

Widener University

Delaware Law School

Date: June 22, 2026

To: First Year (1L) Students in the Juris Doctor Program

From: Carly Gardner, Esq.
Assistant Dean of Admissions

Re: Orientation 2026 Introduction

Welcome to Delaware Law! This memorandum provides introductory information about Orientation 2026, which begins on Tuesday, August 11th, and concludes on Thursday, August 13th. Additional information about Orientation will be provided via your Delaware Law email and posted to the [Orientation web page](#) in the coming weeks.

Orientation Sections and Schedules

You will each be assigned an Orientation section that corresponds to the section to which you will be assigned for your fall classes: accordingly, all evening students will be in Orientation section W, and day students will be assigned either to Orientation section AB or CD. Your Orientation section assignment and the detailed schedules for each Orientation section will be provided via email in early August and will be posted to your Orientation Canvas page. For now, please note that each of the three days of Orientation will include sessions covering a range of topics designed to help you acclimate to law school, including wellness, professionalism, case briefing, and law school essay exams, among others. Day students' sessions will be either in the morning or afternoon each day. Evening students' sessions will run from approximately 6:30 pm to 10:00 pm each night.

Orientation Preparation

Directions for preparing for Orientation will be provided in the coming weeks via email and on the Orientation web page. Your preparation will include assignments from the following resources and programs:

JDEdge. We're excited to partner with AccessLex Institute®, the largest nonprofit organization focusing on access, affordability, and the value of legal education for aspiring lawyers, to bring you *JDEdge* by AccessLex SM, an online, asynchronous program with some live sessions, designed specifically for rising 1L students. *JDEdge* access will be provided in the coming weeks and will remain available to you throughout your first semester. The program is available at no

cost to you and, along with other Orientation resources, will help provide you with a solid foundation for beginning your legal studies. *JDEdge* will include over 20 hours of instruction and exercises designed to introduce you to key concepts for the study and practice of law. You'll be required to complete only some of these before Orientation; the rest will be optional. Look for more information in the coming weeks regarding your *JDEdge* registration and assignments.

Delaware Law Engages: Each year—through a program called “Delaware Law Engages”—a book or other medium is selected as recommended preparation for Orientation and the 1L curriculum. Orientation sessions will explore the themes covered in these materials, with a focus on how these concepts will inform and strengthen your work as a law student and future attorney. More information about Delaware Law Engages, including any assigned preparation, will be posted in the coming weeks along with your other assignments.

Orientation Reading Supplement: Orientation preparation also includes a packet of required course readings which will be posted on the Law School's Orientation web page in July. Along with *JDEdge* and Delaware Law Engages assignments, you'll complete these readings before Orientation. The readings will supplement material covered in *JDEdge* and provide necessary context for several of your Orientation sessions.

If You Have any Questions

Feel free to contact Dean Gardner at cagardner@widener.edu if you have any questions about Orientation. We look forward to meeting you in August and working with you throughout the year!