ORIENTATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When does orientation begin?

1. For new international students, Wednesday, August 26.
2. For new non-international students, Thursday, August 27.

When will I register?

You will be given instructions about how to register during your first day of orientation.

Do I enroll for classes at that time?

No, you will enroll in courses online immediately following the end of orientation, beginning on Wednesday, September 2. You will have a week to go to classes and make your course selections online, by Wednesday, September 9. From September 10 to September 18, there will be a $15 fee for any number of adding and dropping transactions. Beginning on September 19, all course changes (adds/withdraws) must be done via the paper course change petition on GROPIUS, and there will be a $30 fee for each petition.

When will I receive my ID card?

You will be given a permanent ID card during orientation if you have uploaded your photo to the Harvard ID Card Photo Submission Application. If you have not uploaded your photo by July 15, you will need to go to the Harvard University Campus Service Center (CSC) on the 8th floor of Holyoke Center in order to have your photo taken and be issued your card. Be warned, the line at the CSC can be very long at this time of year, so it would behoove you to upload your photo ahead of time.

When will I receive my student bill (known as the “term bill”)?

You should have received an email message from the Student Receivables Office in mid-July with a link to your term bill (through the use of your Harvard ID number and PIN). Instructions about how to pay your bill are available on your term bill page.

How do I enroll in limited-enrollment courses?

You must first enter your limited-enrollment lottery choices online (the link will be posted in GROPIUS on Friday, August 21 at 5 p.m.). The results will be posted on Tuesday afternoon, September 1. If you lottery into a course successfully, you will be automatically enrolled in it and you must be sure to attend the first class session. If you do not wish to remain in the course, you must drop it online.

How does the studio option lottery work?

For those eligible for the studio option lottery, please see the GSD studio lottery guidelines on the Information for Fall 2015 web page (will be updated in mid-August).