Arriving on Campus

Mandatory New Graduate Student Orientation

All incoming graduate students are required to attend a welcome breakfast and presentation on Monday, August 27, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the MacLean Ballroom, 112 South Michigan Avenue. Presenters and guests will include School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) President Elissa Tenny and Dean of Graduate Studies Arnold J. Kemp. This festive event is your opportunity to connect with peers from across SAIC departments.

International Student Experience and Immigration Check-In for Graduate and Exchange Students

International students are required to attend the International Student Experience and Immigration Check-In for Graduate and Exchange Students, on Friday, August 24. For the International Student Experience checklist, visit saic.edu/orientation and click on International Students.

International students who arrive at SAIC before the International Student Experience and Immigration Check-In are encouraged to complete the immigration document check-in at the International Affairs office the week before. However, attendance at the International Student Experience and Immigration Check-In for Graduate and Exchange Students on Friday is still mandatory. Additional details will be provided in July.

Office of International Affairs
36 S. Wabash Ave., suite 1203
T: 312.629.6830, F: 312.629.6831, intaff@saic.edu

Mandatory Departmental Orientations

New students are required to attend orientations at the departmental level. These important events introduce you to the facilities, resources, and procedures specific to your department. Visit saic.edu/orientation for details about your department’s orientation activity.

Gathering at the Museum and Reception

Gather at the Art Institute of Chicago with other graduate students, faculty, and the dean of graduate studies to explore the encyclopedic collection that defines the culture at SAIC. Then, join your colleagues for a reception in the MacLean Ballroom.

Orientation Gathering at the Museum
Tuesday, August 28 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., check-in begins at 5:30 p.m.
The Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan Ave.

All-Grad Reception
Tuesday, August 29 from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
MacLean Ballroom, 112 S. Michigan Ave.

Shipping Belongings

Why pack up the car until it is overflowing when you can ship your belongings to partners with Collegeboxes, a company that makes the process quick and easy about this program, go to collegeboxes.com.

Things to Do Now

Activate Your Online Account

In order to make online deposits, view financial aid, and review billing information, you need to activate your ARTIC account. This account will also provide you with an SAIC email, Self-Service, library databases, and much more. Please note that you will receive a seven-digit SAIC ID number (included in your admission letter) in order to activate your account:

2. Enter your SAIC ID Number.
3. Enter your birthday.

Once you have activated your account, visit saic.edu/students to access Self-S Serve, U-Pass, ARTICard

Electronic Contracts

In July, you will receive an email via Docusign that will enable you to sign several contracts electronically. It will contain instructions and provide electronic versions of the following contracts:

- CRIT Software Usage Agreement
- Laptop Requirement and Verification Check (optional for some students)
- FERPA Waiver (optional)
- U-Pass
- ARTICard

By signing these contracts ahead of time, you will speed up your preparation or arrival.

Mandatory Online Orientations

All new graduate students are required to complete online orientation program that arrive on campus. These programs cover such issues as sexual misconduct and inclusion. As a result, all new students will be sent information to their SAIC email about completing these online courses. If you do not receive the information about completing the online courses, you can access the information by visiting saic.edu/orientation.

In addition, new MFA students must view an online safety and training video or complete a quiz by August 21 in order to participate in a studio lottery. Visit saic.edu/orientation to access these required online courses.