

WELCOME TO FOCILIS

NEW-STUDENT ORIENTATION



WELCOME TO VALPO

Dear Valpo Student:

Valparaiso University proudly welcomes you — the newest member of our community. This is an exciting time as you begin your personal journey at Valpo.

FOCUS provides you with the knowledge and support necessary to ensure a successful transition. You'll have the opportunity to meet your classmates, learn about campus services and student life, and register for classes.

The FOCUS staff is available to help throughout your visit. We're so pleased you have decided to join the Valpo community and look forward to getting to know you even better.

Sincerely,

Ryan Bye Director of Student Involvement & New Student Programs

NEW-STUDENT ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

Bring your FOCUS folder and pen to all sessions. All times are Central Time (the same as Chicago).

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Campus Office Hours

> 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. Bookstore Hours

Pre-FOCUS Sessions: If you are in one of these programs, we ask that you come to these morning sessions to meet with representatives from these respective areas. If you are part of multiple of these programs, please see our staff for our recommendations.

8–8:30 a.m. Pre-FOCUS Session Check-In Harre Union, Atrium

> 8:30–9:45 a.m. Student-Athlete Information Session Center for the Arts, Duesenberg Recital Hall

8:30–9:45 a.m. Christ College — The Honors College Student Gathering Harre Union, Brown & Gold Room

> 8:30–9:45 a.m. Access College for Success Harre Union, Alumni Room

8:30–9:45 a.m. Bloom Scholars Program Harre Union, Suite 200 Career and Alumni Network Offices

> 9–9:45 a.m. FOCUS Check-In Harre Union, Atrium

If you are joining us for these pre-FOCUS sessions, please arrive during this time to get all your FOCUS materials.

All NCAA athletes from all sports are required

to attend. Family/guests are welcome as well. Meet with compliance staff to go over information for this stage in your transition to Valpo Athletics and get questions answered.

Christ College Scholars: Get to know your Christ College (CC) classmates and learn a bit more about typical CC classes, honors advising/registration, and the many opportunities in store for you. (*Student only session*).

The Access College for Success is committed to guiding you through the opportunities ahead and providing you with a comprehensive educational experience. Join us for an opportunity to connect with your student success team and learn about the co-curricular programming designed to support you as you obtain a degree and prepare for the workforce.

Meet the Bloom Scholars program team and other Bloom Scholars participants. You'll learn more about summer bridge plans and the continued support you'll receive during the academic year.

Pick up your FOCUS materials from the check-in table and proceed down the hall to Harre Union, Grand Lounge to get your OneCard ID. Submit your ID photo online before your FOCUS session. Have someone take a head and shoulders photo of you against a white background (like a passport photo) and upload your photo at **apps.valpo.edu/idExpress** (log in with your Valpo username/password).

NEW-STUDENT ORIENTATION SCHEDULE, CONTINUED

1:45 p.m. until complete, <i>Christopher Center Library (CCLIR)</i> Transfer Student Academic Advising and Registration: Meet in a small group with an academic advisor to build your fall semester class schedule. Bring copies of your unofficial college transcript(s) to help in your class selection process. Transfer students who will be living on campus complete the online housing preference in the computer lab area in which you register for classes. The housing preference form is where students can request a roommate.			
		2:30–3:10 p.m. Orientation Group Meeting <i>Various Locations</i>	Meet with your orientation assistant to talk more about the academic expectations of being a student at Valparaiso University. This session will talk about the Honor Code, VUE, Christ College, and other important aspects of your first year in college classes.
		3:15 p.m. Advising/Registration Announcements Neils Science Center, Room 234	All students gather for advising/registration announcements. From here, everyone in your college will go as a group to academic advising.
3:30 p.m. until complete Academic Advising and	Bring your FOCUS folder with you for registration. Meet in small groups with our specially selected		
Class Registration Various Locations	FOCUS academic advisors to choose your fall semester classes. You will be instructed where to go to register based on your college.		
	Immediately following registration, complete the FOCUS evaluation and your housing preference form online in the computer lab area in which you register for classes. The housing preference form is also where students can request a roommate.		
	istration, go to the Student Resources Fair taking place until 5:15 p.m.		
Student Resources Fair Harre Union, Ballrooms A & B	See resources you didn't even know existed! Gather program information and talk with representatives from various campus departments.		
5:15–5:45 p.m. All That We Share: Faith Life	What if there is more that brings us together than makes us different? Explore this idea and learn		
Chapel of the Resurrection	how Valpo can assist you on your spiritual journey whatever your faith background.		
	Transfer Student Academic with an academic advisor to bui your unofficial college trans Transfer students who will b preference in the computer lab preference form is w 2:30–3:10 p.m. Orientation Group Meeting Various Locations 3:15 p.m. Advising/Registration Announcements Neils Science Center, Room 234 3:30 p.m. until complete Academic Advising and Class Registration Various Locations When you finish class registration When you finish class registration Student Resources Fair Harre Union, Ballrooms A & B 5:15–5:45 p.m.		

