



July 8, 2026

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](#).

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. 19.** 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. 18, 2027.** Celebrating its 20th year, our [Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service](#) commemorates 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. Mark your calendar for our Student Involvement Fair on Thursday, Aug. 27 on Mendel Field—there, you'll be able to learn even more about our many service-based student organizations!

Service and Justice Experiences (SJE)

Every semester, [Service and Justice Experiences](#) invite students to serve alongside community partners committed to working for justice in the world. Over fall, winter and spring 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](#)s will be open from Monday, Aug. 3 to Thursday, Sept. 3 at noon!

Parent & Family Webinar: Supporting Your First-Year Student's Well-Being and Adjustment

For most young adults, transitioning to college is both exciting and challenging. Many are on their own for the first time, learning to navigate a new environment and make new friends while balancing greater freedom and choice with less structure and longer academic deadlines. For some, the pressures and all the newness of the college experience can be overwhelming. On Wednesday, July 15 at 5 p.m. EDT, join Carita Geib, Director of [Parent and Family Relations](#), and Drs. Edmund “Tedd” Riccio and Kapil “Kap” Nayar from the [Patricia B. and Gary M. Holloway University Counseling Center](#) (UCC) in considering how family members can best support their students' well-being during this exciting time of growth and change. During this session, they will provide a brief presentation of tools and approaches, discuss helpful suggestions for ways caregivers' roles can gradually adjust as their students are becoming more independent, share an overview of our Center's services and resources and answer participants' questions. [Register today for this free webinar!](#)

University Technology Services

Technology will be part of nearly every aspect of your Villanova experience. [University Technology Services](#) (UTS) provides the tools, resources and support you need to connect, learn and succeed. [Read our Welcome Letter](#) for important information about multi-factor authentication (MFA), our Student Tech Toolkit, Microsoft 365, cybersecurity best practices and the technology services available to support you throughout your time at Villanova. The letter also highlights key technology resources and next steps to help you get started and make the most of your first year at Villanova.

UPCOMING DEADLINES

Don't forget to log in to [MyNova](#) frequently to complete these items on your New Student Checklist:

- July 15: Select your size for your Nova Nation Fan Shirt
- July 31: Complete your CliftonStrengths assessment

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join the Villanova community at a **Wildcat Welcome** this summer! This is a time for the Class of 2030 and their families to begin building a network of Villanovans before even stepping onto campus. [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](https://www.instagram.com/NovaOrientation).

To add additional email addresses to this VU101 mailing list, please [click here](#).

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