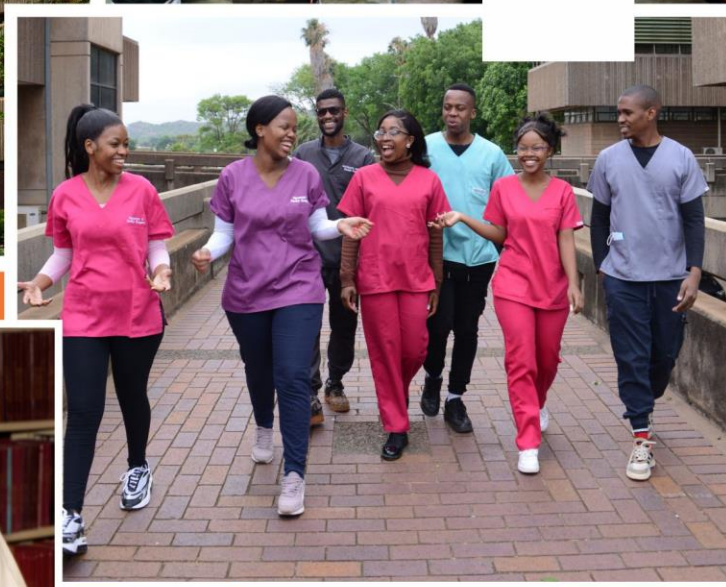
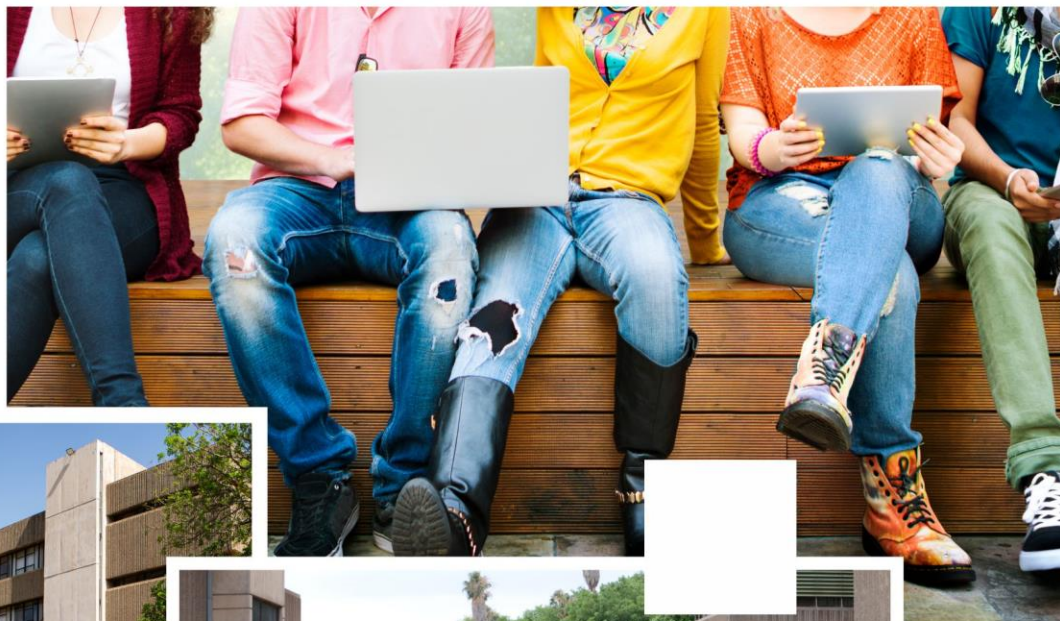




SEFAKO MAKGATHO
HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY



2026

SMU FIRST-TIME ENTERING STUDENT ORIENTATION

PROGRAMME

#SMU | #SMUShapingHealthSA | #WeAreSMU

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Dear First-Year Student,

Welcome to **Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (SMU)**! We are thrilled to have you join our dynamic and vibrant academic community.

As you embark on this exciting new chapter, we want to ensure that you have the best possible start to your university journey. To help you transition smoothly into university life, we are pleased to inform you that **First-Year Orientation** is a compulsory programme for all first-time entering students. This orientation is carefully designed to equip you with the essential tools, resources, and knowledge needed to navigate both the academic and social aspects of university life with confidence.

The orientation is an integral part of our **First-Year Experience Programme**, which aims to support and guide you during your initial year at university. We strongly encourage you to actively participate in all orientation activities, as this is a valuable opportunity to familiarize yourself with the university's services, meet fellow students, and gain insights into how to make the most of your time here.

Throughout the orientation, you will receive critical information about academic expectations, student support services, campus facilities, and various opportunities for involvement. Our goal is to ensure that your transition into higher learning is as seamless and enjoyable as possible, setting you up for success both academically and personally.

We look forward to helping you navigate this exciting new phase of your life, and we are committed to supporting you every step of the way. May your time at **SMU** be fulfilling, enriching, and rewarding.