NEW-STUDENT ORIENTATION SCHEDULE, CONTINUED

5:45–6:30 p.m. **Dinner** Harre Union, Founders Table Relax at the end of the day knowing you are prepared for your next steps at Valpo!

6:30–7:30 p.m. Social Time with Orientation Assistants End the day with the new friends you've met. The orientation assistants will lead some different activities and events for you to learn more about.



WELCOME WEEK 2024

Don't miss out on Welcome Week 2024! It will begin with new student move-in day on Saturday, August 17, and continue through the first week of classes. Details will be announced by the end of July. See last year's schedule (valpo.edu/welcome-week) for a sampling of events that happen during Welcome Week. Valpo students are typically very involved in and out of the classroom. Plan to start your Valpo experience the same way by enjoying all the Welcome Week activities and Valpo will quickly feel like home!

See valpo.edu/registrar/calendar for 2024–2025 dates including:

Aug. 17–20	Required Welcome Week activities (Move-In Day is Saturday, Aug. 17)
Aug. 21	First day of classes
Aug. 21–25	Welcome Week events continue
Oct. 10–11	Fall Break — No classes, residence areas remain open
Nov. 16–24	Thanksgiving Break — No classes, residence areas close
Dec. 9–13	Final exams
Dec. 14	Residence areas close for semester break

ROOMMATE REQUEST AFTER FOCUS

Have you met someone with whom you'd like to room on campus? You can submit this request when you complete your housing application after registering for classes. If you meet someone after FOCUS, you can log into **datavu.valpo.edu** – Students Menu – Housing Self Service to update your housing preferences. The roommates need to confirm each other via the online housing system in order to be matched. All roommate confirmations must be completed on DataVU housing self-service no later than noon on Friday, June 21, 2024.

If you have any questions, contact residential life at 219.464.5413 or email reslife@valpo.edu.

CAMPUS OFFICES

Campus offices are open 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday through Friday throughout the summer, including on FOCUS days. If you need directions to a campus office, ask any FOCUS staff member or stop by the Harre Union Welcome Desk for assistance. Locations of frequently visited offices include:

DINING SERVICES Harre Union, Suite 170

FINANCIAL AID Financial Aid is available for appointments during FOCUS or you can book an appointment for any day before or after FOCUS at **vufinancialaid.youcanbook.me**. **ONECARD** Christopher Center Library (CCLIR)

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES Valparaiso University Police Department

RESIDENTIAL LIFE Harre Union. Suite 230

WHO IS YOUR **ORIENTATION ASSISTANT?**



PIPER LOGAN '26

Piper Logan '26 is a junior elementary education major with a psychology minor from Hobart, Indiana. She chose to attend Valpo because she fell in love with the campus, education program, and the amazing opportunities offered here. She is involved in Gamma Phi Beta sorority, SALT, the Education Executive Board, and Dance Marathon. When not in classes, Piper loves to draw, walk outside, and listen to music. Her favorite thing to do off campus is go downtown with friends and eat at her favorite restaurant!



ZACH NIELSEN '26

Zach Nielsen '26 is a junior computer engineering and physics double-major from Bloomington, Illinois. He chose to attend Valpo due to a great campus tour and the strong engineering department. Around campus, you can find Zach involved in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, or working in the Hesse Center. What Zach likes the most about Valpo are the people and the opportunities that are available here.

SAVANNAH VELA '25

Savannah Vela '25 is a senior elementary education major with a music minor from Highland, Indiana. Her favorite memories at Valpo include Songfest, Valpo Vibes, and Homecoming. When it comes to campus involvement, Savannah serves on the Panhellenic Council and is in Chi Omega sorority, Valpo Music, Celebrate! Praise Band, and the Education Executive Board! In her free time, she loves to spend time with friends, visit coffee shops downtown, and listen to music.

CODY TURNER '27

Cody Turner '27 is a sophomore civil engineering major from Crown Point, Indiana. He chose to attend Valpo because of the connection that the College of Engineering faculty have with students. He loves Valpo's size and the community connections across campus. He likes to hang out with his friends on campus and loves getting involved with campus events! He is also a member of Christ College -The Honors College and Phi Delta Theta fraternity.









