

THE WILDCAT WAY

GUIDE FOR NEW STUDENTS



1858

BAKER
UNIVERSITY



Table of Contents

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 02 | <u>New Student Checklist</u> |
| 03 | <u>Academics & Support</u> |
| 04 | <u>Finances</u> |
| 06 | <u>Housing & Dining</u> |
| 07 | <u>Technology</u> |
| 08 | <u>Health & Wellness</u> |
| 09 | <u>Community</u> |
| 10 | <u>Important Dates</u> |



New Student Checklist

This checklist will help you get ready to start your Baker journey! Check out the expanded version with links and more on our [website](#). You can check your status on these items at any point by logging in to the [Admissions Hub](#).

- **Deposit**
- **Register & Attend Orientation**
- **Apply for Housing or RRE**
- **Submit Immunization Records**
- **Send Final Transcripts**
- **Take Student ID Photo**
- **Sign Financial Responsibilities Agreement**
- **Accept/Decline Financial Aid Offer**
- **Set Up Password**
- **Get a Parking Permit**
- **Submit Athletic Paperwork**
- **Verify Medical Insurance**



Academics & Support

Your First-Semester Schedule

Once you register for orientation, our faculty will build your first-semester schedule. You will receive this schedule in an email right before your orientation date, and you can also access it in your [Baker Portal](#).

Need to make changes to your schedule? Email schedulechanges@BakerU.edu

Degree Requirements

As a Baker University student, you will be required to enroll in certain courses to complete your degree including and orientation course, the Baker Core, and interterm courses. Requirements may differ based on your transfer status.

Students are also required to meet a written communication, mathematics, and global language proficiency. You will be contacted if a placement test is needed.

More information is provided at your orientation session and is available in your Orientation course on [Moodle](#).

Student Academic Success

Located in Collins Library, [Student Academic Success](#) coordinates a variety of services for students seeking academic support including tutoring, academic advisor assignments, and access services.

SAS staff are available for access-related appointments at your orientation session. You may also email them at SAS@BakerU.edu.

Student Education Records

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects student privacy and access to education records maintained by Baker University. Students wanting to authorize access to other individuals, such as parents, may complete and submit the [Authorization Form](#) to the [Office of the Registrar](#).



Finances

Payment Options

Semester invoices are mailed to your home address. Invoices and late notices are sent to your Baker student email. At any point, you can check your account balance in your Baker Portal.

All charges, including tuition, fees, and room and board are billed on a per-semester basis and are due in full at the beginning of each semester using one of the following payment options: check, cash, credit, or online through the portal. You may also set up a monthly payment plan through Nelnet.

The Business Office is located in Constant Hall and will also be available at your orientation session to answer your payment questions. You may also contact our Student Accounts Specialist at Jennifer.Murry@BakerU.edu.

Financial Aid Eligibility

A Financial Aid Offer will be sent to your home address and email, and you may either accept or decline the award offer. To be eligible to receive financial aid, you must have completed the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and be enrolled as a full-time student (12 hours per semester).

The Financial Aid Office is located in Constant Hall and will also be available at your orientation session to answer your questions. You may also contact our Director of Financial Aid at Jana.Parks@BakerU.edu.





Loans

If you want to use your federal student loan eligibility included in your aid offer, you must complete a Master Promissory Note and loan counseling.

Other loans may be available to you. Eligibility for Parent Plus Loans is determined by the Department of Education. A variety of alternative private credit-based student loans are also available. Our Financial Aid Office can provide more information about loans and other financial aid.

Outside Scholarships

You should notify the Financial Aid Office of all outside scholarships you will receive. Checks should be made payable to Baker University. Please mail to the attention of the Office of Financial Aid.

Campus Work

Only students with work eligibility listed on their aid offer will be eligible for work study positions.

The federal I-9 form must be completed when a student works at any job. An original social security card and picture ID are needed.



Housing & Dining

On-Campus Housing

As a full-time student at Baker, you are required to live in university-sponsored housing or have an [approved exemption](#). When you submit your housing application, you will provide your housing preferences. Information about the features and floor plans of our on-campus housing options can be found on the [Residence Life website](#).

Suite-type assignments and general information will be sent to you prior to your orientation. Suite number and roommate assignments will be posted to your Baker Portal in July. The format of your mailing address can be found [here](#).

The Office of Residence Life is located in the NLC and can be reached by emailing ResidenceLife@BakerU.edu.