Warm regards,
Tulani Nkuntse
Director: Student Affairs



Day 1: Residence day

Monday, 26 JANUARY 2026			
TIME	ACTIVITY	PRESENTER	VENUE
Morning Session: Welcome and Introduction			
08h00 - 12h00	Check-in & Registration		2000 beds
12h00 - 12h30	Welcome Address	Head: Residences	Sports complex
13h00-14h00	Parents Orientation	Student Affairs	
12h30-13h00	Introduction to the Residence Team	Head: Residences	
13h00 - 13h30	Residence Rules and Regulations Presentation on house rules Overview of safety procedures	Mr. Kudumane	2000 beds
13h30 - 17h00	Campus Health and Dietetics: 2000 BEDS		
First year Braai, Community building and icebreaker activities			



ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

Day 2: Part 1

TUESDAY, 27 JANUARY 2026			
TIME	ACTIVITY	PRESENTER	VENUE
17h00	Welcome and Introduction to the SMU Team: The People Who Make It Happen	Mr. Themba Khumalo Deputy Director: Student Life	Sports Complex
17h10	Academic Procession walks in the Sports Complex	Procession	Sports Complex
17h15	Item by the SMU Choir	SMU Choir	Sports Complex
17h15 - 17h25	A Message from the Vice-Chancellor: Welcome to Your Journey at SMU!	Professor Tandi Matsha-Erasmus Vice-Chancellor	Sports Complex
17h35 – 17h45	Welcome to Your Student Voice: A Message from the SRC President	Mr. Mthokozisi Dlamini Student Representative Council (SRC) President	Sports Complex
17h45 – 17h50	Academic Procession walks out of the Sports Complex	Procession	Sports Complex
VISION CARD PREPARATIONS			

Part 2:

TUESDAY, 27 JANUARY 2026			
TIME	ACTIVITY	PRESENTER	VENUE
18h00-18h30	Vision walk	Vice Chancellor	The main road to the bus terminal
18h30-18:45	Affirmation of Visions and Candlelight Ceremony Song: Hall of Fame	Mr. Themba Khumalo	Bus Terminal
19h00	Opening First Semester Match	Sports	Sports Complex



Day 3: School's Orientation

WEDNESDAY, 28 JANUARY 2026			
TIME	ACTIVITY	PRESENTER	VENUE
09h00-13h00	School's Orientation	Schools	Respective Schools
14h00-16h00	Interschool Talent Showcase	Schools	Student Cafeteria

School	Venue
School of Dentistry	Dental Building
School of Health Care Sciences	Health Sciences Building
School of Medicine	New Auditorium
School of Pharmacy	Pharmacy Building
School of Science and Technology	Sports Complex

Day 4: Centre for University Teaching and Learning.

THURSDAY, 29 JANUARY 2026

Programme Director: Messrs K Kgasi & D Nethononda

#	Time	Item/Activity	Facilitator(s)
1	08h30-09h00	Arrival & Registration	ALL
2	09h00-09h15	Welcome & Introductions	Dr Venter E
3	09h15-09h30	Overview of Student Advising	Ms B Kau
4	09h30-09h45	Overview of Tutorship	B Lekgau
5	09h45-10h00	Overview of Mentorship Programme	K Mahlatji
6	10h00-10h45	Interaction session	
7	11h00-11h15	Overview of e-Learning	Mr K Sebake
8	11h15-11h30	Overview of Student Tracking	Mr S Lekata
9	11h30-12h00	Module Evaluations	M Maubane
10	12h00-12h15	Comfort Break (15min)	ALL
11	12h15-12h45	Mentee and mentor pairing	Ms O Mabeba
12	12h45-13h30	Biographical Survey	Ms MJ Sekgobela
13	13h30	Closing, vote of thanks and lunch	
14h00 - 15h30	Social Icebreaker Activities Fun activities to help residents get to know one another (e.g., team-building games, group introductions, residence-specific trivia).		





Day 5:

Attire: All FTENs are to wear SMU T-shirt

FRIDAY, 30 JANUARY 2026			
TIME	ACTIVITY	PRESENTER	VENUE
07h00 – 8h30	Campus Tour	Student Affairs	Sports Complex
08h30-09h00	Light Refreshments	Student Affairs	Sports Complex
09h00 – 09h20	Overview of Campus Health and Psycho-Social Support Services: Empowering Student Well-Being and Success	Deputy Director: Campus Health, Dr Mathebula	Sports Complex
09h20 – 09h30	Student Code of Conduct: Upholding Integrity, Respect, and Responsibility	Representative from Legal, Mr Mamuno/ Ms. Nkuna	Sports Complex
09h30 - 09h40	Internationalisation (International Office)	Dr. Carlien Jooste	Sports Complex
09h35 – 10h00	SMU 25 Formation	Ms. Boco & Ms Zwelibanzi	Sports Grounds
10h00 – 12h30	Walkabout in the Student Affairs Market and Fun activities	Student Affairs	Sports Grounds
12h30 – 13h00	Prepared Lunch	Student Affairs	Sports Complex
13h00 – 15h00	Fun Activities continue	Student Affairs	Sports Grounds

