Inside FSC

PARENT GUIDE



Annual Resource Guide and Calendar 2026-2027

WELCOME TO FLORIDA SOUTHERN

At some point this past year, you may have paused and wondered how the years passed so quickly. One moment your student was taking first steps, learning to read, heading off to school for the first time—and now, seemingly all at once, they are preparing to begin life as a college student. You may feel proud, excited, nervous, grateful, and a little wistful all at the same time. That is not only understandable; it is part of the beautiful and complicated work of loving a young adult well.

As your student begins their journey at Florida Southern College, they are joining a community shaped by tradition, beauty, purpose, and possibility. Soon, they will walk through our iconic setting, learn from faculty who care deeply about their growth, build friendships that may last a lifetime, and find opportunities to engage, lead, serve, and belong. In classrooms, residence halls, organizations, athletic venues, campus traditions, and the Lakeland community beyond, they will be invited to take an active role in shaping their own experience.

Florida Southern's mission is to equip students to lead lives of positive and consequential impact on society through dynamic, engaged learning in our iconic setting and beyond. That mission is more than a statement; it is a calling we take seriously. It means your student will be encouraged not only to earn a degree, but to develop purpose. They will be challenged to think critically, act ethically, lead thoughtfully, and use their talents in ways that matter. They will learn that education is not simply preparation for life after college; it is part of becoming the kind of person who contributes meaningfully to the world.

We know that sending a student to college is an act of trust. You are entrusting someone deeply loved to this community, and we are honored by that responsibility. Across Florida Southern, faculty, staff, coaches, mentors, and student leaders are committed to helping students grow in confidence, resilience, curiosity, and character. We will celebrate their successes, support them through challenges, and encourage them to make the most of the opportunities before them.

Your role as a parent or family member is changing, but it remains profoundly important. Your encouragement, perspective, and steady support will continue to shape your student's journey in ways both visible and unseen. As we collaboratively help students grow in independence, we hope you will also feel connected to the life of the College and confident in the community that now surrounds them. Welcome to the Florida Southern College family. We are grateful to walk alongside you as your student begins this next chapter of dynamic, engaged learning, personal growth, and meaningful impact.

MEET THE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT TEAM



Ryan Walsh
Associate Dean of Student Involvement
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Alana McFadden
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Austin Jarret
Fraternity & Sorority Life Coordinator
863.680.4113 | ajarret@flsouthern.edu

AUGUST 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 New Commuter Student Check-In	22 New Student Move-In ACE Showcase Orientation
23 Returning Student Move-In	24	25 Classes Begin Blast-Off Student Involvement Fair	26 Escape to Wellness	27	28 Intramural Tournament	29
30	31 Last Day to Register and Adjust Class Schedule for Full-term and A-term					

THINGS TO DO

- ☐ Student information is restricted by FERPA. Make a plan with your student about how and when they will share academic information with you.
- ☐ Help your student prepare:
  - ☐ Make a plan in case of a medical emergency.
  - ☐ Provide a first aid kit to keep in their vehicle and/or residence.
  - ☐ Provide your student with copies of health insurance cards.
- ☐ If your student requires medication, plan to send a month's supply and begin the transfer process to a local Lakeland pharmacy.
- ☐ Encourage your student to check their FSC email regularly and begin taking ownership of deadlines.
- ☐ Talk about realistic sleep, nutrition, time management, and wellness habits.



MOVE-IN & CONNECTIONS

Our faculty, staff, administration, and Orientation Leaders are excited to welcome students and families to Florida Southern College. As students begin their FSC experience, they are entering a community shaped by engaged learning, meaningful relationships, and a shared commitment to preparing students to lead lives of positive and consequential impact on society. In our academic programs, students will learn alongside peers under the guidance of dedicated faculty who will challenge, support, and encourage them. Beyond the classroom, they will discover an inclusive and robust array of activities, organizations, traditions, and campus experiences where they can find friends, mentors, and a sense of belonging.

For parents and families, this moment can be both exciting and emotional. As you help your student settle in, know that they are joining a campus community that is ready to walk alongside them. Our hope is that each student begins this journey with a growing sense of purpose, connection, and possibility, and that families feel reassured that their student is being welcomed into a place where they can learn, belong, and thrive.

