

December 8, 2017

Dear Students,

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and current students, I want to welcome you to the CIIS community. Your new endeavor brings many opportunities, and we look forward to hearing about your upcoming transitions and transformations. Our Student Affairs team is ready to support you throughout your CIIS experience and eagerly awaits your arrival!

The New Student Orientation at CIIS's Mission Street campus will take place on Tuesday, January 9th, 2017. This orientation is an important part of your successful transition to the CIIS community.

In addition, you will be invited to attend your individual program orientation (please check with your Program Coordinator/Manager for dates and times for programs that offer a Spring Orientation). Note that all School of Undergraduate Studies students are required to attend a separate orientation on Friday, January 5th. Undergraduate students are welcome to attend the general orientation in addition to their required undergraduate orientation.

We ask those able to attend the January 9th general orientation to RSVP at the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ciis-new-student-orientation-spring-2018-tickets-41153510257>

An online orientation is available on the My.CIIS.edu Student Life homepage, and is encouraged for everyone (especially those unable to attend in person).

An Overview of the Day

We will begin at 8:30am in Namaste Hall, 1453 Mission Street 3rd floor, with a continental breakfast. At 9:00am, we will open with a meditation, a welcome from our Provost, Dean of Diversity and Inclusion, and myself. We will also have introductions from the CIIS Registrar and Financial Aid Offices. There will be several interactive presentations, including some with the Office of Diversity & Inclusion, Center for Writing & Scholarship, the Laurence S. Rockefeller Library, and our Online Learning team. The scheduled portion of the day will conclude with lunch and the Student Resource Fair, complete with information on the various campus groups at CIIS as well as other important on- and off-campus resources, including health insurance, Registrar's Office, Financial Aid, Business Office, and Student Affairs, and also local resources such as credit unions, museums, and fitness centers. This general orientation ends at 2:00pm. At this time, several program-specific orientations will begin, though not all are scheduled on that day, and though not all have their own orientation. Please consult directly with your program for time and location, if applicable, since some program orientations take place at other dates and times.

Overall, you will have an opportunity to meet students from a plethora of academic programs, engage in discussion and dialogue, and introduce yourself to the rich community found within CIIS. We look forward to welcoming you home.

Additional Information

Before arriving, some students find it helpful to join the **CIIS student listserv** in order to receive campus-related announcements and to connect to the larger student body. Once you log in to MyCIIS, instructions for joining this listserv can be found in the [Student Life tab of MyCIIS](#) (you must be logged in to MyCIIS to view these instructions). You may email studentaffairs@ciis.edu if you have any questions about this process.

The housing search is often a challenging part of a student's transition to the Bay Area. The CIIS student listserv is a helpful venue to pose questions and respond to listings from students and alumni. Additional housing information can be found at https://my.ciis.edu/ICS/Student_Life/Housing_Resources.jnz.

Students interested in residing in CIIS Student Housing in the Mission District of San Francisco should visit <https://www.actcm.edu/studentresources/housing/>. An online application is available at the website. Note that housing contracts are renewed each semester.

www.511.org is a useful public transportation guide that can also assist you with your housing search.

Local parking options can be found [here](#) or in the Student Life section of MyCIIS.edu.

Lastly, please take a moment to read the attached announcement, "**Notice to Incoming Students with Disability Status**". This document is made available to all students at the beginning of their time at CIIS. Students with accommodations requests for Orientation day are asked to contact sds@ciis.edu.

Welcome to CIIS! We look forward to meeting you and to sharing in your CIIS experience.

Warmly,

Yunny Yip
Dean of Students