Meal Plans

There are a variety of [meal plan options](#) including weekly and semester block options. Each meal plan also includes dining dollars that can be used at the cafeteria or our Daily Grind coffee shop.

You will choose your meal plan when you submit your housing application. You may also request a change to your meal plan using the [meal plan form](#) before the deadline listed in the form.

Residency Requirement Exemption

Students who meet certain criteria reflecting a need to live off-campus may apply for a [Residency Requirement Exemption \(RRE\)](#). Approval is not guaranteed, and adequate documentation must be provided. Contact Samantha.Cheek@BakerU.edu for more information.

Move-In

Move-in day details will be sent to your Baker email. For fall new students, move-in is the Saturday prior to the first-day of class.

Some student athletes will move in at an earlier date. Fall dates can be viewed on the [Wildcat Welcome calendar](#).





Technology

Username and Password

Prior to your first day of class, you will receive an email with your username and password. You should update your password through [Access Baker](#) upon receiving that email, allowing you to reset your password through that site in the future.

Baker Email

Your [email](#) is where you will get communication from the university and your instructors, including housing assignments and orientation information.

Baker Student Portal

The [student portal](#) is like your home base at Baker. In the portal, you will find your class schedule, textbook information, grades, your bill, and more.

Moodle

[Moodle](#) is where you will manage all your courses and turn in assignments. Moodle also is home to training videos for Baker technologies.

FREE Office 365

As a Baker student, you have access to free [Microsoft Office](#) products. You can download the applications through your Baker email account.

ID Card

You will receive your ID card at move-in, providing you access to buildings and meals. If your card does not work or you need a new one, submit a [help desk ticket](#).

WiFi on Campus

Connecting to WiFi on campus is different than connecting in your residence hall room. You can connect using [these instructions](#).

IT Help Desk

Need IT assistance? Fill out a [help desk ticket](#) to receive support.



Health & Wellness

Student Health Services

As a student, you may choose to receive health services locally at [Family Medicine of Baldwin City](#), located just three blocks from campus. The clinic offers same-day appointments on an as-needed basis. These services are at the student's expense.

Athletic Paperwork

Student-athletes in all sports must have a physical examination along with all forms requested in the Vivature portal prior to any athletic participation including practices. Instructions for accessing the Vivature portal and other helpful information including due dates can be found on the [Athletics website](#).

You will need to know your ID number to fill out the forms. You can access this number through your [Baker Portal](#).

Counseling Center

The [Student Counseling Center](#) offers a variety of services that are fully covered through your student fees. Our counseling services are confidential and provided by professionals.

Counseling services help promote the health and wellbeing of our Baker community by offering individual counseling, couples counseling, group counseling, and consultations.

To receive more information, you may contact our Counseling Center Coordinator at Sherri.Pahcuddy@BakerU.edu.



Community

Student Organizations

Baker has many organizations that you can join! You will get a chance to meet many of them at the Involvement Fair hosted during Wildcat Welcome. Students may also start a new organization with the help of Student Affairs.

Fraternity Sorority Life

Many Baker students are members of one of the seven chapters in Fraternity Sorority Life. Both fraternity and sorority recruitment are free, open to all students, and an easy way to meet new friends before classes even begin.

Panhellenic sorority primary recruitment and Fraternity primary recruitment begin on the first day of Wildcat Welcome in the fall semester. Registration for both recruitment processes opens in late spring. Continuous recruitment occurs throughout the academic year.

Events on Campus

There are numerous events hosted on campus for all students through Athletics, Student Activities Council, and other organizations. These events are free and a great way to get plugged into the community.

You will have the opportunity to attend a variety of events during Wildcat Welcome, giving you a taste of all the fun that is ahead of you!





Important Dates

Academic Calendar

The [Academic Calendar](#) can be accessed online through the Office of the Registrar. This calendar includes important academic dates including the first day of classes, breaks, and final exams.

Involvement Calendar

Student Affairs has an online [Involvement Calendar](#) which includes many fun and important events happening on campus including student organization events. Save the link to this calendar so that you never go bored!

Wildcat Welcome Schedule

[Wildcat Welcome](#) will help you start your journey at Baker with fun and informational events. Events begin on new student move-in day and last until the first day of classes. Make plans to attend all of the events offered, and pay attention to the events listed as required. Orientation leaders will be available to help you navigate.

**Questions?
Contact Student Affairs!**



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