



### Kicking Off 2025-2026

Florida Southern is abuzz with excitement for the start of the 2025-2026 academic year. Resident Advisors and Orientation Leaders will soon arrive on campus and begin training, while student leaders begin their annual leadership summit. Fall athletes' practices start soon, and internships are wrapping up.

We're looking forward to welcoming new and returning students to FSC soon!



### Spotlight: Summer Junior Journeys

International travel is a benchmark students often recall as a time that was essential to their self-discovery. Students interested in traveling abroad with their FSC peers and faculty to immerse themselves in new cultures and experience engaged learning in diverse environments are encouraged to sign up for a Junior Journey. FSC faculty design trips—which take place over spring break, summer, and fall break—as passion projects, with curriculum and clear learning objectives that incorporate local resources,

offering students opportunities to earn between one and six credit hours.

For highlights of this summer's Junior Journeys, [view the photo gallery](#).

Students qualify to take advantage of significantly discounted prices once they've completed four semesters at Florida Southern—hence the name Junior Journey. Transfer students qualify for the same discounts after completing three semesters at FSC.

For more information, students should plan to attend the Junior Journey Showcase on October 15, 2025, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM in Honeyman Pavilion. Students may also explore options via the Travel tab on the Portal, and families are encouraged to read more on [FSC's Office of Student Travel page](#).

### Fall 2025 Move-In

We are excited to welcome our new and returning Mocs home! Click [here](#) to learn more about Fall Move-In!

#### Fall and Thanksgiving Breaks

Residential communities will remain open during both Fall and Thanksgiving Breaks; however, meal plans are suspended during these breaks.

#### Winter 2025



Residential communities will close for the fall semester on December 18 at 1:00 PM for all students who are not graduating. Students who are graduating can remain in their residential community until December 21 at 1:00 PM. Students who are returning to FSC for the spring 2026 semester and staying in their same room may leave their belongings in their room. Click [here](#) to learn more about winter closing.

If you have questions, please contact the Office of Community Living:  
[residencelife@flsouthern.edu](mailto:residencelife@flsouthern.edu).

[Learn More About Fall Move-In](#)

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## New Student Orientation and Move-In Webinar

New FSC parents and students are invited to attend the Fall Orientation 2025 webinar, which will highlight key Orientation events and provide essential information about arrival, check-in, and move-in procedures. The webinar begins at 4:00 PM (EST) on August 7. Students and parents should register in advance to make sign-in easier on the day of the webinar.

[Register Now](#)

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## 2025-2026 Student Life Convocation Series

Florida Southern College students attend Convocation, held in either Branscomb Auditorium or the Jenkins Field House, once per month. All sessions are mandatory and will take place during the convocation hour, 10:50 AM to 11:50 AM on Wednesdays.

Convocation at FSC is a ceremonial community gathering that typically begins with a procession of faculty and college leadership in their academic regalia. The College's president, vice presidents, student leaders, faculty leaders, and special guest speakers share messages and news. At Florida Southern College, Convocation is a time to celebrate our campus community, announce exciting opportunities, and model the persistence that leads to successful outcomes and graduation.

We're excited to share the 2025–2026 Convocation Series—an engaging lineup of events designed to bring our community together throughout the academic year:

- September 10, 2025: Cornerstone Kickoff
- October 8, 2025: Health & Wellness Reimagined
- November 12, 2025: Kindness Week
- December 10, 2025: Christmas Gala Preview
- January 14, 2026: MLK Day of Service
- February 11, 2026: Celebrating Athletic Excellence
- March 13, 2026: Founders Day Convocation, Homecoming Week
- April 8, 2026: Student Life Awards

We look forward to all students' attendance at the 2025-2026 Florida Southern College Convocation Series!

*Students graduating in the same semester as a convocation or those enrolled in regularly scheduled classes at the time of the event, such as for clinicals or practicums, will be excused.*



**STUDENT LIFE  
CONVOCATION  
SERIES**  
AT FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE

## FSC Meal Plan Details

Meal Plans begin with breakfast service on August 25. As a part of Florida Southern College's ongoing efforts to enhance students' campus experience, we are introducing a new lineup of Meal Plan options this fall. These updated plans are designed to offer students more flexibility, value, and variety with their meal plan.

For more information, please review the letter shared with students in May.

[Review the Letter](#)

## Legacy Luncheon 2025

Calling all Florida Southern College legacies! You're invited to enjoy a casual lunch with your family, take pictures with Mocsie, and meet the first of many new friends at FSC.

A "legacy" is a student who is related to a Florida Southern alum or to a current or former faculty or staff member. Did your grandmother attend Florida Southern? Your uncle? Your sister? Is your aunt a biology professor? Did your second cousin twice removed once work at the College? Then, yes! You are a legacy!



If you haven't received notice of your invite to Legacy Luncheon 2025, please reach out to [RSVP@flsouthern.edu](mailto:RSVP@flsouthern.edu) or contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 863-680-6231.

## Hurricane Plan Form for Students

When they log into the Portal, all students have an annual requirement to complete a Hurricane/Evacuation Plan before proceeding. In the event of a tropical storm or hurricane forecasted to affect the Florida Southern College area, residents may be directed to safely evacuate the campus. With communications from the College to students and families, evacuation plans may include traveling home, traveling to nearby relatives, staying with friends or at a friend's home.

## Career Services: Supporting Your Student's Future Success

Florida Southern's Office of Career Services empowers students to explore, plan, and launch their career journeys with confidence—starting on day one of college. We encourage all students to take an active role in preparing for career readiness early and often.

