ILLINOIS TECH SOAR
Events Schedule for Family Members and Guests

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Welcome Family Members and Supporters:

The Office of Campus Life and the Division of Student Affairs would like to welcome everyone to the **SOAR (Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration) program**. The SOAR program is the beginning of your journey at Illinois Institute of Technology, also known as Illinois Tech. Illinois Tech is home to amazing academic programs in engineering, architecture, computer science, psychology, and many other fields! Additionally, Illinois Tech has a diverse student population, with many of our students from around the world as well as from across the United States.

Students are joining a community of scholars and innovators. At SOAR we prepare students for their first year at Illinois Tech. Students will meet their future colleagues whom they will work with on innovative projects in their IPRO courses. Students will also meet faculty and staff who will help them to succeed during their time at the university. Students will connect with professionals who will help to mentor them in the field of their interest. Family members and supporters are a part of the Scarlet Hawk family and we get excited every time they visit campus.

As a part of the Illinois Tech community, you will have plenty of opportunities to get involved in more than 130 student organizations, participate in research, and take advantage of the Chicago area, which is a hub of innovation and culture.

We hope that you will find your time at SOAR to be a great one and that you leave SOAR loving Illinois Tech even more.

**Go Scarlet Hawks!**

Sincerely,

**Katherine Stetz**

Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
Student Checklist

- Turn in the student health insurance waiver on the MyIIT portal
- Turn in any required financial aid documentation
- Register for class
- Get your HawkID card
- Purchase a meal plan
- Have your family member sign up for the Tech Connect newsletter
- Download the HawkI app
- Create a Handshake account
- Attend all SOAR sessions
- Go on a walking tour of Mies Campus
- Visit the bookstore to buy textbooks and/or Illinois Tech gear

When your student comes back to campus in the fall...

- Attend the required Welcome Week sessions during the week of August 12–18
- Attend the Welcome Back Bash
- Go to a Scarlet Hawk sports event
- Take a Mies Campus architecture tour
- Sign up for Family Weekend
- Learn more about fraternity life or sorority life at the Taste of the Quad
- Visit the Career Center to have their resume reviewed
- Grab their U-PASS during the first week of class to explore Chicago
Day I

8–9:30 a.m. **Check In (McCormick Student Village)**
Welcome to SOAR and to Illinois Tech! During the check-in process, students and their guests will pick up SOAR materials and check into the residence halls.

9:30–9:45 a.m. **Meet Your SOAR Group (MTCC Auditorium)**
Just as your student will have a SOAR Leader, so will you! At this point, you will be introduced to your official SOAR Leader, a current Illinois Tech student, and a group of other family members.

9:45–10 a.m. **Welcome to Illinois Tech (MTCC Auditorium)**
Illinois Tech would like to welcome all students, family members, and supporters to the university! Join us as we welcome you to campus, introduce the schedule for the day, and more.

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**LEARNING**

*Academics are a vital part of higher education. We’re all here to learn something new, right? These sessions are designed to give you a better understanding of the academic expectations Illinois Tech has for its students, the staff and resources that help support students and their academics, and the technology available to enhance your learning experience.*

10–10:30 a.m. **Academic Expectations and Support (MTCC Auditorium)**
What does it mean to take a college course? Can I just walk up to my professors and talk to them or do I have to make an appointment? How is college different from high school? What if I miss a class or two?

These are all very important aspects of academic life at any university. We will share tips, tricks, and resources to set students up to succeed. You don't want to miss out!

10:35–10:55 a.m. **Tech Connect Partnership (Perlstein Hall Auditorium)**
Family members are important to the student experience, and we want you to know all of the ways to support your student. Learn how to be a part of the Illinois Tech community as a family member and how you can be engaged in your student's collegiate experience.

11 a.m.–noon **Meet Your Academic College (refer to locations below)**
Meet with faculty and staff in your colleges and learn more about the opportunities that will enhance your academic experience at Illinois Tech. SOAR Leaders will take guests to each location.

*Armour College of Engineering: Perlstein Hall Auditorium*
*Architecture: S. R. Crown Hall, Lower Center Core*
*College of Science: Stuart Building Auditorium*
*Lewis College of Human Sciences: IIT Tower, 14th Floor, Dean’s Conference Room*
*School of Applied Technology: IIT Tower Auditorium*
*Stuart School of Business: IIT Tower, 18th Floor, Dean’s Conference Room*

Noon–1 p.m. **Lunch With Your SOAR Groups (The Commons)**
Enjoy a meal in The Commons Dining Hall!
COMMUNITY

At the end of the day, we’re all Scarlet Hawks. These sessions will help you start to form connections to the Illinois Tech community—learn the history of Illinois Tech, explore Mies Campus, get to know your classmates, learn about campus housing, discover the diverse identities and populations that make up our student body, and find out how to navigate your new community safely and inclusively.

1:10–1:40 p.m.  
**History and Traditions of Illinois Tech (MTCC Ballroom)**  
Illinois Tech has a rich history of accomplishments, famous alumni, and fun traditions. Learn all about them through this session and find out what makes Illinois Tech so special!

1:45–2:15 p.m.  
**Student Health and Wellness Center Tour (IIT Tower, 3rd Floor)**  
As a parent or family member, it’s important to know your student is being taken care of when you’re not here. This session will allow you to see the Student Health and Wellness Center and know the resources available to students to keep them healthy and cared for.

2:20–3 p.m.  
**Staff Panel (MTCC Auditorium)**  
A panel of staff members from Residence Life, Campus Life, the Student Health and Wellness Center, and Financial Aid will share important tips and tricks to ensure your student has the tools and resources to be successful. This session will allow you to ask questions to staff members who will work with your student all year.

