



July 9, 2025

Villanova University and New Student Orientation will send VU101 emails throughout the summer to keep you updated on important information and help prepare for your arrival. To view past emails, please visit the [New Student Orientation website](#).

Textbook Access Program

Through Villanova's [Textbook Access Program](#), undergraduate students receive all of their required textbooks for the semester for a fee of \$20 per credit enrolled. Students are automatically enrolled in the program each semester with the opportunity to opt out; incoming first-year students will be able to opt out between August 15 and September 3. *(Please note: If you opt out of the Textbook Access Program, you must purchase your course materials on your own.)* You can choose to have your textbooks and printed materials shipped to you for a fee, or pick them up in Room 10A of Garey Hall when you arrive on campus. For more information, visit our [FAQ page](#).

Service Opportunities at Villanova

St. Thomas of Villanova, the patron saint of the University, dedicated his life to working with the impoverished and most vulnerable people in his city. Following his example, service and justice are central to the mission of Villanova.

Weekly Service*

There are many types of weekly service opportunities to pursue depending upon your interest, availability and time commitment. [Rays of Sunshine](#), [RUIBAL First-Year Service](#) and [Community Outreach of Villanova \(COV\)](#) programs provide volunteers the opportunity to tutor, mentor and support children in Philadelphia schools and community centers weekly. COV also provides an array of other opportunities to serve the Philadelphia community.

*Please note: If you are interested in volunteering in programs or activities involving minors, you will need to complete the mandatory background checks outlined in [Villanova's Criminal Background Check process](#). For more information, visit the [Admitted Students Information on Volunteering with Minors](#) website.

Annual Days of Service

- **St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service: Saturday, Sept. 20.** Each year, the [Day of Service](#) brings together nearly 5,000 students, faculty, staff and alumni together in partnership with neighborhood agencies to perform service throughout greater Philadelphia and beyond. Most incoming students

participate in this campus-wide event with their Orientation group as one of their first service experiences as part of our community.

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service: Monday, Jan. 19, 2026.** Entering its 19th year, [Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service](#) celebrates the legacy of Dr. King by providing opportunities for students to improve lives, bridge social barriers and move our nation closer to the "Beloved Community" that Dr. King envisioned. This event is planned during the fall, so students should look for more information on how to get involved when they arrive on campus!

Student Service Organizations

Engaging in community service provides students with the opportunity to become active members of the community while impacting society at large. Volunteering creates special bonds with the population being served and increases social awareness and responsibility. For a full list of Villanova's service-based student organizations, visit our [VU Groups website](#) dedicated to student service organizations. Be sure to check out their tables at the Student Involvement Fair on Friday, Sept. 5 on Mendel Field!

Service and Justice Experiences

Every semester, [Service and Justice Experiences](#) (SJE) allow students to serve alongside community partners committed to working for justice in the world. Over semester breaks, students travel in groups to domestic and international locations, where they engage in acts of service and develop a critical awareness of contemporary social issues. Come work on a sustainable farm, help build affordable housing with Habitat for Humanity or learn about migration justice. [Visit our website](#) to learn more about this year's opportunities. Applications for Fall Break SJE will be open from Friday, Aug. 1 to Monday, Sept. 4; [follow us on Instagram](#) for updates.

Don't forget to log in to [MyNova](#) frequently to stay up-to-date on your New Student Checklist!

- July 10: Upload a photo for your Wildcard
- July 15: Select your size for your Nova Nation Fan Shirt
- July 31: Complete your [CliftonStrengths](#) assessment
- August 15: Complete your [Academic Integrity](#) training

The Class of 2029 and their families are invited to begin building a network of Villanovans before even stepping onto campus. Get to know the Villanova community by joining us at a Wildcat Welcome this summer! [Visit our website](#) to find an event near you.

Villanova University and New Student Orientation are looking forward to welcoming you to campus. If you have additional questions regarding Orientation, please contact us at orientation@villanova.edu, and follow us on Instagram at [@NovaOrientation](#).

Office of First Year Experience

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