TO VIEW THE FULL ORIENTATION SCHEDULE.
CLICK THE LINK BELOW OR VISIT
FLSOUTHERN.EDU/ORIENTATION

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 Pizza with the Prez	2	3 Grillin' with the Greeks	4	5 Discover Florida: Disney's Hollywood Studios
6	7 Tee Off at Roux Library **Cornerstone Week**	8 Campus to Careers: Vinik Sports	9 **Convocation:** Swan-derful Lakeland	10 MocTails Career Networking Night	11 **Really Red Friday**	12
13	14 **Informal IFC Recruitment**	15 **Residence Life Hall Stars**	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Mocs in Paradise Final Day to Withdraw from "A" Courses	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Group Advising			

THINGS TO DO

- ☐ Register for Family Weekend, October 2 - 4, by visiting *flsouthern.edu/family-weekend*
- ☐ October brings the new pressures of midterms. Encourage your student to get ahead and make appointments with professors to talk about expectations and assignments.
- ☐ Recommend your student has a conversation with their roommate to work out any problem areas before issues arise. Encourage your student to generate their own solutions to problems. If help is needed, your student should reach out to their Resident Advisor (RA).
- ☐ Ask how classes are actually going, not just whether they are "fine."
- ☐ Ask whether your student has found one place on campus where they feel comfortable.
- ☐ Normalize the fact that the first few weeks can feel exciting and lonely at the same time.
- ☐ If your student needs a maintenance or tech issue addressed, remind them to submit a Work Request by visiting the FSC Single Sign-On web page.



CONVOCATION

Florida Southern's monthly Convocation series is one of the meaningful ways students come together as a campus community to learn, reflect, and grow. These required gatherings give students the opportunity to hear from outstanding speakers, experience engaging programs, and explore ideas that may challenge, inspire, or broaden their understanding of the world.

Rooted in the liberal arts tradition and guided by the College's vision, mission, and values, Convocation reflects Florida Southern's belief that students benefit from encountering a wide range of perspectives and questions: intellectual, moral, aesthetic, religious, and civic. These shared experiences help students think more deeply, listen more carefully, and connect their education to the kind of people and leaders they are becoming.

UPCOMING DATES

September 9	Swan-derful Lakeland
October 14	The Wright Advantage
November 11	Veterans Day
December 9	Mini Christmas Gala
January 20	Athletics
February 10	Founders Day Convocation
March 17	Health & Wellness
April 21	Student Life Awards

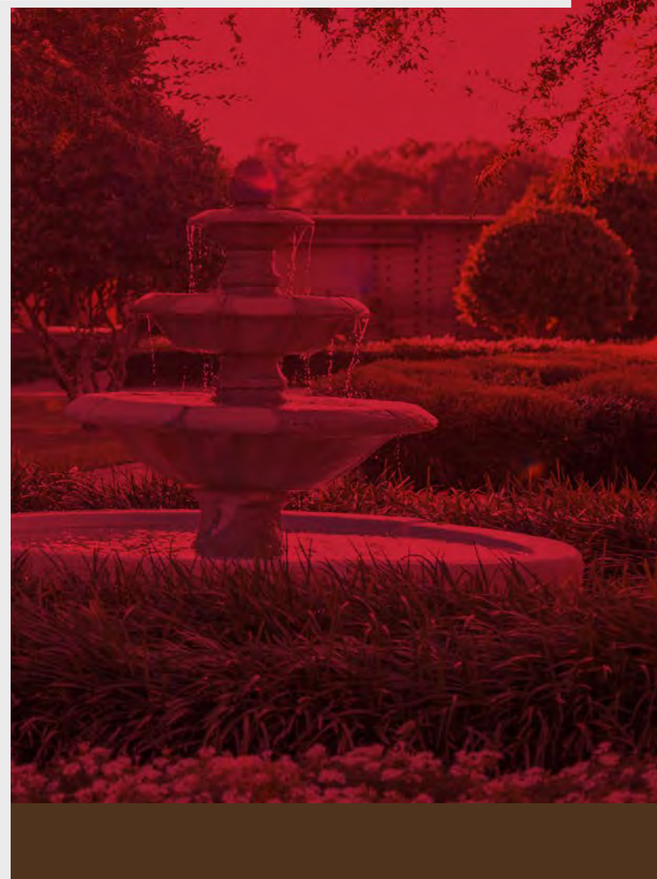
OCTOBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2 Teach Me to Salsa **Family Weekend**	3
4	5 **Greek Week**	6	7 Women in Leadership Lunch	8	9 **Really Red Friday**	10
11	12	13	14 **Convocation:** The Wright Advantage	15	16 Midterm Grade Deadline	17
18	19 **Fall Break** **Alt Break Community Service**	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Town Hall Spooky Bingo	30 Haunted Rose Garden	31

