Welcome Spartans - it's time for back-to-school, MSU

With more than 8,000 first-year students arriving on campus on Sunday, Aug. 27, Michigan State University’s Class of 2021 will be one of the largest planned freshman cohorts in university history.

Michigan State met its goal to recruit 8,000 new students, and this year’s class is the product of approximately 36,000 freshman applications from students wanting to attend MSU.

The College of Engineering will welcome more than 1,430 entering freshmen, including almost 300 women in the freshman class this fall. The college will also welcome more than 100 African Americans, 74 Hispanic students, and 44 multi-cultural freshmen.

The college will officially welcome the entering freshmen at the annual Resource Fair and Freshmen Colloquium on Tuesday, Aug. 29, at the Breslin Center. Resource Fair begins at 8:30 a.m.

The college’s official enrollment numbers will be available in October, but officials expect to welcome 5,660 undergraduates and 800 graduate students in 2017-18. Among them are nine of the top 20 freshmen scholars entering MSU this fall with Alumni Distinguished Scholarships and University Distinguished Scholarships.

Returning university students will move in beginning on Monday, Aug. 28, and classes start for all students on Wednesday, Aug. 30. Nearly 16,000 MSU students will be living on campus this academic year in residence halls and
on-campus apartments.

As in past years, a number of volunteers will be pitching in to help with move in, including other students, faculty, staff, alumni and community volunteers.

Coupled with approximately 1,550 transfer students, total arriving population will surpass 9,500 new enrollees. Reflecting the land grant tradition of Michigan State, more than 72 percent of new students are from Michigan. MSU enrolls the most Michigan students of any university in the state.

MSU will continue to enroll the largest African-American freshman class of any institution in the Big Ten, while also experiencing a record number of Hispanic freshmen.

As students return, construction projects on campus continue, including the area surrounding the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams and the Breslin Center, both of which have resulted in pedestrian detours and lane restrictions.

MSU’s Fall Welcome Spartan Spectacular is 4-10 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 29, at the field located at Shaw and Harrison roads.

Notables 2017:

MSU’s new student apartment community, 1855 Place, is officially open. This academic year, 782 students will live at 1855 Place while 298 students will live at University Village. 1855 Place offers apartments, townhouses and family housing communities, as well as Starbucks, a Spartan Ticket Office, Sparty’s Market and Spartan Spirit Shop.

MSU continues its commitment to fostering a culture of safety and respect. On the Our Commitment page, MSU outlines specific steps the university is taking to combat sexual assault, improve patient care and safety and protect youth on campus. The site includes updates on the progress MSU is making in reaching its goals; links to university resources; stories on important work being done on campus; and information on recent investigations.

This summer, MSU launched its “Go Green, Go 15” campaign, which urges students to take an average of 15 credits per semester or complete 30 credits in their first year of study by taking summer classes. The share of students who carry a full credit load has steadily declined over the last decade. For the 2016 freshman cohort, 82.6 percent of students took less than 30 credits their first two semesters. The Go Green, Go 15 campaign is directed at reversing this trend. It’s part of MSU’s focus on student success, which includes the neighborhood project.

This month, the MSU Counseling Center and the MSU Psychiatry Clinic moved from their old locations and came together to form the MSU Counseling and Psychiatric Services, or CAPS. CAPS will be located on the third floor of the Olin Health Center. Most of the Health Promotion services have moved to the Student Services Building.
More [Back to School](http://www.egr.msu.edu/news/2017/08/24/back-school-msu) at MSU.

Twitter users can follow Fall Welcome activities using #MSUWelcome, #SpartanMoveIn and #SpartansLiveOn.

*From the Detroit Free Press: Which Michigan college draws the most state students? [MSU](http://www.egr.msu.edu/news/2017/08/24/back-school-msu)*

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