3–4 p.m.  
**Resource Fair (MTCC Bridge)**  
We have a line-up of more than 20 campus offices/departments available to share their resources for students and family members at Illinois Tech! We encourage you to go from table to table to ask questions and to turn in forms—and probably get some free stuff in the process!

4–5 p.m.  
**Campus Tour (MTCC, Pritzker Club)**  
Join your SOAR Leader on a comprehensive tour of Illinois Tech’s Mies Campus!

*Check your nametag to see if your SOAR group is in the scarlet or gray group and follow the dinner schedule below accordingly:*

5–5:45 p.m.  
**Scarlet Group: Dinner at The Bog**  
Enjoy a meal in our on-campus recreation center and grill. Spend your dinner time chatting with your student or playing some arcade games!

5:45–6:30 p.m.  
**Gray Group: Dinner at The Bog**  
Enjoy a meal in our on-campus recreation center and grill. Spend your dinner time chatting with your student or playing some arcade games!
Day II

8 a.m.–4 p.m.  Residence Hall Check Out (McCormick Student Village)
Students can check out of their rooms throughout the day. You are welcome to check out and bring your belongings to your car in the morning before sessions start or leave your things in your room and wait to check out until after advising.

8:15–9:15 a.m.  Breakfast (The Commons)
Enjoy breakfast in The Commons before sessions start for the day.

WELLNESS

As college students, it’s easy to get lost in all of the responsibilities you have to balance. However, your wellness—mental, physical, emotional, financial, and more—comes first. While you heard from Student Health and Wellness Center yesterday, today’s session will help you better understand the campus resources that exist to support your financial wellness.

9:30–10:30 a.m.  Show Me the Money (MTCC Auditorium)
The Financial Aid and Student Accounting offices will help guide you through Illinois Tech’s financial systems and help you better understand how to navigate college costs.

INVolVEMENT

At Illinois Tech, learning takes place both inside and outside of the classroom. These sessions will offer insight into how to become involved during your first year on campus with leadership opportunities through student organizations, Greek Life, the M. A. and Lila Self Leadership Academy, on-campus jobs, and more!

10:30 – 11 a.m.  Campus Life (MTCC Auditorium)
Let’s do this! Join us to learn about joining or starting a student organization, getting involved in Greek Life, and taking advantage of programming and events offered throughout the year.

11–11:30 a.m.  M. A. and Lila Self Leadership Academy (MTCC Auditorium)
The Leadership Academy is focused on preparing students with both theoretical and practical leadership experiences during their time on campus. Through seminars facilitated by leading industry professionals to retreats designed to challenge you to apply and expand your leadership abilities, the Leadership Academy is a great resource. Join us for a conversation about leadership, and how you can develop your skills and plan for a future where you can lead change.

11:35 a.m.–12:20 p.m.  The Top 10 Things I Wish I Knew (Rettaliata Engineering Center Auditorium)
Professor Kevin Cassel will give you the inside scoop on how things work at Illinois Tech. As the father of a recent Illinois Tech graduate, he has lived through many things you are just about to realize. Take advantage of his experience!

12:20–1:20 p.m.  Lunch (The Commons)
Enjoy your final SOAR meal in The Commons before finishing your day!

1:30–3:30 p.m.  Advising and Course Registration (MTCC Auditorium and Ballroom)
Students will have an opportunity to speak directly with an advisor and register for fall classes.
1:30–3:30 p.m. **Before You Leave (various locations)**

Representatives from the Office of Financial Aid, the Student Health and Wellness Center, the Center for Disability Resources, and the Student Accounting Office will be available to chat with you and to accept all of your documents. SOAR Leaders will be available to bring you to the various locations.

**Office of Financial Aid**

SOAR Sessions I and II: Wishnick Hall, Rooms 115 and 116  
SOAR Sessions III and IV: Perlstein Hall, Rooms 108 and 109

If you were given a financial aid card in your folder, please come by to drop off financial aid documents or chat with a staff member for questions about your aid package. If you were not given a card, the office will also be having drop-in hours for anyone with last-minute questions.

**Center for Disability Resources (outside of the MTCC Auditorium)**

The Center for Disability Resources is the designated office at Illinois Tech to evaluate disability documentation, determine eligibility, and implement reasonable accommodations for enrolled students. Stop by to learn how to access these crucial services.

**Student Health and Wellness Center (outside of the MTCC Auditorium)**

Need to turn in immunization forms or hear about SHWC services? Stop by to their table outside of the MTCC Auditorium before or after your advising appointment.

**Student Accounting Office (outside of the MTCC Auditorium)**

Stop by to learn more about Student Accounting and how you can become an Authorized User to see your student’s account information and/or make online payments to accounts.

Thanks for joining us at SOAR! We can’t wait to see you and your student again in the fall!
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<td><a href="mailto:arc@iit.edu">arc@iit.edu</a></td>
<td>312.567.5216</td>
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<td>Access, Card, and Parking Services</td>
<td><a href="mailto:acaps@iit.edu">acaps@iit.edu</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:engineering@iit.edu">engineering@iit.edu</a></td>
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<td>Campus Life</td>
<td><a href="mailto:campus.life@iit.edu">campus.life@iit.edu</a></td>
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<td>Career Services</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:finaid@iit.edu">finaid@iit.edu</a></td>
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<td>Illinois Institute of Technology Bookstore</td>
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<td>Office of Residence Life</td>
<td><a href="mailto:housing@iit.edu">housing@iit.edu</a></td>
<td>312.567.5075</td>
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<td>School of Applied Technology</td>
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<td>312.567.7500</td>
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