BRYN BENZING '25

Bryn Benzing '25 is a senior nursing major with a minor in human biology from Columbia City, Indiana. She chose to attend Valpo because she felt at home on her tour and knew that Valpo was a place that would help her grow. Bryn maintains active involvement on campus as a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma, Student Nurses Association, Undergraduate Nursing Research, and the Dance Marathon Leadership Team! In her free time, she loves walking around downtown, attending athletic events, and participating in on-campus events.

JOSEPH SLEWEON '26

Joseph Sleweon '26 is a junior music education major from Merrillville, Indiana. He chose to attend Valpo because of the rigorous music program and welcoming environment on campus. At Valpo, Joseph is involved in numerous organizations such as the Luce Concert Band where he plays saxophone; he serves as the current president of the Black Student Organization; he is the publicist for the National Association for Music Education; and, is also a mentor for the Cornerstone First Generation Program.

OLIVIA PERLICK '27

Olivia Perlick '27 is a sophomore business major from Lowell, Indiana. Her favorite part of Valpo is the community and people she works with. She has developed amazing friendships and faculty relationships through classes and student organizations. At Valpo she is involved in Delta Sigma Pi sorority as an Executive Committee member, Society of Women in Business, Accounting Club, Dean's Leadership Council for the College of Business, and Luce/ Community Band where she plays the flute.

ASH OVERBECK '26

Ash Overbeck '26 is from Valparaiso, Indiana, and is a digital media arts major with a French minor! She is usually taking part in her French Club activities, helping mentors for her cornerstone program, and going to almost every home game for basketball! Ash chose Valpo because of the amazing opportunities in the communications department.







NOAH HOUSEWORTH '25

Noah Houseworth '25 is a biomechanical engineering major from Edwardsburg, Michigan! Noah is involved in the Interfraternity Council, tutors at the Hesse Center, and serves as a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity! Noah's favorite thing about Valpo is the size of the university. He feels like you can truly get to know everyone you meet, and that includes the professors and staff! Noah's most memorable moment was his bid day, when he joined SigEp. It's truly been his favorite part of college so far, and that night was an impactful and exciting one!

EMMA CARPENTER '27

Emma Carpenter '27 is a sophomore nursing major from Hebron, Indiana. One of the things Emma loves most about being at Valpo is the limitless room for personal growth. Whether it's in the classroom, through co-curriculars, or in the community, Valpo provides the perfect environment for its students to explore, learn, and develop as a person. When Emma is not in class or studying she likes to garden, thrift, and read in her free time.





