

Jump-start Your Colgate Experience

PARTICIPATE IN A PRE-ORIENTATION PROGRAM

Make friends and get acquainted with the Colgate community prior to orientation. Select from nine pre-orientation programs offered in the weeks leading up to your first semester, providing you the chance to connect with classmates and create memories.

Our pre-orientation programs provide opportunities to:

- work closely with a campus organization
- gain valuable leadership skills
- interact with upper-level student leaders
- meet students with similar interests
- get involved early on campus
- have fun

2023 PROGRAMS

Community Outreach

August 16–20, 2023

Make friends through community outreach and service, and learn about the local community that will be your home for the next four years. You will travel off campus in small groups with upper-level student leaders and mentors, immersing yourself in community settings for four days. Serve with and learn from local residents and nonprofit agencies in the village and town of Hamilton, Madison County, the city of Utica, the Mohawk Valley, and the central New York (CNY) region. Through service and reflection on its definition, purpose, and efficacy, this experience invites you to begin your time at Colgate acting on and thinking about engaged citizenship and the public good. Learn how to connect individual acts of service to long-term social change; join a group of students on a service journey and see what answers you find!



First@Colgate and QuestBridge Scholars

August 16–20, 2023

Build community and familiarize yourself with campus resources that will help you thrive at Colgate. This program provides QuestBridge Scholars and first-generation students early access to opportunities to network with faculty and staff, get acquainted with key University offices, hear from upper-level students, and bond with fellow first-year students. Join this pre-orientation program and make the most of your Colgate experience right out of the 'gate!



Contact information: Max A. Shacknai Center for Outreach, Volunteerism, and Education (COVE), Jeremy T. Wattles '05, Director
jwattles@colgate.edu, 315-228-6880

Contact information: First@Colgate, first@colgate.edu, QuestBridge Scholars, RaJhai Spencer, Assistant Dean for Administrative Advising, rspencer@colgate.edu



Sustainability of the North Country

August 16–20, 2023

In this experiential pre-orientation trip, you will have the opportunity to take a deep dive into sustainability in New York's North Country on a three-day excursion from the Tug Hill Plateau to the expansive Adirondack Park. After a primer in sustainability at Colgate in the on-campus Community Garden, our outings will take us to the state's largest wind farm, on a hike in the Adirondack High Peaks, and to a working sustainable farm. Connect with other incoming students as we bond over personal climate experiences, hike in unique habitats, eat sustainable foods, and practice zero-waste habits. All are welcome, whether you consider yourself a novice in sustainability or a long-time sustainability champion. After returning to campus, you will start off on a more sustainable path with a crew of like-minded friends as you embark on your first year at Colgate.



Wilderness Adventure

August 5–10, 2023

August 15–20, 2023

Each August, more than a quarter of first-year students choose a Wilderness Adventure as their pre-orientation program. For more than 30 years, these trips have taken place in the Adirondack State Park, which, at six million acres, is larger than Yellowstone, Everglades, Glacier, and Grand Canyon national parks combined. The Outdoor Education (OE) staff hopes you'll be able to experience one of their backpacking, canoeing, sea kayaking, rock climbing, mountain biking, or sampler trips in the Adirondack State Park. Whether you have lots of outdoor experience or have never camped before, the number of activities and range of trip difficulty levels mean that we have a trip that's just right for you. No previous experience is necessary, and significant financial assistance is available.



Contact information: Julia Sparks, Assistant Director of Sustainability,
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*To learn more or to register for any of these programs, visit **colgate.edu/pre-orientation**.*

