all new students (freshmen and transfers) starting their first semester in the fall term. P.A.W.S. is intended to help first-year students make a smooth transition to college and become acclimated to the community on campus by providing them with opportunities to participate in a variety of programs and events.*

Purpose of Orientation Week

- *First-year students will connect with future classmates, prepare for life inside and outside the classroom, and learn to navigate campus life.*
- *Workshops and sessions will provide support and answer questions relating to academics, health, safety, college transitions, and support services.*
- *Opportunities to meet with academic departments, receive an overview of university resources and technology, and a chance to interact with multiple university offices that will support their academic journey.*

FISK UNIVERSITY

ESTABLISHED 1866

CAMPUS MAP

00 Campus Building

P Campus Parking

1 Crosthwaite Hall
2 Jubilee Hall
3 Faculty/ Staff Townhomes
4 Student Housing
5 Mary D. Shane Hall
6 John Wesley Work II House
7 Carnegie Hall
8 Adam K. Spence Hall
9 Boyd House
10 James & John Burrus Hall
11 Talley-Brady Hall
12 Fisk Memorial Chapel
13 Park-Johnson Hall
14 Cravath Hall
15 W. E. B. Dubois Honors Center
16 Richardson Alumni House
17 University Housing 1
18 University Housing 2
19 Little Theater (Civil War Barracks)
20 Harris Music Building
21 John Hope and Aurelia E. Franklin Library
22 John Lewis Social Justice Center
23 Custom Student Housing
24 University Housing
25 Carl Van Vechten Art Gallery
26 Future Home: New Science Building
27 Du Bois Hall
28 New Livingstone Hall
29 Roland Parrish Career Center
30 University Housing
31 Arna Bontemps House
32 Henderson A. Johnson Gymnasium
33 Biology Labs
34 Track and Field
35 James Weldon Johnson House
36 Track and Field
37 Talley-Curb House
38 Sneed-Rock House

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11TH
PARENTS, SUPPORTERS & STUDENTS

Students are expected to attend all programs and activities; they will help you successfully navigate the Fisk University experience. Any changes to the schedule will be sent via your Fisk email.

NEW STUDENT CHECK-IN 8:00AM-1:00PM

2 Jubilee Hall 4 New Hall 1 Crosthwaite Hall 5 Mary D. Shane Hall

8 **Lunch | 11:00am-2:00pm**
Location: Adam K. Spence Hall

12 **University Welcome & Parting Ceremony | 4:00pm**
Parents depart campus at the conclusion of the program
Location: Fisk Memorial Chapel

Dinner | 5:30pm-8:00pm (STUDENTS ONLY)
Location: Adam K. Spence Dining Hall

Meet Your Living Learning Center Leaders | 7:00pm (STUDENTS ONLY)
Location: Fisk Memorial Chapel
- *All new students residing on campus*

Family Meeting | 8:30pm (STUDENTS ONLY)
Location: Jubilee Hall, Appleton Room (Orientation Leaders)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH

NEW STUDENTS ONLY

Breakfast | 7:00am-8:30am
Location: Adam K. Spence Dining Hall

Pride and Harmony: Learning the Alma Mater | 10:00am-11:00am
Location: Fisk Memorial Chapel

Major Fair: Academic Pathways| 11:00am-12:00pm
Location: John Hope and Aurelia E. Franklin Library Meet with academic departments and learn more about majors, programs, and services.