THINGS TO DO

- ☐ Attend Family Weekend, and let your student help shape the visit.
- ☐ Talk about whether your student's involvement level feels too low, too high, or about right.
- ☐ Encourage your student to prepare for midterms and seek help early.
- ☐ Remind your student that needing help is normal; waiting until things build up makes support harder.
- ☐ Make sure student accounts are up to date to be ready for spring semester registration.
- ☐ Talk to your student about Fall Break plans. Students interested in community service during Fall Break should contact Alana McFadden at **amcfadden@flsouthern.edu.**
- ☐ As you talk to your student about Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks, consider in advance if your student will register for campus airport shuttle services: *https://www.flsouthern.edu/campus-offices/offices-directory/office-of-safety-and-security/airport-shuttle-service*.





FAMILY WEEKEND

Family Weekend is an opportunity to experience campus alongside your student and discover the people, places, and traditions that make FSC feel like home.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Friday, October 2
Frank Lloyd Wright Architecture Tours
Downtown Lakeland's First Friday
A Doll's House, Theatre Performance

Saturday, October 3
Downtown Farmer's Curb Market
Parent Association Annual Meeting
Southern Sample: Moc Classes
Steak & Shrimp Dinner
Women's Soccer vs Rollins College
FSC Hockey Game vs University of Miami

Sunday, October 4
The Feast (Morning Worship Service with Breakfast)
Esports Match
A Doll's House, Theatre Performance

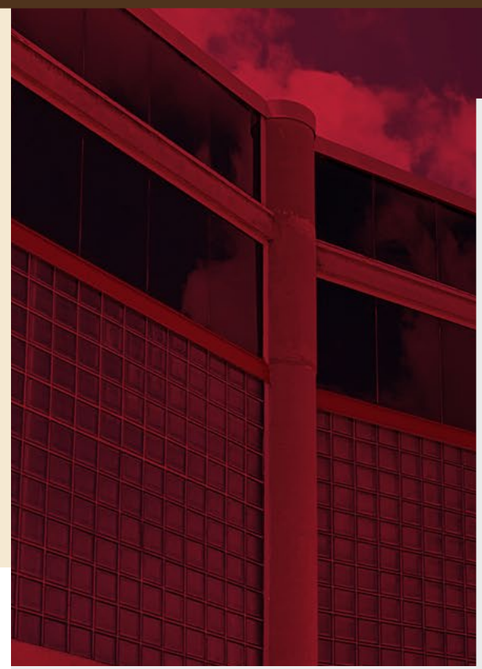
TO REGISTER FOR FAMILY WEEKEND
CLICK THE LINK BELOW OR VISIT
FLSOUTHERN.EDU/FAMILYWEEKEND

NOVEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2 Native Insights	3 Campus to Careers: Summit Holdings	4 Moc Interview Day	5	6	7
8	9 Kindness Week	10	11 **Convocation:** Veterans Day	12	13 **Really Red Friday** Friendsgiving Potluck	14 AFSP Suicide Prevention Walk
15	16	17 Campus to Careers: NY Yankees	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Break	26	27	28
29	30					

THINGS TO DO

- ☐ Encourage your student to stay active. Campus Wellness offers chances for involvement in group exercise activities, personal health goal setting, and outdoor recreation activities.
- ☐ Attend the Fraternity & Sorority Recruitment Information Webinar for Students & Parents at **4:00 PM EST on November 11.**
- ☐ Ask your student what they are learning about themselves, not just what grades they are earning.
- ☐ Plan conversations to have with your student during the Thanksgiving holiday:
    - Christmas break plans
    - January return-to-campus arrangements
    - Spring Break plans
    - Community service opportunities
    - Summer internships



