



July 10, 2024

Villanova University and New Student Orientation will continue to 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](#).

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. 7

Each year, the [Day of Service](#) brings together nearly 5,000 students, faculty, staff and alumni 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. 20, 2025

Entering its 18th year, the [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. 6 from 4-7 p.m. on Mendel Field!

- **Service and Justice Experiences (SJE)**

Every semester, [Service and Justice Experiences](#) allow students to engage with community partners committed to working for justice in the world. Students meet weekly in small groups to build community, engage in social analysis and share in prayerful reflection. As part of the experience, students travel in small groups over semester breaks to locations domestically and internationally where they engage in acts of service and develop a critical awareness of contemporary social issues.

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

UPCOMING DEADLINES

July 15: Select your size for your Nova Nation Fan Shirt

August 1: Complete your [CliftonStrengths](#) assessment

August 15: Complete your [Academic Integrity](#) training

We invite you to attend a Wildcat Welcome in your area! [Visit our website](#) for dates and locations.

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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