I. PURPOSE & INTENT

Orientation is required for all newly admitted students. All newly admitted students must complete Orientation for the campus to which they are admitted prior to beginning classes.

The Orientation experience is designed to meet the requirements of a student’s home campus located in Tampa, St. Petersburg, or Sarasota-Manatee. Orientation provides an introduction to the campus community and facilitates a seamless transition into the academic and social environments unique to the identified home campus and the University of South Florida at large.

Primary facilitation of Orientation resides with the designated office(s) at each USF campus location. Orientation for First Year and Transfer students is required, as it is a critical component of a successful university experience. Orientation on all University of South Florida (USF) campuses provides an introduction to USF and facilitates the smooth transition of students into the academic and social environments of the University. Orientation sessions are conducted by the Offices of Orientation and are scheduled prior to each term in an academic year. All new students are to meet the requirements of their home campus (Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota-Manatee).

II. STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. First Year Students

Every student new to the University of South Florida must attend an on-campus, main University orientation on the campus to which they are admitted. During the
orientation, students are made aware of the following: college overviews and requirements for their degree program; general University policies and services; and student activities and campus life. In addition, academic advising and registration for classes are all part of the orientation process. Students must attend the main University orientation prior to any specialized program orientations. Students should contact their home campus directly to make arrangements for their orientation session.

Students must adhere to any overnight requirements at the applicable campus or institution. Currently, students admitted for the summer or fall terms on the USF Tampa or USF St. Petersburg campuses are required to stay overnight in an on-campus residence hall. Families of First Year students admitted for the summer or fall will experience a separate orientation program, which runs concurrently with the student program.

B. Transfer Students (All Campuses)

All new transfer students must attend orientation regardless of which campus they will be attending. Orientation sessions will be conducted on the campus the student will attend. Students will need to contact their home campus (Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota-Manatee or Polytechnic) to make arrangements for their orientation session.

Students who have obtained a baccalaureate degree from an institution other than USF, and are seeking a second (post) baccalaureate degree must attend orientation as a transfer student.

C. Former Students Returning or Seeking a Second (Post) Baccalaureate Degree

Former USF students returning to the institution are not required to attend orientation. Students who have obtained a baccalaureate degree from USF and are returning to seek a second (post) baccalaureate degree are not required to attend orientation.

*Current Responsible Office: Academic Affairs

*Refer to the appropriate Responsible Office website for a current name of the Vice President or other Responsible Officer.

*This Regulation/Policy has been updated to reflect a consolidated USF. As additional substantive or technical amendments are identified to conform to new processes as needed, those additional amendments will be made and posted. During the transition period, questions regarding how the Regulation/Policy is to be applied may be submitted to the noted Responsible Office.