

COVID-19 FAQs for First-Year Students and Summer Advisors

Skidmore College

May 29, 2020

Q: When will Skidmore announce its plans for the fall semester?

A: The college will provide an update to students and families by the end of June. Our Academic Planning Group is hard at work developing recommendations to enable the college to make a decision as quickly as possible about fall instruction. The college is working thoughtfully and thoroughly to ensure that it arrives at the best decision for the community, one that is consistent with official public health guidelines, keeps the welfare of the Skidmore community paramount, and ensures that students continue to receive the high-quality liberal arts education for which Skidmore is renowned.

Q: Will I be able to live on campus in the fall? Is Skidmore offering in-person classes in the fall?

A: Although we cannot make any guarantees, Skidmore is working hard to find ways to offer in-person classes and on-campus residential living in the fall to as many students as state and national public health guidelines determine it is safe for the college to accommodate. The current national public health situation is uncertain, and any residential arrangements and instruction we offer need to ensure the safety of our students, faculty, and staff.

Q: If I am not able to come to campus because of health concerns, will I be able to take classes remotely?

A: Yes. Skidmore anticipates being able to offer remote classes in the fall, whether or not it is possible for students to be in residence on campus.

Q: If courses are held in-person in the fall, what precautions will be taken to help ensure my safety?

A: Skidmore will continue to follow all state and federal guidelines for public health. All members of our community will be required to adhere to all public health guidelines and directives.

Additionally, Skidmore's COVID-19 working group is developing guidelines for safely reopening the campus, including, but not limited to, establishing cleaning, sanitizing, and social distancing protocols; deciding how residential spaces should be organized; exploring how to provide dining services safely; and determining the capacity of our classrooms, labs, offices and studios.

Q: When will I know my Scribner Seminar assignment?

A: We will communicate Scribner Seminar assignments to you before you register for your other courses. Our desire was to have made a preliminary assignment of students to Scribner Seminars in late May. The uncertainty about fall instruction, however, has led us to decide to wait until the fall master schedule is finalized before placing first-year students in Scribner Seminars.

Q: When will I register for the fall?

A: We are delaying registration until we are confident that we will be able to deliver the courses for which you register. First-year students will work with their summer advisors in two meetings (one prior to the finalization of the fall semester course schedule and a second following the finalization of that schedule) to formulate a schedule that is tailored to fit their academic interests and goals.

Q: Can I use the Master Schedule at this point?

A: Yes. You can use the Master Schedule to get a sense of the courses that are available to first-year students, including the types of courses that are available to satisfy All-College and major requirements. However, the coming weeks may see changes to the Master Schedule. We will let you know when the Master Schedule is finalized and provide a second round of advising to help you finalize your fall course schedule for registration.

Q: What co-curricular activities, like student clubs and pre-orientation programming, will be available in the fall?

A: We will have more information about the availability of co-curricular activities later in the summer.

Q: If I am thinking of deferring my admission, what are my options?

A: Admitted students are allowed to defer their admission for one year. Please contact the Office of Admissions (admissions@skidmore.edu) to learn about the process for requesting a deferral of your admission.

Q: If my question isn't addressed here, where can I go to get it answered?

A: You may find it helpful to visit the Skidmore Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information [website](#), which provides regular updates from the President's office to the college community. Additionally, you can contact any of the following campus offices if you have a question that falls within their specific purview:

Office of the First-Year Experience	fye@skidmore.edu	518-580-8111
Office of Academic Advising	advising@skidmore.edu	518-580-5720
Office of Financial Aid	finaid@skidmore.edu	518-580-5750
Office of the Registrar	registrar@skidmore.edu	518-580-5710
Office of Residential Life	reslife@skidmore.edu	518-580-5765
Off Campus Study & Exchanges	ocse@skidmore.edu	518-580-5355
Student Academic Services	sas@skidmore.edu	518-580-8150
Counseling Center		518-580-5555
Health Services	health@skidmore.edu	518-580-5550
Parent Programs	cburns@skidmore.edu	518-580-5659