Lunch | 12:00pm-1:30pm
Location: Adam K. Spence Dining Hall

Understanding Your Strengths | 1:30pm-3:00pm
Location: Jubilee Hall, Appleton Room
Student Success Office

Get Connected with OCPD (Programs and Platforms) | 3:00pm-4:00pm
Location: Jubilee Hall, Appleton Room
Office of Career Planning and Development (OCPD)

Dinner | 4:30pm-6:30pm
Location: Adam K. Spence Dining Hall

Family Meeting | 9:00pm
Location: Jubilee Hall, Appleton Room (Royal Court)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13TH

NEW STUDENTS ONLY

Breakfast | 7:00am-8:30am
Location: Adam K. Spence Dining Hall

John Hope & Aurelia E. Franklin Library | 9:30am-10:00am
Location: Jubilee Hall, Appleton Room

Student Center for Mental Health and Wellness | 10:00am-11:00am
Location: Jubilee Hall, Appleton Room

Campus Safety | 11:00am-12:00pm
Location: Jubilee Hall, Appleton Room

Lunch | 12:00am-1:30pm
Location: Adam K. Spence Dining Hall

Get Involved! The Campus Life Experience | 2:00pm-3:00pm
Location: Jubilee Hall, Appleton Room

Dinner | 4:30pm-6:30pm
Location: Adam K. Spence Dining Hall

Informational Meeting - Freshmen Class Officers | 6:00pm-7:00pm
Location: Jubilee Hall, Appleton Room
Office of Student Engagement/Student Activities

The Spirit of Fisk | 7:30pm

Family Meeting | 9:00pm
Location: Jubilee Hall, Appleton Room (SGA)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14TH

NEW STUDENTS ONLY

Breakfast | 6:30am-7:30am
Location: Adam K. Spence Dining Hall

Leadership Through Service | 8:00am-12:00pm
Location: Roland G. Parrish Career Development Center 16
**Service will take place at various locations on and off campus*
Sponsored by Office of Career Planning and Development

Lunch | 12:30pm-2:00pm
Location: Adam K. Spence Dining Hall

Dinner | 4:00pm-6:00pm
Location: Adam K. Spence Dining Hall

IMPORTANT DATE & ATTIRE TO REMEMBER

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20TH

Opening Convocation & Class Pinning Ceremony | 10:00am

**Freshmen will assemble in the Appleton Room at 9am to line up for the processional.*

Opening Convocation is a Fisk tradition, therefore first-year students are asked to dress in specific attire:

- Young women to wear a white dress or white skirt and blouse for the most tasteful appearance. Please consider the following suggestions: dress, skirt, or pants of appropriate length and fit. Dresses/skirts should not be revealing in any way, wear Flesh Tone pantyhose, black closed toe pumps, and conservative jewelry (preferably pearls).
- Young men to wear a conventional dark suit or dark pants with a white shirt and tie, dark colored socks, and dress shoes.

A class photo will be taken immediately following convocation.

ADDITIONAL ATTIRE NEEDED

Orientation & Welcome Week

Bring/wear for various activities:
White T-shirt
Activewear
Jeans
Shorts
Swimwear
Sneakers
Jacket

Expect a mix of indoor and outdoor events, including physical activities and possibly water-related fun!

"Dress for Success" Wednesdays & OCPD Events

Business/Professional Attire Required:
Button-down shirts
Suits
Slacks
Business dresses or skirts
Polos
Dress shoes

Wednesdays often feature employer visits and pop-up networking events—dress to impress!

"Fisk Friday"

Casual Spirit Wear:
Fisk gear (shirts, hoodies, hats, etc.)
Blue and gold clothing
Comfortable, casual pieces

Show your HBCU pride every Friday!

THE GOLD AND BLUE

John W. Work, Class of 1895

The warm and genial setting sun
Lights up the hills with mellow hue,
Where Fisk out Alma Mater stands
Majestic dear old Gold and Blue.

From North, from East, from South, from West,
Ethiopia's children gather here,
And breathe in loft'estlight and love
Of thy inspiring atmosphere.

To North, to East, to South, to West,
Thy loyal children make their way;
To execute thy fine behest,
"Go turn the darkness into day."

To heav'n, to country, and to thee,
Our hearts shall first and last be true,
We e'en shall die with loyalty
To heav'n, to country, Gold and Blue.

Chorus:

Then hurrah and hurrah!
For the Gold and the Blue,
Her sons are steadfast,
Her daughters true,
Where e're we be we shall still love thee
Fisk our Alma Mater.

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