



# FIRST NEWSLETTER OF THE SUMMER

Just a few days ago, we hosted our last New Student Orientation session of the summer. Over the past month, we got the opportunity to meet almost all of you. I promised then that we'd continue to follow up with you throughout the summer.

As we move throughout the rest of the summer, we'll start introducing you to topics that you'll need for the start of school. This first one has got a LOT of information, I know! But we wanted to get it to you now, so you could be sure that you're on track. I promise, our future newsletters will be shorter!

# BILLING COMING OUT

You may have noticed, but the University has started to post your bills to CougarNet. In the near future, you may also get a mailed version of your bill. It should include all the costs for tuition, fees, and if you've chosen to live on campus, your room and board charges.

Remember, your bill is just a statement of the costs you've incurred. It doesn't necessarily include HOW you plan to pay for college. That's why you will always want to check your billing statement.

# FINANCIAL AID STEPS

Getting your bill and financial aid finalized is a multi-step process at SIUE.

1. First your bill goes on your account. If you look at it immediately, it may look like we forgot to apply your financial aid to your bill. We didn't!
2. Once your bill is finalized, then we go back and start applying your financial aid to your account.
3. BUT ... it takes time. It's not just "push a button" and it's there. It's the exact opposite. The financial aid office must go into each of your accounts individually to apply the aid. This takes a few days to get through the thousands of students who receive some type of scholarship.
4. So, if you see your bill and you don't see your financial aid, scholarships, loans, etc. on your account immediately, give it a few more days. If by the last week of July, you still don't see what appears to be a correct bill and financial aid statement, then you should contact the Bursar's Office.

Finally, remember that we will only apply any financial aid that you have officially accepted. You must go into your CougarNet account to finalize all your aid. If you have questions, you'll want to reach out to the Financial Aid Office. (This is one area where I can't help much. I do not have access to see your bills).

# PAYMENT DEADLINES

Everything you need to know about the deadlines is [here](#).

Just remember, the first deadline is Friday, 12 August 2022. You must have everything set by 4:30 pm CDT.

The words you want to hear are that you are “financially cleared.” If you hear or see that, you are good to go!

# REMEMBER YOUR SCORES & CREDITS

The other thing to remember from our NSO sessions are the importance of getting you dual enrollment and AP credits submitted to SIUE. Unsure what to do? It's easy.

1. Log into CougarNet and go into your Student Records. Look at your unofficial transcript – if you see your credits there, it means they've been received and officially compared to SIUE credits.
2. If you don't see them, make sure you have them sent to the Registrar's Office. We need your COLLEGE transcripts. If you took them as dual enrollment, we won't get your classes off your high school transcript. You'll need to have the college who granted the credit send an official transcript.
3. In your fall advising, we'll talk more about any of the credits you have. For now, you just need to make sure that you don't have credit for something you are already taking. So for example, if you took the Psychology AP test and you earned credit for it, you want to make sure that you are not repeating PSYC 111. (The only exceptions for these are usually in your math course).

# PLACEMENT TESTING

We're starting to get repetitive, but you can see why it was important to get this information to you.

1. If we placed you into a math course, and you haven't done so already, remember to sign for the ALEKS math placement test.
2. If you've taken the ALEKS test, and you are planning to re-take it, make sure you've gotten it scheduled. We don't want to wait until the last minute to take the test, especially if you are hoping to move up into a higher section.
3. If you need to take a foreign language placement test, [you should reach out to the Foreign Language department](#). Again, the sooner you can make arrangements, the better chance we have of adjusting your schedule.

# HOUSING INFORMATION

For those of you planning to live on campus, I believe your housing assignments have gone out. I hope you got what you wanted!

I was very excited that Housing worked very hard to allow you all to move in early, so that we could have an engaging time with you at Honors 101. The entire move-in schedule for all the first-year residence halls is [here](#).

The best news is that no matter your placement, you'll be able to start your move-in before noon. Housing has asked me to remind you, however, that you cannot start your moving before your allotted time.

If you are needing to move into your residence before this traditional move-in day, you should be sure to talk with housing or the office that is arranging that. (This typically impacts fall sport athletes, international students, etc.)

# REMEMBER HONORS 101

