

STUDENT AND FAMILY TRANSITIONS

Office of Student and Family Transitions (SFT)

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https://www.unk.edu/student_affairs/sft/index.php (https://www.unk.edu/student_affairs/sft/)

Mission: The Office of Student and Family Transitions at the University of Nebraska at Kearney is dedicated to supporting first-year and transfer students and their families through their transition to UNK. By providing programs, resources, and communication tailored to their needs, we ensure they are equipped with the connections and tools necessary to succeed from enrollment to their second year.

Vision: To empower first-year and transfer students and their families to thrive at UNK by fostering a sense of belonging, providing tools for success, and connecting them to resources that support their transition into the Loper community.

Key Programs & Initiatives

- **Blue Gold Welcome:** Our high-energy fall orientation, featuring events and activities that spark friendship, highlight campus resources, and set a positive tone for success.
- **Loper2Loper Mentoring Program:** Connecting new students with faculty and staff mentors, offering insider support and guidance through the first-year experience.
- **Loper Leader Program:** A leadership development opportunity for upper-level students who assist in orientation and model excellence in campus engagement.
- **Welcome Home (Spring Orientation):** Designed with spring-start and transfer students in mind, this program ensures every new arrival is greeted with solid support and a sense of community.
- **"Dear First Year" Newsletter and podcast:** Real talk and insider tips on navigating the ups and downs of your first year at UNK and beyond.
- **Parent & Family Communication:** Keeping families in the loop with timely updates, resources, and advice, so they can best support their student's success.

By focusing on intentional programming, clear communication, and continual assessment, SFT strives to boost retention, foster meaningful campus connections, and champion each student's journey toward a bright and successful second year.