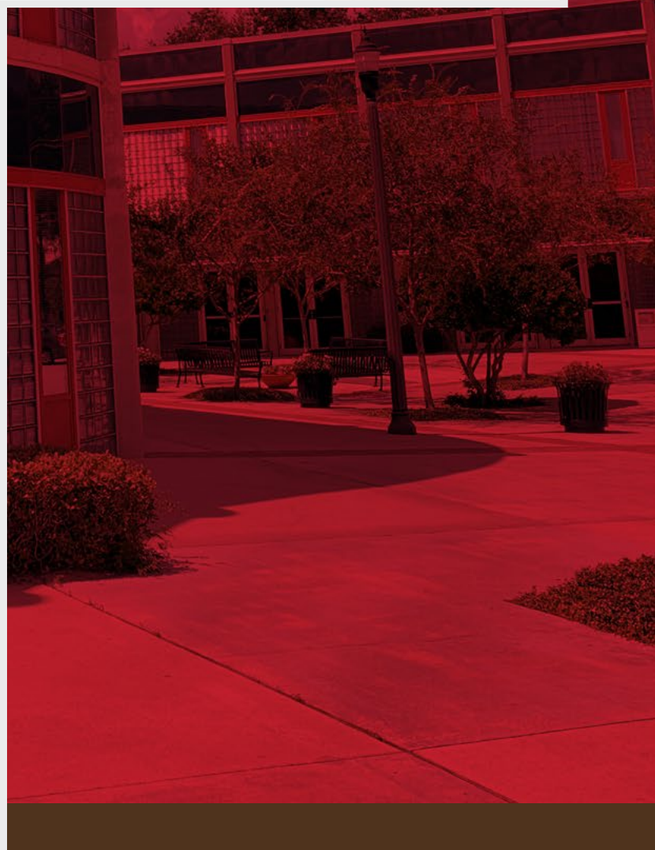


MOCS MAGIC

Mocs Magic is a signature first-year experience initiative at Florida Southern College designed to create moments of connection, surprise, and belonging throughout a student's transition to college life. Hosted by the Student Life team, these pop-up themed events bring students together in fun and engaging ways, transforming ordinary days into opportunities to build friendships, discover campus resources, and feel more connected to the FSC community.

Whether students receive a surprise text invitation, stumble upon a themed giveaway, or participate in an interactive activity, each Mocs Magic event is intentionally designed to remind students that they are valued members of the Florida Southern family.

mocsmagic



DECEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Fall Fiat Lux World of Winter Lessons and Carols	3 Lakeland City Christmas Parade	4	5 Walk to End Alzheimer's
6 Cram Jam	7 Wellbeing Week	8 FSL Recruitment Webinar	9 **Convocation:** Christmas Gala Preview	10	11 **Really Red Friday** Final Day of Classes	12 Festival of Fine Arts: Christmas Gala
13	14 Final Exams	15	16 Anticipating Graduating Student Grades	17 Residence Halls Close	18 Senior Toast	19 Commencement
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

THINGS TO DO

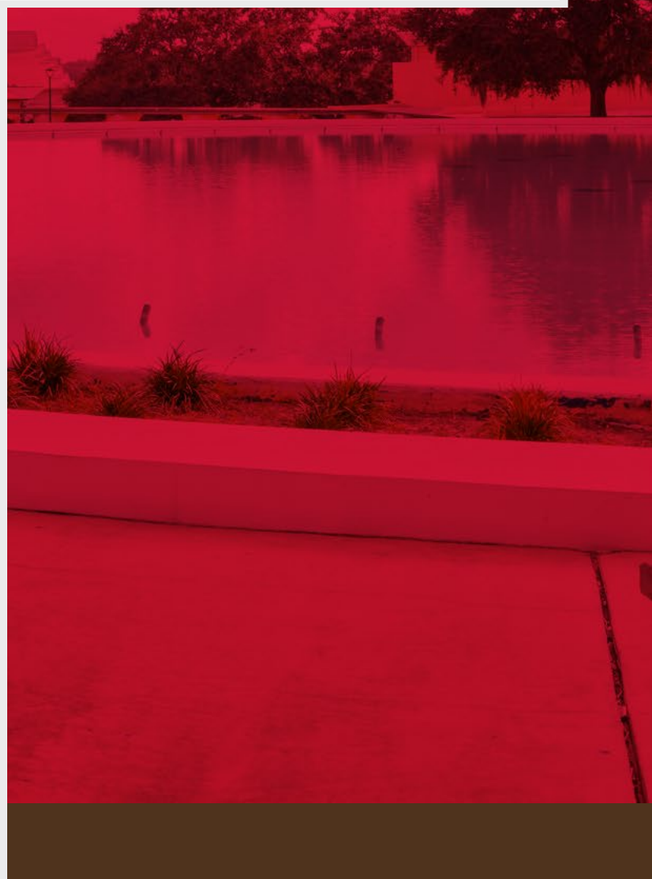
- ☐ Attend the Fraternity & Sorority Recruitment Information Webinar for Students & Parents at **4:00 PM EST on December 8.**
- ☐ Ask what kind of support is useful during finals: space, humor, snacks, prayer, reminders, or texts.
- ☐ Avoid making finals week a time for heavy conversations, unless something urgent is happening.
- ☐ Talk with your emerging adult about expectations you will have for each other during the holidays.
- ☐ Celebrate effort, growth, and resilience, not only grades.
- ☐ During the holiday break, help your student reflect on their first semester and assess it honestly. What positive goals do they have for semester two?



