Bulldog Welcome Week - Absence from Required Welcome Week Activities

Participation in Bulldog Welcome Week is required for all new first-year students, including those with college credits taken while in high school. Our office makes every effort -- including two postcards and a presentation at Advisement & Registration -- to make sure that you keep these dates clear for Bulldog Welcome Week.

It is important that you attend. UMD faculty, staff, and other students will expect that you have received and understand all information that is given out during Bulldog Welcome Week. If you still choose to skip any or all of the required events at Bulldog Welcome Week, it is important for you to understand how the University views this absence.

The absence policy for Bulldog Welcome Week follows the UMD Policy on Excused Absences, as your participation in required events for Bulldog Welcome Week is similar to attending a series of classes over a four-day period. The Excused Absence policy gives the following reasons as excusable for missing required class activities: subpoenas, jury duty, military duty, religious observances, illness (self or dependents) or bereavement for immediate family. All other absences are considered unexcused; whether to excuse a student for reasons other than those outlined in the policy is solely at the discretion of the instructor. Written documentation is required in order for any absence to be excused.

Unless your absence falls into one of the categories above, your choice to miss portions of Bulldog Welcome Week is considered an unexcused absence. By choosing to not participate in Bulldog Welcome Week, you will miss out on a great opportunity that cannot be replicated to gain the same experience – the same way that a classroom discussion cannot be replicated for a student who missed class. This program is designed to set you up for success in your first year of college and throughout your education. With much of the program being required events to attend, it is your responsibility to make up all of the information that you miss due to your absence. You will need to talk with other new students to review the information that has been presented and make up the information that you can. It is solely your responsibility to seek out this information.

If you are enrolled in the SSP 1000: UMD Seminar course, you have an assignment due your first week of class that is completely based on Bulldog Welcome Week activities. You will receive a copy of this assignment from your instructor and/or the First Year Experience & Students in Transition office via your UMD e-mail prior to move-in. You must contact your SSP 1000 instructor to ask if the instructor will consider an alternate or modified assignment; permission to complete a modified or alternate assignment is solely at the discretion of the instructor. If your request is denied, you will receive no credit for the first SSP 1000 assignment.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, feel free to contact our office at sit-info@d.umn.edu or call us at 218-726-6393.

Accommodations
To request disability accommodations to ensure successful participation in Bulldog Welcome Week events, please contact the Office for Students In Transition or SIT Program Coordinator Jen Doebler, 42 Solon Campus Center; (218) 726-6393 at least one week in advance of the event. Interpreters can be requested at: http://www.d.umn.edu/access/Interpreter_Request.htm