

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS PRE-DEPARTURE ORIENTATION & WELCOME SPRING 2026



Purpose: Welcome all new international students to Whatcom; provide advice on having a successful start; share information on Cedar Hall housing; answer questions from students.

<https://whatcom-edu.zoom.us/j/85670676573>

DATE / TIME	AGENDA	DESCRIPTION
March 19 5:00pm (PDT) Zoom Meeting ID: 3603831702	Introduction to IP Staff	STUDENT SUPPORT Meet the International Programs staff and learn how they support international students at Whatcom.
	Student support at Whatcom	Learn about resources to support students outside of International Programs: The Learning Center (tutoring); Student Life and Activities (leadership and activities); the Library (academic support and resources).
	Tips for Success in the American Classroom	Learn important information about expectations for students and instructors in the American classroom.
	Overview of technology for students	TECHNOLOGY AT WHATCOM Learn about the variety of programs and portals that students use in and out of the classroom (<i>MyWCC</i> = student email; <i>ctcLink</i> = self-service student portal; <i>Canvas</i> = online learning in the classroom).
	Preparing for classes to start	NEXT STEPS BEFORE CLASSES BEGIN Check email regularly. Tuition payment and deadlines. Purchasing books and materials.
	Question & Answer Session	Open session for questions by students.
	Cedar Hall Housing/Homestay Orientation	LEARN ABOUT YOUR NEW HOME: Breakout Sessions for each option Video Tour of Cedar Hall, Cedar Hall contract signing, rules, events, etc. Arrivals, Transportation, upcoming orientations Questions and answers

April 4 and 6, 2026 – ON-CAMPUS ORIENTATION

International students planning to attend in-person classes at Whatcom Community College will join the On-Campus Orientation on Saturday, April 4 and Monday, April 6. Additional details and a schedule of the On-Campus Orientation events will be sent to students along with arrival information.

Online students will not attend the On-Campus Orientation.

April 7, 2026 – FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

Spring 2026 classes will begin for all students (online and in-person students) on Tuesday, April 7th.