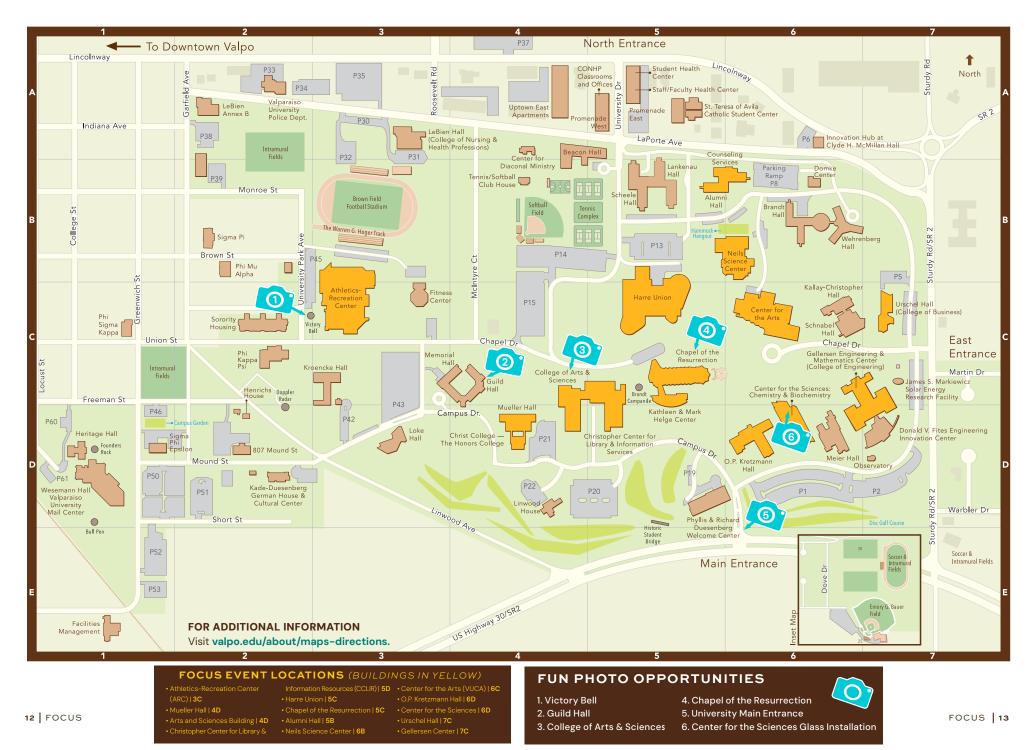








VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MAP



FALL MOVE-IN PACKING LIST

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMPUS

NECESSITIES

- Back-up contact list
- Alarm clock with battery back-up
- Book bag/backpack
- Desk supplies pens, highlighters, pencils, erasers, scissors, glue, stapler, paper clips, folders, note pads, theme books, organizers, rulers, tape
- Dishes mugs, bowls, silverware, plates
- Fan
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Hangers, laundry bag/basket, supplies
- Portable phone charger(s)
- Basic tools (e.g., hammer, screwdriver)
- Storage containers, paper towels

- Toiletries soap, shaver, shaving supplies, Band-Aids, toothbrush, dental accessories, hair products, deodorants, hair dryer, cotton balls, safety pins, eyecare products, makeup, face cleaning products, tissue, sunscreen
- Twin-size bedding pillows, blankets, sheets, comforter, bedspread, mattress pad (Note: We recommend extra-long length.)
- Umbrella, raincoat
- Wastebasket
- Face masks, hand sanitizer, and disinfecting wipes

WHAT NOT TO BRING TO CAMPUS

- Duplicate TVs, carpets, etc. You'll find out your roommate's name and contact information in mid-July. We suggest you contact them, not only to introduce yourself, but also to make arrangements as to who will bring what items.
- Nails or tacks for hanging posters Although you may hang up or tack them down with double-faced tape, you may not use nails or tacks on the residence hall walls.

Visit valpo.edu/reslife for details.

- Pets, unless they're fish + (aquariums limited to 10 gallons)
- Halogen floor lamps
- Candles
- Microwaves (each room has a microfridge combo)

OPTIONAL

- Athletic equipment tennis racket, racquetball paddle, rollerblades, baseball/softball glove, Frisbee, soccer ball, basketball, football, golf clubs
- Bicycle
- Bookends
- Collapsible drying rack for laundry
- Computer and supplies*
- Mounting tape for hanging pictures on walls
- Entertainment equipment radio, stereo, TV, video games, musical instruments, board games, cards, portable speaker
- Pictures and posters for walls

- Plants, plant food, watering can
- and boards can all be used to make shelves anywhere in residence hall Shower tote
- Throw rug/carpet remnant
- Wipe-away message board and markers

*Note: Computer required for engineering majors

Shelves - crates, bricks, cinder blocks,











5:15–5:45 p.m. Valpo's Lutheran Identity and Why it Matters Christopher Center (CCLIR), Room 205 Come meet with the staff from the division of Calling and Spiritual Life, and learn about the mission of Valparaiso University and how the mission and values of the University will help shape your student's time here.

5:45–6:30 p.m. **Dinner** Harre Union, Founders Table Relax at the end of the day knowing you are prepared for the next steps at Valpo!

6:30–7:30 p.m. **Parent & Family Reception** Harre Union, The Bell & Beacon (BBs) We are excited to welcome you to the Valparaiso University family. As a token of our appreciation, we invite you to join members of the University's President Council for a complimentary beer and wine reception to celebrate your new journey as a Valpo family member!



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FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid is available for appointments during FOCUS or you can book an appointment for any day before or after FOCUS at **vufinancialaid.youcanbook.me.** **ONECARD** Christopher Center Library (CCLIR)

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES Valparaiso University Police Department

RESIDENTIAL LIFE Harre Union, Suite 230

FAMILY/GUEST ORIENTATION SCHEDULE, CONTINUED

8–9:45 a.m. **Visit a Residence Hall** Harre Union, Grand Lounge Tours leave continuously. Meet the residential life staff in the Grand Lounge (first floor near Founders Table) for a brief escorted visit to our first-year residence halls.

10–10:30 a.m. **Opening Welcome** *Harre Union, Ballrooms*

Valpo staff and orientation assistants (OAs) officially welcome you to campus as we kick off FOCUS together!