FSC PARENT COFFEE CONNECTIONS

Coffee Connections are casual gatherings designed to help Florida Southern College parents and families connect with one another, share experiences, and stay engaged with the FSC community. Whether hosted in Lakeland, regionally, or virtually, these informal meetups provide a welcoming space for parents to build relationships, ask questions, exchange helpful advice, and learn more about ways to support their student's success and independence throughout the college journey. Coffee Connections are scheduled by the Office of New Student and Family Programs by request.

If you would like to have a Coffee Connection, please contact **Ryan Walsh** at **rwalsh@flsouthern.edu.**



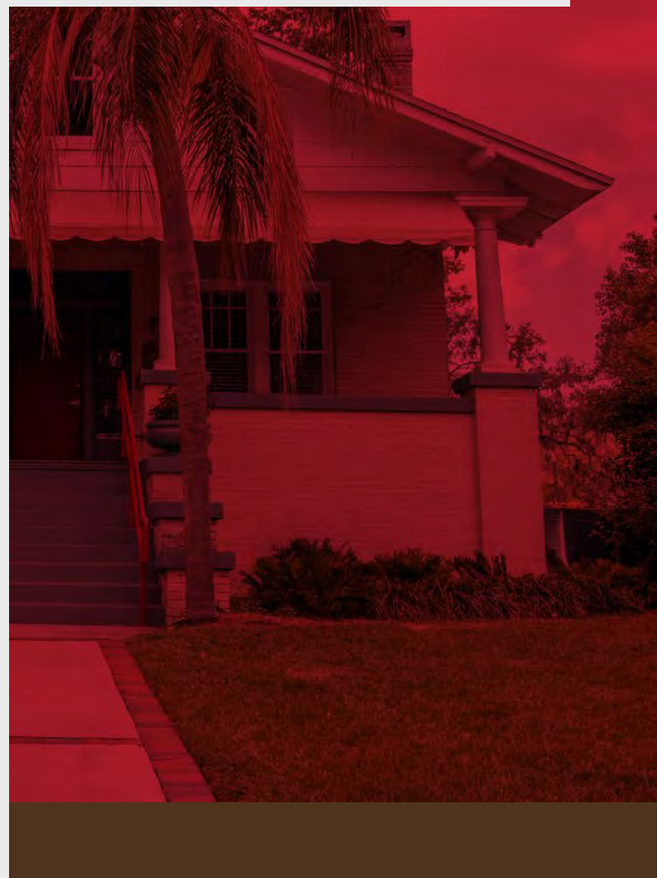
JANUARY 2027

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 New and Transfer Student Orientation	12 Classes Begin Relaunch - Student Involvement Fair	13	14	15 Last Day to Register and Adjust Class Schedule for Full-term and A-term	16 Lakeland City MLK Parade
17	18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (College Closed)	19	20 **Convocation:** Athletics	21	22 **Really Red Friday**	23
24	25	26 MocTails Career Networking Night	27	28	29	30
31						

THINGS TO DO

- ☐ Ask your student about spring Greek recruitment plans. Links to sign up for fraternity and sorority recruitment will be shared with students when spring classes begin.
- ☐ Help your student think about what they want to adjust from fall to spring.
- ☐ Work with your student to have them return with a plan for sleep, studying, involvement, and wellness.
- ☐ Encourage your student to visit Career Services in the Carlisle Rogers Building. FSC CS prepares students by offering opportunities and workshops throughout the year, including a career clothes closet, resume workshops, interview practice, and career counseling.
- ☐ If your student is interested in being a Fall 2027 Orientation Leader, please have them contact Vikki Capron at **vcapron@flsouthern.edu.**





COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Office of Multicultural Affairs is the primary campus resource for students who wish to explore community service opportunities. All FSC students are encouraged to participate in local community service, which offers essential reinforcement to engaged learning. At Florida Southern College, community service is one way students learn to live the College's mission: leading lives of positive and consequential impact on society. Through service, students begin to see themselves not only as members of the campus community, but also as neighbors, citizens, and leaders with the ability to contribute meaningfully to the world around them.

