



*Michigan State University
Student Affairs Administration Program
New Student Checklist*



30 Things to Do in Your First 30 Days @ MSU

- Connect with your SAA community: Attend a SAGA social event.
- Become transportation savvy: Get your parking pass, bike permit, and/or CATA bus pass.
- Discover the treasures in Old Town Lansing: Window shop in the many stores, eat breakfast at the Golden Harvest, and sample the gourmet popcorn at Cravings.
- Get to know the members of your cohort, have lunch with a second-year SAA student, and get coffee with a student from the HALE PhD or HALE MA program.
- Show your Spartan Spirit: Buy your MSU garb, go to a tailgate with friends, attend your first home football game, and learn the MSU Fight Song and the alma mater. Don't forget to get your picture taken by the famous Sparty statue.
- A perfect night out with friends at Eastwood Towne Center: Go shopping, grab dinner at one of several restaurants, and see a movie at NCG Theaters (www.shopeastwoodtownecenter.com).
- Stay connected and begin to establish your professional identity: Update and assess the content of your social media profiles.
- Enjoy the beauty of MSU: Bike the River Trail, feed the ducks on the Red Cedar River, sit and listen to the Beaumont Tower Carillon, or wander through one of the many gardens on campus, including the 4-H Children's Garden, the Beal Garden, and Horticulture Demonstration Garden.
- Find the eighteen pieces of public art sprinkled around the East Lansing community (visit the map at www.cityofeastlansing.com/publicart).
- Spend your money wisely: Buy your books before classes begin and get e-tokens for printing on campus.
- Establish a wellness plan: Get a membership to one of the IMs on campus, play in an intramural league, join a community gym off campus, or start a walking club.
- Be green, buy local: Visit the East Lansing Farmers Market at Valley Court Park on a Sunday, just a short walk from campus (www.cityofeastlansing.com/farmersmarket).
- It's never too early: Begin to familiarize yourself with the APA style guide, 6th edition, to help you in your writing.
- Indulge in MSU culinary delights: Get an ice cream cone from the MSU Dairy Store, hop over to the brand new Brody Square for a meal, or attend Friday coffee hour at the International Center.

- Get to know your local government: Visit the State Capitol Building in downtown Lansing or City Hall in East Lansing to familiarize yourself with local resources and services. Don't forget to register to vote for the November 2010 elections.
- Begin to think about your program plan: Set up a meeting with your advisor.
- Take in a show: Maybe a play at the Wharton Center, an exhibit at the MSU museum or the Kresge Art Museum, a movie at Wells Hall, or a show at the Abrams Planetarium.
- Fun dining on the patio: Grab your friends and have a meal on any of these fine patios in East Lansing, including Dublin Square, Harper's, El Azteco, or the Peanut Barrel.
- Jump start your professional development: Research and join a professional association in student affairs or get a subscription to the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.
- Participate in Fall Welcome activities, including U-Fest in the MSU Union and Moonlight Madness on Monday, August 30th.
- Start the morning off right: Have brunch at Beggar's Banquet or grab some coffee at the original Biggby's on Grand River Ave.
- Keep on top of your resume: Update your resume to include current employment and ongoing involvement opportunities.
- Balance your budget: Check and pay your student account bill on stuiinfo.msu.edu. Need a local checking account? Check out the MSUFCU (credit union) in the MSU Union.
- Get your East Lansing library card: Check out books, audio books, and movies, or even download e-books for your leisure (www.elpl.org).
- Find a study spot: From the MSU library or the graduate lounge in Erickson Hall on campus, to the Grand Traverse Pie Company or another cozy coffee shop off campus.
- Get your MSU student ID card and research the on and off campus discounts available for MSU students.
- Become a Lansing local: Go to a Lansing Lugnuts baseball game with a group of friends or visit the animals at Potter Park Zoo (<http://www.lansinglugnuts.com/>; <http://www.potterparkzoo.org/>).
- Become a fan: Join the SAA program, HALE unit, and College of Education fan pages on Facebook.
- Be Spartan Green: Take a trip to the new MSU Recycling Center on Farm Lane to find out what they accept.
- Experience the essence of downtown East Lansing: Explore the eclectic mix of restaurants, retail, art galleries and entertainment venues. Check it out at <http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/downtown>.