10:45–11:35 a.m., Various Locations Introduction to the Colleges: Now that your student has chosen Valpo, there are details to learn that are more in-depth than anything covered during a visit day. Representatives from the colleges talk about curricular expectations, academic resources, and students' transition to academics at Valpo.

College of Arts and Sciences	Christopher Center Library, Room 205
College of Business	Urschel Hall, Room 202
College of Engineering	Gellersen Center, Room 120
College of Nursing and Health Professions	Neils Science Center, Room 234

11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Your Student's Life at Valpo, Things to Know Harre Union, Ballroom C Students who are involved on campus are more likely to persist to graduation, get good grades, build skills employers want, and make phenomenal college memories! Learn about student activities, volunteerism, leadership programs, multicultural programs, fraternities/sororities, and more with the Vice President for student life and Assistant Vice President for student life.

12:45–1:30 p.m. Lunch Harre Union, Founders Table Dine with and introduce yourself to other family members of new Valpo students.

1:35–2:20 p.m. Valparaiso University Experience (VUE) Center for the Arts, Theatre

> 1:35–2:20 p.m. Christ College Parents Meeting Mueller Hall, Refectory

Parents/guests of VUE students learn about this foundational course sequence students take as they begin their Valpo academic journey. Your student will be in the VUE program if they are not in Christ College.

Parents/guests of Christ College Scholars learn about the academic environment that your student will experience. If you have a red dot on your nametag, your student is in the Christ College program

2:25–3:05 p.m., Various Locations

Campus Resource Presentation: Choose one of the presentations below. Families with more than one person in attendance today should split up to experience multiple sessions at the same time. Staff from most sessions will be available at the Student Services Fair later this afternoon if you cannot attend a session or have additional questions.

Real World 101: Internships and Career Planning Urschel Hall, Room 202

Academic Support Overview Center for the Arts, Room 1412

> Student Account and Financial Aid Q&A Center for the Arts, Duesenberg Recital Hall

The Career and Alumni Network representatives share the resources that can be used beginning the first year at Valpo through graduation.

There are many resources on campus to help your student succeed. Come learn about the many different academic support resources that will help your student excel in the classroom.

We reminded your student earlier today that this bill is all theirs; however, we understand that you may be graciously helping to cover their Valpo payments. The Office of Student Accounts and Financial Aid presents an overview of student account self-service, financial aid, billing information, payment plans, and more.

3:10–4:10 p.m. Supporting Your Residential Student (for families of students living on campus) Center for the Arts, Theatre

3:10–4:10 p.m. Supporting Your Commuter Student (for families of students living at home) Center for the Arts, Duesenberg Recital Hall As your student embarks on their college journey, how can you empower them to succeed while living on campus? Our student support team is here to help both you and your student. We will share with you information about resources, including the Counseling Center, the student Health Center, and residential life, and how they can provide support to students living on campus. We will also discuss helpful strategies and advice on guiding your student as they navigate academics and campus life while fostering their independence.

How can you champion your student's success while they navigate college life? We understand the unique needs and challenges of commuter students. Our student support team will share with you the available resources, including the Counseling Center, the Health Center, and other student support programs designed to help our commuter students thrive at Valpo. We'll also be discussing helpful strategies and recommendations on empowering your student to ensure they are set-up for success during their Valpo journey.

4:15–5:15 p.m. **Student Resources Fair** Harre Union, Ballrooms A & B This is your chance to ask all the questions that would embarrass your student. Talk with representatives from various campus departments and gather resource information. See the list of participants in your FOCUS folder.

WELCOME TO

Dear Family Members:

Valparaiso University proudly welcomes you and your new Valpo student to FOCUS!

FOCUS provides you and your student with the knowledge and support necessary to ensure a successful transition to Valparaiso University. Activities have been carefully planned to enhance your total orientation experience; we encourage you to attend every session. Meet and greet as many other family members as possible. Take this time to inform and prepare yourself for this big transition.

The FOCUS staff is committed to facilitating your student's orientation, and we are available to help you throughout your visit.

Your student is now an important part of Valpo's close-knit community — and so are you. We're excited to welcome everyone to Valpo!

Sincerely,

Ryan Bye Director of Student Involvement & New Student Programs

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Students check their guests in for FOCUS. You can help by taking your student's OneCard ID photo before FOCUS. They need a head and shoulders photo against a white background (like a passport photo).

They then upload their photo prior to FOCUS at **apps.valpo.edu/idExpress** (log in with Valpo username/password).



welcome to Focus

AN ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR FAMILY MEMBERS/GUESTS