Service helps students connect what they are learning in the classroom with the real needs of people and communities. It encourages empathy, humility, responsibility, and reflection. Whether students are volunteering locally in Lakeland, participating in a campus service initiative, or supporting a cause that matters to them personally, these experiences help them grow in character and purpose.

FEBRUARY 2027

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5 Laser Tag at Roux Library	6
			Panhellenic Recruitment			
7 Panhellenic Bid Day	8	9	10 **Convocation:** Founders Day Final Day to Withdraw from "A" Courses	11 Scholarship Appreciation Dinner	12 **Really Red Friday** Southern Takeover	13
			Homecoming			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 IFC Bid Day
IFC Recruitment						
21	22 Town Hall	23	24 Group Advising	25	26	27
28						

THINGS TO DO

- ☐ Encourage your student to continue checking their college email frequently for important reminders.
- ☐ Watch for opportunities to celebrate National Black History Month, February 1 - 28.
- ☐ Encourage your student to check in with their advisor, mentor, coach, supervisor, or trusted staff member.
- ☐ Ask your student whether they are building relationships that help them grow.
- ☐ Encourage career exploration with Career Services and trusted faculty through Mocs Career Hub.



HOMECOMING

Whether it's been a few years or a few decades since you last stepped onto campus, there is no better time than Homecoming to see what's new at Florida Southern! The weekend is filled with moments that honor both our proud history and vibrant future. Come reconnect with friends, celebrate your journey, and rediscover the campus that will always be home.

Wednesday, February 10
The Ultimate Homecoming Tailgate | 6 PM

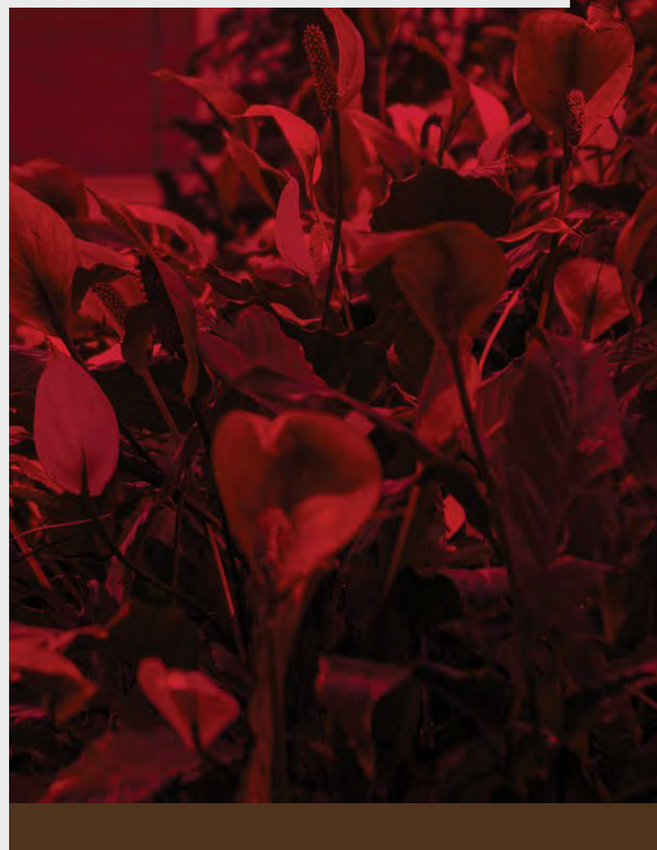
Thursday, February 12th
Food Truck Rally & Student Org Fair | 6 PM

Friday, February 13th
Southern Takeover | 8 PM

Saturday, February 14th
Alumni & Students Low Country Boil | 12 PM

TO VIEW THE HOMECOMING SCHEDULE FOCUSED ON STUDENT ACTIVITIES

CLICK THE LINK BELOW OR VISIT
FLSOUTHERN.EDU/HOMECOMING



MARCH 2027

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5 Midterm Grade Deadline	6
7	8 Spring Break Alt Break Community Service	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Oscars Night	17 **Convocation:** Founders Day	18	19 **Really Red Friday** World Tour	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Good Friday (College Closed)	27
28	29	30	31 Moc Interview Day			

THINGS TO DO

- ☐ Drop an encouraging note in the mail to your student. Address format:
  - ☐ Student Name
  - ☐ Mailbox #
  - ☐ 111 Lake Hollingsworth Dr.
  - ☐ Lakeland, FL 33801
- ☐ Ask what support your student has used and what support they might still need.
- ☐ Remind your student that spring break can be restorative, productive, or both.
- ☐ Invite a bigger question: “What kind of person are your becoming this year?”

