Frequently Asked Questions
ACCESS Orientation Program
July and August 2016

What is the ACCESS Orientation Program?

The ACCESS Orientation Program is for first-time freshmen who have been accepted for admission to Morgan State University for the 2016 Fall semester. The Program provides the opportunity for students to become prepared for their college classes and campus life. It increases their chances of a smooth high school to college transition. Morgan State University recognizes that the freshman year is a challenge for all new students. Participation in this program provides activities and interactions with faculty, professional staff and classmates, which will help students, have a successful first year.

How much does the ACCESS Orientation Program cost?

The ACCESS Orientation Program costs $225.00 that is not refundable. Students must have paid the $150 University confirmation fee to the Office of Admissions prior to registering for the Orientation. The confirmation fee will be applied to Fall 2016 tuition and fees.

Parents are invited to attend the Program. A session for parents only is scheduled Monday afternoon from 1:30-5:00 pm. Parents also may stay on campus. If a parent chooses to stay overnight, he/she will be charged a non-refundable fee of $50 per night per parent. Parents must indicate at the time of their students’ registration whether they plan to stay overnight because space is limited. As space is very limited, only parents or guardians may stay overnight.

Is attendance at the ACCESS Orientation Program mandatory?

Yes, all first-time Freshmen are required to attend the ACCESS Orientation Program. Maryland residents are required to attend one of the scheduled July sessions. (Exceptions for Maryland residents will be made on a case-by-case basis only.) Sessions are scheduled in July to assure that students complete all the necessary steps to begin their college experience before August 1st, 2016. This includes academic advisement, registration for appropriate classes, completion of the financial aid process and securing campus housing. Maryland residents will be charged a non-refundable $100 late fee in addition to the non-refundable Program cost of $225 ($325 total) to attend the August session. The late fee will be waived for international students and out-of-state students.

When do I take the Freshman Placement Exam?

All Morgan State University freshmen are REQUIRED to take the Freshman Placement Examination. Students participating in the ACCESS Orientation program will be tested during the program. For additional information about the Accuplacer placement test including test taking tips and sample test questions, visit www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/accuplacer.

Do I have to live on campus during the ACCESS Orientation Program?

Yes, students must live on campus during the July programs. On-campus housing and all meals are provided during each July Program and are included in the Program cost. For the August 14-17 Program, housing is NOT provided as a part of the Orientation. In August, housing will be available only for students who have already applied and have made satisfactory financial arrangements with the Bursar to include tuition, fees, room and
board. An assignment confirmation will only be sent to those students who have met their financial obligations. Students who have been assigned a room by the Office of Residence Life & Housing prior to the beginning of the Orientation on August 14 will be the only residents who will be permitted to stay in their assigned rooms on campus overnight during the Orientation Program. Students who will be commuting to the University for the Fall semester will commute daily to the Orientation. Meals will be provided.

*Can parents stay on campus during the ACCESS Orientation Program?*

Parents are invited to attend the entire ACCESS Orientation Program and to stay on campus overnight. (Please read the above question concerning overnight fees). Parents planning to stay overnight must indicate the days on the ACCESS Orientation parent registration form. **Parents cannot stay overnight during the August Program.**

*When do I report to the ACCESS Orientation Program?*

The Orientation Program begins with the Opening Program on Sunday at 4:00 pm in the Murphy Fine Arts Center, Gilliam Concert Hall. Students must check-in to assigned residence halls between 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm to ensure being on time for the Opening Program. Parents planning to stay overnight on campus should check-in to their assigned residence hall at that time also. The Program ends on Wednesday at 5:00 pm. Students/Parents will receive their residence hall assignments in the Orientation confirmation letter. You will receive the detailed Orientation Program schedule at the Opening on Sunday.

*What should I bring to the ACCESS Orientation Program?*

Students should bring regular size twin sheets, pillow covers, pillow, bedspread, blanket or comforter, toiletries, washcloths, and towels; also, notebook, paper, pens, and personal clothing (including a "dress/professional" outfit for the Closing Ceremony on Wednesday). Computer labs will be available for students.

*Can I select my roommate for the ACCESS Orientation Program?*

No, students will be randomly assigned roommates of the same gender.

*How do the ACCESS Orientation Program, the PACE Program and the CASA Academy Program differ?*

The CASA Academy is a six-week summer bridge program for first-time freshman who do not meet the University’s minimum admission requirements. CASA Academy students are required to attend the six-week program as a condition of their admission to the University. The Pre-Freshman Accelerated Curriculum in Engineering (PACE) is a six-week intense program designed for engineering majors only. PACE is a highly competitive program and a very limited number of students are accepted. **Please note that students applying to PACE who are not accepted will be required to attend one of the ACCESS Orientation Programs. If a student registers for the ACCESS Orientation program and is then accepted to the PACE Program, the $225 registration fee will not be refunded.** Each of these summer programs is designed for different freshmen populations; freshmen will only attend only one of the programs.