

# SECRETS TO SOAR

## Insider Tips for Auburn's Transfer Students

### Welcome Week 2017

The Auburn Family embraces Auburn students back with open arms each fall with Welcome Week, August 17th-25th. Usually from move in through the first week of classes, Welcome Week is a great way to have fun, meet new people, and of course, indulge in free food. Not only are the events entertaining, but they can be informative and help you get to know some people on campus.

A common misconception is that Welcome Week is just for freshmen and that is *NOT* true! The events are for all new students and many upperclassmen participate all four years. You can find the full Welcome Week schedule by downloading "Auburn Guides" from your App Store. Keep checking back because events are still being added.

Some of these activities include Waffles with Woodard, the Vice President for Student Affairs, and various meals with your Academic College. In addition, there are events that are purely for enjoyment, like an outdoor showing of a movie and the Welcome Week RAVE. Welcome Week also gives opportunities to get plugged in with a variety of religious groups in Auburn if you are interested so be sure to find an event that fits your interest. There are even events for students to get better acquainted with Auburn's beautiful campus and all the resources here to help you, like Tailgate at the Library and Get Rec'd.

#### **Are you worried about finding your classes that first day?**

The Orientation Leaders are here to help you find your specific classrooms so you know exactly where to go that first day! Make sure to check out Class Schedule Tours on Sunday, August 20th from 12:30- 2:30pm. Come to the 2nd floor of the Student Center where you checked in for SOS.

As a transfer student we have a social specifically for you! Come to the Transfer Student Dessert Social on Thursday, August 24th from 4-5pm in Foy 189. Enjoy a sweet treat and meet other transfer students like you.

**Don't miss out on all of these great opportunities to meet new people, and get tons of free stuff!**

# WELCOME WEEK 2017

### Dates To Remember

**Aug 17-25:** Welcome Week

**Aug 20 @ 4:15pm:** New Student Convocation in the Auburn Arena. **All first-year students (including transfer students) are required to attend.**

**Aug 21:** Fall Classes Begin

**Aug 18:** Deadline to complete part 1 of Alcohol Edu & Haven online courses. You should have an email about it in your Tigermail account from Health Promotion & Wellness Services.

**Aug 28 - Sept 11:** Drop Course Penalty Days. Dropping a class during this time will result in a \$100 fee per course dropped.

**Sept 4:** Labor Day (no school)

**Sept 11:** 15th Class Day: Last day to drop from a course with no grade assignment.

**Sept 8:** Second eBill due. Statements should be posted to your eBill on August 17.

### Transfer Student Spotlight



**Kaleigh Garner,**  
is a Senior majoring in  
Public Relations from  
Gadsden, AL.

Transferring to Auburn is one of the best decisions I have ever made; however, there was a time when this decision was met with anxiety, fear and loneliness.

Although I was prepared and excited to embark on this new adventure, the transition to a larger university was not easy at first.

Luckily, I received some really great advice from a professor during my first week at Auburn. He explained that too often transfer students come to Auburn expecting to fill an instant connection. The truth is, transfer students have to make an extra effort to find ways to connect.

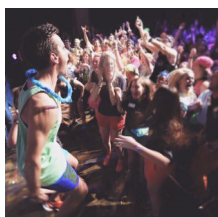
I believe involvement is the key to becoming a successful transfer student. It wasn't until I joined various on-campus organizations that I truly felt connected and a part of the Auburn Family. My involvement gave me the opportunity to find others who have similar interests and gave me an outlet to leave a positive impact on the university.

Be sure to check out the many opportunity Auburn provides to become involved. All transfer students should take advantage of the involvement resources such as AU Involve ([auburn.edu/auinvolve](http://auburn.edu/auinvolve)), Welcome Week and Organization Days (O-Days).

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## Campus Connections- Office of Student Involvement (Service)

The Office of Student Involvement has many great easy ways for incoming transfer students to get involved both in the local community and abroad. One organization is IMPACT, a student led volunteer organization. IMPACT has 17 weekly opportunities to volunteer that can work around



your schedule. You just have to show up to the intramural fields at the designated

time. There is truly a volunteer project for all interests. From opportunities to play with children and help them with their homework to outdoor projects such as the Louise Kreher Ecology Preserve.

Within the Office of Student Involvement there is also Beat Bama Food Drive, Alternative Student Breaks, and Auburn University Dance Marathon. Beat Bama Food Drive is a yearly canned food drive and fundraiser in the fall that benefits the Food Bank of East Alabama. Alternative

Student Breaks (ASB) offers Auburn students with the unique opportunity of spending their winter or spring breaks on a service-oriented trip focused on a particular issue. Dance Marathon (AUDM) is a large fundraiser held in the spring for Children's Miracle Network hospitals, and participants spend 12 hours on their feet playing games and dancing "For The Kids" or #FTK. For more information on each of these organizations and how to get involved, check out their AU Involve pages or [wp.auburn.edu/involve/leadership-service/](http://wp.auburn.edu/involve/leadership-service/).

## Academic Spotlight- How to be Successful at AU

- **Read your syllabus.** This is your guiding document for your class and will contain a lot of important information like your professor's office hours, textbook information, course objectives, test and assignment dates and details. If you have a question about a class, it is always a good practice to see if the professor mentioned it in the syllabus first. Make sure to put all of your assignments, readings and test dates on your calendar ASAP so you can plan in advance for busier weeks.
- **Visit professor's office hours.** You might not have needed to visit your professor in office hours before, but you want to make sure you do it here. Visiting your professor's office hours will not only allow you to get clarification on any information you are confused about, but begin to establish a relationship with your professor. The professors here really want to help you and are glad to provide you that extra one-on-one attention if you are willing to make the effort to come to their office hours.
- **Seek academic resources early.** Identify if there are any services offered to help you succeed in your courses, such as Supplemental Instruction, Study Partners, or free tutoring. If you do not have these tutoring groups for your class, talk with your professor or start a study group with people in your class. Since course materials often builds on itself each class session, you do not want to wait if you are even the tiniest bit confused. It can be hard to ask for help, but by asking early you can make sure you have a solid foundation and stay on top of everything.
- **Stay Organized.** Auburn academics are known for being challenging, so be sure to keep on top of all deadlines or assignments you have. Use a planner or smart phone, and watch yourself so you do not procrastinate or overburden yourself with too many activities. Staying on top of these things will help you be successful with the increased workload.
- **Make a good impression.** Attend class, do the readings, participate in the discussions, allow yourself enough time to study before your tests, and prepare for each class. Professors expect students to be independent and self-motivated so do your best to put your best foot forward in class.
- **Breathe!** Take things slow. As a transfer student, you may feel rushed because your time is limited, but make sure to take a breath and take things day-by-day. Focus on doing your best and acclimating to your new environment. Your first semester may be more difficult than your previous institution academically or socially, but like anything new, it takes time to adjust. You may not have to learn things like you did your freshman year, but you may still have to learn how to adapt to new study techniques and a new academic environment.



## Transfer Tips:

As you are finishing up your final semester at your previous college, make sure to submit your final transcripts to:

### Admission Processing

1550 East Glenn Ave, Suite 1210  
Auburn, AL 36849

**Don't forget to your Orientation Leader is here to help! They have a sincere and genuine desire to help you transition into Auburn, help you when you do not know who to go to, and be a friend past your SOS session. Reach out if you need something, because they want to be there for you.**



AUBURN UNIVERSITY

FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE