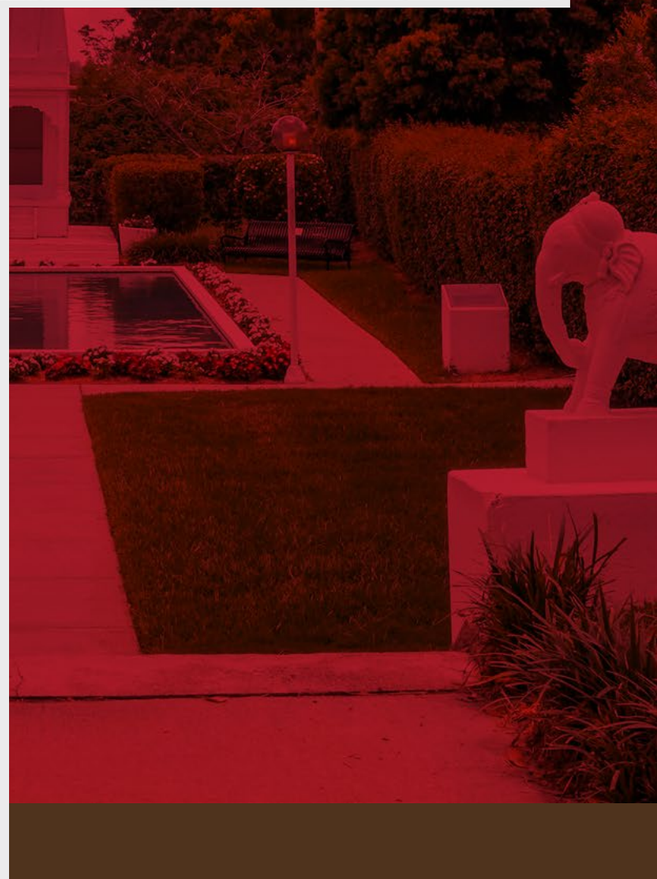


THE WRIGHT ADVANTAGE

At Florida Southern, we provide complete preparation—academically, professionally, and personally—fully embracing the promise to Prepare Here, Succeed Anywhere. It is preparation that is comprehensive and purposeful.

A distinctive blend of rigorous scholarship, experiential learning, mentorship, and character development defines the Wright Advantage. We believe that through the development of skills in communication, relationship-building, resilience, career and self-development, critical thinking, inclusive excellence, leadership and followership, professionalism, and teamwork, a student is intentionally prepared for life beyond college. Through the Wright Advantage, students are not only career-ready, but life-ready—equipped with the knowledge, skills, confidence, and character to thrive in any environment and make a positive and consequential impact on society.

Florida Southern students don’t just prepare academically—they prepare technologically, professionally, and personally to *Prepare Here, Succeed Anywhere.*



APRIL 2027

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 Multicultural Student Council Summit
4	5 SGA, ACE & MSC Elections	6	7	8 Frank Lloyd Wright Day	9	10
11	12	13 Final Day to Withdraw from "B" Courses	14 Flick and Float Movie Night	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 **Convocation:** Student Life Awards Spring Fiat Lux	22	23 **Really Red Friday**	24 "Fair"well Fest
25 Cram Jam	26 Wellbeing Week	27	28	29	30 Final Day of Classes	

THINGS TO DO

- ☐ Remind student to thank faculty, staff, supervisors, mentors, and peers who helped them this year.
- ☐ Help students think through summer storage, including Collegeboxes.
- ☐ Remind students that they must schedule a time with their RA to check out of their residence.