Through personalized advising, career exploration, career readiness workshops, and strong partnerships with employers and faculty, students gain the skills and resources they need to succeed—whether pursuing internships, jobs, or graduate school. Services include résumé and interview support, LinkedIn and portfolio development, a career clothing closet, professional headshots, and exclusive job search tools.

Check the [Career Services page on the FSC website](#) to view upcoming events and opportunities.

## Tail-Wagging or Rule-Breaking? Understanding FSC's Pet Policy

While students are preparing to return to campus, the Offices of Community Living and Student Conduct would like to share a timely reminder regarding FSC's Pet Policy.

No pets are permitted in any residential facility, including apartments and houses. Small fish are allowed in aquariums of 10 gallons or less. Any animal that has not been approved as an Emotional Support Animal or Service Animal is considered a pet. Because pets are prohibited in all residential facilities, a violation fine will be assessed to the animal owner/host. The owner/host will have 24 hours to humanely remove the animal from campus. For further details, please review the animal policy in the Student Handbook.



Students seeking approval for a Service Animal or Emotional Support Animal must contact the Office of Student Disability Services to initiate the review process. Additional information on Service and Emotional Support Animals can be found in the Student Handbook and on the [Student Disability Services website](#).

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## FSC's Department of Health Services Introduces the New Office of Health Promotion

The FSC Department of Health Services delivers student-centered care, through accessible medical, mental health, and preventive health services on campus.

Our mission is to create a healthy campus culture that nurtures the whole person —mind, body, and spirit—through advocacy, education and direct service. We value health and well-being as central to a successful college experience. We're also committed to the promotion and implementation of a whole-community approach to holistic wellness, resulting in healthy behaviors and choices that will improve the quality of life of our students.

The Department of Health Services comprises the following three offices:

- The FSC Counseling Center
- The FSC Student Health Center- contracted with Lakeland Regional Health
- The Office of Health Promotion (New)

All three offices are on the first floor of the Thrift Building. For additional information regarding the Department of Health Services, please contact David Aranda, Executive Director of Health Services, at 863-680-4163 or Melissa Casavant, Counselor, at 863-680-6237.

The Office of Health Promotion intends to increase the students' knowledge of health and well-being by balancing the student experience with the various dimensions of holistic wellness. By offering preventive care through educational and promotional campus programming, we aim at helping students achieve balanced living. For more information, please contact Melissa Casavant, Counselor, at 863-680-6237.



## Care Packages

"Mocs Love" Care Packages are now available to order!

Designed by students for students, these care packages —with many personalization options and a delivery date of your choice—are delivered directly to students' FSC residences.

[Send a care package!](#)

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# REMINDERS





## Family Weekend

Family Weekend 2025 at Florida Southern College is October 3-5. The 2025 schedule will be posted and registration will open soon on the [Family Weekend page on the FSC website](#). In the interim, if you are planning travel and accommodations, we encourage you to use last year's schedule as guidance for the start and end of programs.

[View Last Year's Schedule](#)

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## Important Upcoming Dates

- August 23-25 Orientation and Registration: New and Transfer Students
  - New students should check the Portal for arrival information
- August 26 Classes Begin at 8:00 A.M.
- September 1 Last Day to Register and Adjust Class Schedule
- October 3-5 Family Weekend at Florida Southern College
- October 20-24 Fall Break (No Classes)
- November 26-28 Thanksgiving Break (No Classes)
- December 12 Fall-term Classes End
- December 15-17 Final Exams
- December 18, 1:00 PM, Residential Communities Close
- December 20 Mid-Year Commencement, Christmas Holidays Begin
- January 6 Classes begin at 8:00 A.M.
- January 19 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, No Classes
- March 2 – 6 Spring Break (No Classes)

[2025-2026 Academic Calendar](#)

## Did You Know?

- Parents have access to the public side of [Engage](#), the site students and student organizations use to share upcoming campus events and engagement opportunities. Please encourage your student to get involved on campus!
- On the [Parents and Families page](#) of the FSC website, there is a Submit a Question button, should you have any questions for FSC staff.
- Parents will receive Mocs Weekly, the same email sent to students at the start of each week, with important reminders and upcoming events.
- FSC's email policy requires Faculty and Staff to contact students through their Mocs Email account, rather than personal email addresses such as Gmail. Please encourage your student to check their Mocs email.
- Blast Off, the fair for all student organizations to recruit new members, is the best opportunity for students to explore the myriad of on-campus student orgs, campus resources, and opportunities. Please encourage your student to attend Blast Off on the evening of August 26 and other Weeks of Welcome programs!

# RESOURCES

## DINING ON CAMPUS

Our venues offer everything from home-style meals to healthful on-the-go options, keeping our Mocs happy and healthy.

[Menus](#)

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

For upcoming important dates, please access the academic calendar.

[Calendar](#)

## EMERGENCIES

If weather causes cancellations, closings, or other school-related emergencies, we will alert the community via the text message system.

[Opt in Here](#)

### [Parent & Family Page](#)

Florida Southern has a page for parents and family members.

### [Counseling Services](#)

Florida Southern offers free, confidential, individual counseling and support groups.

### [Student Health Center](#)

In partnership with Lakeland Regional Health, FSC provides quality, accessible health care. Walk-ins are welcome.

### [Student Accounts](#)

### [Community Living](#)

### [Bookstore](#)

### [Center for Student Success](#)

### [Athletics](#)

To see updates & reminders throughout the week, follow our [Parent Facebook page](#).



Florida Southern College | 111 Lake Hollingsworth Drive | Lakeland, FL 33801 US

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