



## 2019 Orientation Policies & FAQs

## Exemptions

An exemption is defined as a justifiable excuse, with documentation, to not attend an in-person orientation date. All incoming students are required to attend in-person orientation unless the student has an approved exemption request by the Office of Admissions. Please see below for information on requesting an exemption.

Exemptions from an in-person orientation:

Students can request an exemption from attending an in-person New Student Orientation under certain circumstances. All exemptions will be reviewed and granted on a case-by-case basis. To request an exemption, at least one of the following must apply:

1. Student will be completing an online-only degree program.
2. Student will be a non-degree seeking, transient, AND is not planning to transition to a degree seeking student.
3. Student has a documented medical condition spanning the entirety of the offered orientation dates, which prevents them from attending any in-person orientation date.
  - A. Student may be eligible for Distance Advising Orientation
4. Lives outside of 250 miles radius of HBU, please see Distance Advising section for details

All students interested in requesting an exemption must email [GO@hbu.edu](mailto:GO@hbu.edu) with a subject line containing their legal name, H number, and EXEMPTION.

*\*Students in these exemption categories will be required to provide documentation and complete alternate orientation.*

Overnight Exemptions and Accommodations:

A student can request an exemption from spending the night at a New Student Orientation or request an overnight accommodation under certain circumstances. All requests will be reviewed and granted on a case-by-case basis. To request an exemption or accommodation, at least one of the following must apply:

1. Student has a documented medical condition prohibiting them from staying overnight in the residence hall.
2. Student religious beliefs do not allow them to stay overnight in the residence hall.

All students interested in requesting an exemption or needing an accommodation must email [GO@hbu.edu](mailto:GO@hbu.edu) with a subject line containing their legal name, H number, and OVERNIGHT EXEMPTION.

## Distance Advising

Distance Advising is available to students who are unable to attend an in-person orientation before their intended semester of enrollment. All requests for Distance Advising will be reviewed and granted with proof of one of the following circumstance.

1. Student lives outside a 250 mile radius of HBU.
2. Recruited Student Athlete
  - A. If you are a recruited student athlete, you will be contacted by the Director of Academics for Athletics to create your schedule

All students who request Distance Advising must show documentation to confirm their inability to attend an in-person orientation. Acceptable forms of documentation include: address confirmation, a confirmed airline ticket, medical documentation, and rental car confirmation.

All students interested in requesting Distance Advising must email [GO@hbu.edu](mailto:GO@hbu.edu) with a subject line containing their legal name, H number, and DISTANCE ADVISING REQUEST.

*\*We reserve the right to deny a student's Distance Advising for orientation without sufficient documentation.*

## Frequently Asked Questions

1. I am a transfer student. Can I attend Freshmen Orientation?  
No, Transfer students are encouraged to attend our Transfer GO sessions. Please visit [hbu.edu/GO](http://hbu.edu/GO) for more details.
2. I am a Transfer student. Do I need to attend GO if I attended Pre-Registration?  
No, If you attended a Pre-Registration session you are not required to attend a Transfer GO session. However, we encourage you to attend a Transfer GO session to meet other incoming transfer students.
3. What do I need to bring for Freshmen Orientation?  
Please visit [hbu.edu/GO](http://hbu.edu/GO) and see Your Guide to "GO" Orientation.

## **Where can I park?**

We recommend entering campus through **entrance #2** off Fondren. You are welcome to park in lots 3, 4, as well as lot 6. Please see the campus map link below.

[https://www.hbu.edu/publications/CampusMap/HBU\\_CampusMap.pdf](https://www.hbu.edu/publications/CampusMap/HBU_CampusMap.pdf).

## **How do I get to campus?**

### **From the North (I-45)**

- Come into Houston on I-45 South
- Take the Highway 59 South exit
- Take the Bellaire/Fondren exit
- Go straight, through the first light (Bellaire)
- Turn left at the second light (Fondren)
- Turn right through the main gates at HBU

### **From the North (I-59)**

- Come into Houston on Highway 59 South
- Take the Bellaire/Fondren exit
- Go straight, through the first light (Bellaire)
- Turn left at the second light (Fondren)
- Turn right through the main gates at HBU

### **From the West (I-10)**

- Come into Houston on I-10 East
- Take the Loop 610 South exit
- Take the Highway 59 South exit
- Take the Bellaire/Fondren exit
- Go straight, through the first light (Bellaire)
- Turn left at the second light (Fondren)
- Turn right through the main gates at HBU

### **From the East (I-10)**

- Come into Houston on I-10 West
- Take the Highway 59 South exit
- Take the Bellaire/Fondren exit
- Go straight, through the first light (Bellaire)
- Turn left at the second light (Fondren)
- Turn right through the main gates at HBU

### **From Bush Intercontinental Airport**

- Follow signs to Highway 59 South

- Follow directions above for “From the North (I-59)

### **How do I know where to go on campus?**

We recommend entering campus through **entrance #2** off Fondren. You will then go straight to the stop sign and turn right into parking lot #6. The Morris Cultural Arts Center will be on your immediate right. The map is attached.

[https://www.hbu.edu/publications/CampusMap/HBU\\_CampusMap.pdf](https://www.hbu.edu/publications/CampusMap/HBU_CampusMap.pdf)

### **Why am I required to stay overnight? What if I live across the street and/or I’m not planning to live on campus?**

All students attending a 2-Day Freshmen Orientation must spend the night at orientation. The overnight portion of the program has been specifically designed to give you a chance to become familiar with campus and meet your peers. Through various planned academic and social activities, you will experience a taste of college, and the overnight stay will ensure you are on time for the second day’s early start.

### **Where do guests stay?**

We are not able to offer housing to your family members and guests. Guests accompanying you can take advantage of the overnight accommodations we suggest or make reservations at any of the surrounding hotels in the area. For more information, please visit <https://hbu.edu/admissions/undergraduate/visit-hbu/area-hotels/>.

### **How do I cancel or reschedule an orientation?**

Within the confirmation email you receive after registering for GO, there is a link you can click to change or edit your confirmation. You can also contact our Admissions Office to make changes at 281-649-3005.

### **Is there a fee for guests?**

Yes, there is an \$8 fee for guests attending Freshmen Orientation who will eat lunch with you here on campus. The preferred method of payment is cash or credit card.

### **Can I bring my friend/sibling/family member with me to GO?**

Parents and guardians are welcome at all orientations and, if attending, will follow a separate schedule. Due to the nature of the program, it is not appropriate for anyone

except parents/guardians or spouses to attend as a guest. If a friend or sibling accompanies you, they must follow the Family & Guest programming schedule.

The exception would be an older sibling who is acting in a guardian capacity; however, in this case, the sibling would attend the Family & Guest Orientation and would not be with you during any time parents and students are not ordinarily together.