MAY 2027

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 Final Exams	4	5 Anticipating Graduating Student Grades	6 Senior Water Dome Splash	7 Senior Toast	8 Commencement
9	10 Final Grade Deadline	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

THINGS TO DO

- ☐ Help with move-out logistics but let your student manage checklists and deadlines.
- ☐ Celebrate the completion of the academic year.
- ☐ Ask your student to name one success, one lesson, and one goal for next year.
- ☐ Encourage your student to save contact information for faculty, supervisors, and mentors.
- ☐ Discuss summer expectations, if your student is returning home.
- ☐ Families of graduating students: Graduating students must pick up Commencement tickets for family and friends—information is shared through students' Mocs email.
- ☐ Remind students that oftentimes meaningful growth looks different than we expect.





PARENT & FAMILY ASSOCIATION

All parents and families of current Florida Southern College students are automatically members of the FSC Parent Association, providing access to valuable resources, updates, and opportunities to stay connected throughout their student's college experience.

- Receive timely campus news and important updates
- Access the online Parent and Family Calendar
- Stay informed with *The Link* monthly newsletter
- Receive Mocs Weekly with the latest updates
- Attend the annual Parent Association meeting during Family Weekend
- Participate in local and regional Parent Association events
- Stay connected, informed, and equipped to support your student's success at Florida Southern College and beyond



MAKE A GIFT

Florida Southern's continued success depends on the vision and generosity of our entire college community. Each of us has experienced the transformative power of a Florida Southern education. As Mocs friends and family members, supporters of the College, and, it is important that we ensure future generations of bright, curious, and engaged students have access to Florida Southern's life-changing opportunities. There are many ways to give and have an impact on future Mocs.

FSC SPIVEY SOCIETY PARTNERS
$1,000 +
(Tax deduction minus $200 in premiums)

MOCS FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT PARTNERS
$500 - $999
(Tax deduction minus $100 in premiums)

MOCS DANFORTH CHAPEL PARTNERS
$200 - $499
(100% tax deduction)

MOCS CARE

Mocs Care is a Dean of Students emergency fund established to provide temporary financial assistance to Florida Southern students who experience an unforeseen circumstance that could jeopardize their ability to remain enrolled or continue their education. Examples may include unexpected medical expenses, emergency car repairs, or expenses resulting from a natural disaster. Funds are intended to address unexpected, short-term financial hardships and are not designed to cover routine expenses or supplement the general cost of a student's education.

Parents and families can contribute to the fund through a $35 donation, which includes a student-designed Mocs Care T-shirt, helping provide direct support to students experiencing financial hardship.

Contact Mike Crawford, Dean of Students, for additional information at **mcrawford@flsouthern.edu.**



CAMPUS DIRECTORY

Admissions
863.680.4131
fscadm@flsouthern.edu

Advancement
863.680.4292
advancement@flsouthern.edu

Adult & Graduate Admissions
863.680.4205

Alumni Relations
863.680.3775
alumni@flsouthern.edu

Athletics
863.680.4245
athletics@flsouthern.edu

Branscomb Box Office
863.680.4296
branscombboxoffice@flsouthern.edu

Buckner Box Office
863.680.3089
bucknerboxoffice@flsouthern.edu

Business Office (Student Accounts)
863.680.4154
busofc@flsouthern.edu

Campus Store
863.680.4186
fscbookstore@flsouthern.edu

Campus Ministries
863.680.4297

Campus Safety and Security
863.680.4305
safety@flsouthern.edu

Career Services
863.680.4390
careercenter@flsouthern.edu

Center for Student Success
863.680.4983
studentsuccess@flsouthern.edu

Counseling Center
863.680.6236
counseling@flsouthern.edu

Dining Services
863.680.4187

Facilities Maintenance
863.680.4192
facilities@flsouthern.edu

Greek Life
863.680.4113

Health Services
863.680.4292
shc@flsouthern.edu

Mail Services
863.680.6222
mailroom@flsouthern.edu

Parent & Family Engagement
parents@flsouthern.edu

Registrar
863.680.4127
registrar@flsouthern.edu

Residence Life
863.680.4206
residencelife@flsouthern.edu

Rinker Technology Center
863.680.6426
ishelf@flsouthern.edu

Roux Library
863.680.4164
library@flsouthern.edu

Student Conduct
863.680.6221

Student Involvement
863.680.4499

Student Life
863.680.4209

Student Disability Services
863.680.4197
studentdisabilityservices@flsouthern.edu

Student Travel
863.680.6411
studenttravel@flsouthern.edu

Wellness Center
863.680.6290
wellnesscenter@flsouthern.edu



Student Life

FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE

@studentlifefsc