Frequently Asked Questions

Below are the answers to some of the most frequently asked questions. If you do not find the answer you are looking for, please email first-year.affairs@yale.edu.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What are the dates for Bulldog Days?
Bulldog Days will be held April 23-25, 2018 and Bulldog Saturday will be held on April 14, 2018. Admitted students will have the option of attending either Bulldog Saturday or the traditional Bulldog Days. For more information, contact the Yale College Admissions Office at 203-432-9300.

How do I find my Student Identification Number?
Go to www.yale.edu/sis to find your student identification number (SID). Your SID is a 9 digit number beginning with 90xxxxxxx or 91xxxxxxx.

How do I find my NetID?
You will receive an email notification when your NetID is ready to be retrieved and activated. Please note that it takes two days after your accept Yale's offer of admission for your net id to be ready. Go to the net id page for instructions. You will use your NetID often throughout your time at Yale. You will still need your Eli Account to access the Online Decisions site as well as the Admitted Students Website.

How do I access Yale's online services and email?
Your NetID will give you access to Yale's network and its many online systems, including your Yale EliApps email account. Once you have retrieved and activated your NetID you may go to EliApps to sign into your Yale email account.

What immunizations do I need before coming to campus?
Go to New Undergraduate Student Forms for more information.

How do I change my permanent home address, home and cell phone number, or update my emergency contact information?
If your information changes before May 21, go to your Yale Admissions Status portal to update your contact information. If your information changes after May 21, use the Student Information Systems to update your information.

I recently legally changed my name. How can I change my name in Yale's system?
If you had a legal name change the University Registrar's Office needs documentation confirming the change of name before they can make any updates in Yale's system. Non-legal preferred name updates can made by students at www.yale.edu/sis. Go to http://registrar.yale.edu/students/name-policy-and-use for more information.

I am an international student; when will the I-20 form be sent to me so that I can apply for a Visa?
For more information visit the Office of International Students and Scholars or e-mail oiss@yale.edu.

When may I apply for a pre-orientation programs, i.e., Cultural Connections, Focus, FOOT, Harvest, and the Orientation for International Students?
First-years may apply for an optional pre-orientation program beginning May 1, 2018. The deadline to apply is July 1. For more information or to apply see Preorientation Programs.

If you choose to attend a pre-orientation program, i.e., Cultural Connections, Focus, FOOT, Harvest, or the Orientation for International Students, you will need to arrive before Friday, August 24. Please see Yale College Calendar for the dates of these programs and arrival information.

When will I receive information about housing and roommates?
On June 27 you may view your housing and roommate assignment from the link provided at www.yale.edu/first-year.

When do I need to arrive on campus?
You are expected to arrive on Friday, August 24, between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Please schedule your travel so that you arrive during these hours. We recommend that you come to campus as soon after 9 a.m. as you can on August 24 so that you have as much time as possible to get settled and to enjoy first-year student orientation activities.

If you choose to attend a preorientation program, i.e., Cultural Connections, FOCUS, FOOT, Harvest, or the Orientation for International Students, you will need to arrive before Friday, August 24. Please see First-Year Student Academic Calendar for the dates of these programs and arrival information.

I need to purchase a computer and/or cell phone. Are there academic priced packages available through Yale?
For more information go to https://its.yale.edu/centers/student-technology-collaborative/information-new-students.
When should my family members depart?
We encourage families to attend the panel discussion about undergraduate education and the residential colleges, followed by the residential colleges’ open houses, on Friday August 24, as well as the Yale College Assembly and the President’s Reception on Saturday, August 25. We suggest that parents depart by 3-5 pm on Saturday.

What are the dates for fall, winter and spring breaks and when do the residences close for undergraduates in May?
Please see the Yale College Calendar.

When is Family Weekend?
Family weekend will be held October 5-7, 2018.

When will I receive information about moving to Yale?
Go to the Planning Your Move to Yale section of the first-year website.

You are expected to arrive on Friday, August 24, between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Please schedule your travel so that you arrive during these hours. We recommend that you come to campus as soon after 9 a.m. as you can on August 24 so that you have as much time as possible to get settled and to enjoy first-year student orientation activities.

What should I buy for my room?
The University provides each student with a desk, a chair, a bureau, and a bed (extra long, 80” by 36”). The beds have mattresses, but no pillows. In some dormitories there are additional furnishings. These will be noted in your room assignment from your residential college dean. Almost all first-year student live in suites in which they share a living room with several roommates. Consequently, it is a good idea to consult with your roommates over the summer about bringing furniture, rugs, televisions, etc. Many rooms have no overhead lighting, so you should plan to bring some lamps with you; halogen lamps, however, are fire hazards and are not permitted. For more information go to the Planning Your Move page.

How do I receive mail on campus.
See Mail and Shipping.

How should I ship my stuff to campus?
We recommend that you bring with you your most important items. Items that you cannot bring may be shipped via United Parcel Service (UPS) or motor freight carrier. There is no storage space on campus, so please plan accordingly. For more information see under Mail and Shipping.

May I keep my car on campus?
For information about Student Parking, see Yale’s Transportation Options website.

Do first-year students have to live on campus?
Students in their first four terms of enrollment must live on campus unless they are married or are at least twenty-one years of age. For more information see Undergraduate Regulations: Dormitory Regulations.

Do I have to have a meal plan?
All students living on campus must have a meal plan. First-years are automatically assigned to the full meal plan upon enrollment. In September they may select the optional Anytime Meal Plan Plus Flex Points. For more information see the Yale Dining website.

Which banks have ATMs on campus?
Bank of America has an ATM in Durfee’s located on the Old Campus and in the lobby of Sterling Memorial Library. Their offices are located at 157 Church Street and 88 Broadway.

When is the final transcript due?
Please ask your school official to submit the Common Application Final Report form as soon as your final grades have been recorded or no later than July 10 via the online Common Application website or you can mail it to Office of Undergraduate Admissions, P.O. Box 208234, New Haven, CT 06520-8234. If you do not expect your results by July 10, please notify aaron.brockway@yale.edu or call 203-432-9311.

How can I view my AP scores?
You can view your AP scores through the College Board website at www.collegeboard.com. When you arrive to campus in August you will be notified of the AP scores Yale has on file for you.

Where do I send a scholarship letter?
Send a scan of the letter to sfsc@yale.edu.

Can my parents access my student record?
You can grant permission for others to view grades and holds in Proxy Management. Proxy Management will include settings for you to give others access to eBill/ePay, the student account payment system. Take a moment to log into SIS and begin entering your proxy information. After you are finished, your proxy must also take steps to complete their account setup. More information and
instructions for students and proxies can be found at sfas.yale.edu/proxy. For help with system access, setup and features, email proxy.access@yale.edu (proxy.access@yale.edu?subject=RE).

Can I earn Yale credit for courses taken during the summer?

Students may apply up to two course credits earned at another college or university toward Yale's 36-course-credit requirement for graduation. Yale does not pre-approve such courses, but please note that there are a number of criteria both the institution and the course must meet to qualify for Yale course credit. For instance, the college or university where you take your course must be a four-year, degree-granting, accredited institution, and the Yale director of undergraduate studies (“DUS”) in the corresponding Yale department must approve the course after you complete it if you wish to transfer the course onto your Yale transcript. You can find the full academic regulations on transferring in outside credits in the Yale College Programs of Studies (through this link.)

Finally, remember that the Yale curriculum is designed to allow students plenty of freedom to explore during their academic career – most students have no trouble earning the 36 course credits needed for the degree – and we hope that you can get some downtime this summer before the excitement and demanding start of your Yale career!