Am I required to attend?
Yes! All first-year students are required to attend and fully participate in Welcome Week activities. Students who attend Welcome Week are more confident when they start classes and have a sense of belonging because they have had time to meet friends, navigate campus, and get settled. You won’t want to miss out on getting a jumpstart on your college experience!

Welcome Week Event Selection
We want you to get the most out of your Welcome Week experience. The Welcome Week Event Selection process allows you to tell us a little more about yourself and indicate your preferences for some events. Your selections will be combined with required events to create a personalized schedule that you will receive when you check in for Welcome Week.

On July 17 you will receive an email to your U of M email account inviting you to complete Event Selection. You are encouraged to complete this process by August 15. Upon completion you will receive an email to your U of M email account with an attachment outlining specific ways you can prepare for Welcome Week.

Next Steps
Check your U of M email for communication from your college for additional items that need to be completed prior to Welcome Week!
Here are a few of those reminders:
- Download the U of M App (see instructions inside) and get the Class of 2018 guide. Welcome Week content will be available in early August.
- Complete the Welcome Week Event Selection between July 17–August 15.
- Take StrengthsFinder® online when you receive a code and instructions after completing Event Selection. Contact strengths@umn.edu with questions.
- Visit welcomeweek.umn.edu for a list of what to bring, more highlights, and answers to your questions.
- Complete online courses: AlcoholEdu®, Transit-Financial Wellness™, and Haven prior to coming to campus. Check your U of M email in July for more information or contact alcoholedu@bhs.umn.edu.

August 27–September 1, 2014
welcomeweek.umn.edu
Welcome Week is a program designed to complement Orientation by providing opportunities for you to get to know campus and your peers before classes begin.

**Kickoff Meeting**
Meet a small group of other new students and your Welcome Week Leaders.

**Pride & Spirit**
Create a human “M” on the field of TCF Bank Stadium to take the official Class of 2018 photo!

**New Student Convocation**
President Kaler will welcome you at this academic welcome to the U of M.

**College Day Activities**
All colleges have a day of programming planned for you. If you are in CLA, CSE, CFANS, or CEHD you will be enrolled in a required class that includes Welcome Week activities.

**Football Game**
Cheer on the Gopher Football team at the first home game of the year.

**Explore-U**
Get involved with student groups and local businesses.

**Late Night at the Mall of America**
Nickelodeon Universe & Sea Life Aquarium have been rented out just for U of M students.

**Community Exploration**
Learn to ride the light rail and visit attractions around the Twin Cities.

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**Welcome Week Check-In**
Welcome Week will begin with Check-in. When you check in you will receive your nametag, group assignment, Class of 2018 T-shirt, and other freebies. In Event Selection you will indicate your preference for accessing Welcome Week materials and instructions for using the Class of 2018 guide. WW Check-in takes place in the Great Hall of Coffman Memorial Union. If you live in Bailey Hall, check-in at the Bailey Hall Lobby.

**Save paper and stay connected online!**
If you haven’t already, be sure to download the U Minnesota app to your mobile device. Currently it has information about your orientation, but in early August you will be able to access all Welcome Week materials (schedules, event descriptions, maps, etc.).

Search for “U Minnesota” in your app store or visit m.guidebook.com/app/UMN, then search for the guide called “Class of 2018.” We will also provide current information about Welcome Week through the U of M Class of 2018 Facebook group and Twitter @UMN18.

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**Strengths at the U**
The U of M uses a Strengths-based approach to help you succeed in your academics, career, experiences, and daily life. StrengthsFinder® is a tool to help you identify your “Top 5” Talents (naturally recurring patterns of thought, feeling, or behavior). As a new first-year student you will take StrengthsFinder® prior to Welcome Week. You will have the opportunity to learn more about your “Top 5” and how you can use your “Top 5” to make the most out of your college experience once you get to campus.

1. StrengthsFinder® is used on more than 700 college campuses and in businesses and organizations all over the world.
2. You will get your code to access StrengthsFinder® during the Welcome Week Event Selection Process.
3. Check out the Strengths at the U web page at www.strengths.umn.edu, especially the “Students” and “Videos” pages where you can find resources to help you talk about and use your Strengths during Welcome Week and as you transition to campus!
4. Follow @UMN_Strengths on Twitter and after you take StrengthsFinder®, feel free to share your results and start getting to know your fellow students by posting your Top 5 on the U of M Class of 2018 Facebook page!
5. Students found that knowing their Top 5 was helpful in meeting and getting to know others on campus.

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**Top 5 Facts about Strengths at the U**

1. ...it was a really good icebreaker while meeting new people during the first week.”
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3. “My friends and I compared our Strengths during Welcome Week and it was really cool to be able to connect in that way.”
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Welcome Week Program Highlights

Welcome Week is a program designed to complement Orientation by providing opportunities for you to get to know campus and your peers before classes begin.

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- **Community Exploration**
  - Learn to ride the light rail and visit attractions around the Twin Cities.

For more information, check out page 81 of the Gold Book you received at Orientation or visit www.welcomeweek.umn.edu for a detailed schedule.

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**World Class**

- StrengthsFinder®
- Student groups
- Local businesses

**Super safe**

**Then you get to campus.**

- Student groups
- Local businesses

**Valuable skills**

- Communication
- Critical thinking
- Teamwork

**Your values**

- Belief
- Growth
- Belonging

**Your goals**

- Impact
- Development
- Opportunity

**Your impact**

- Leadership
- Innovation
- Collaboration

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