UF

Family Weekend

SPRING 2025



welcome.ufl.edu/families/family-weekend



SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect with us online! Use the hashtag **#SFW25** on Facebook and Instagram and visit your Family Facebook Group to share stories about your Family Weekend experience!





Parents & Families

WELCOME TO FAMILY WEEKEND!

Dear Gator Families.

You've Made It! WELCOME! We are excited to have you here for Family Weekend 2025. We have designed a number of exciting events for your family to enjoy. Please use this as your guide to all things Family Weekend.

We hope these events provide you the chance to discover some of the wonderful opportunities available to your student throughout the university and in the Gainesville community. Above all, we encourage you to take advantage of the occasion to spend quality time with your Gator as you create memories that will last a lifetime.

Again, we are pleased to have you on campus for Family Weekend, and we hope you have a wonderful experience during your time at The University of Florida.





NEED FAMILY WEEKEND ASSISTANCE?

Call or text the Family Weekend Hotline at 352-363-1368

The Family Weekend Help Desk will be located at check-in at the North Lawn Terrace of the Reitz Union at the following times:

- Friday: 1:00 6:00 p.m.
- > Saturday: 9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.



The Family Weekend schedule is available digitally through GatorWay, a free mobile application, courtesy of New Student and Family Programs.

To download, visit your device's app store and search GATORWAY.

Schedule Key

- **SIGNATURE EVENTS:** These are events that are highly encouraged for all UF Family Weekend attendees to attend.
- **ADDITIONAL ACTION NEEDED:** Additional RSVP, registration, or purchase was required for the attendance of this event.
- **FOR FAMILY MEMBERS ONLY:** This event is catered to Parents and family members. Students and children are welcome but not encouraged to attend.
- APPROVED FOR ALL AGES: This event is approved for Gators of all ages!





Friday, February 21

CHECK-IN

1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. | Reitz Union, North Lawn Terrace

All families will receive a Family Weekend bag with the appropriate number of wristbands, swag items, vouchers, and schedules. There will be a Help Desk for questions about missing items, registration needs, and any other concerns.

■ TEACHING KITCHEN STUDIO WITH FLORIDA FRESH DINING

1:30 p.m, 2:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m | Gator Corner Dining



The first 25 people registered per class will join Florida Fresh Dining for a unique cooking class where participants will build-their-own grain bowls in a reusable container. The dining team is featuring local, fresh from Florida produce, and an array of seasonal selections. Eat and greet with the campus dietitian, executive chefs, sustainaibility manager, and hear a presentation about the future of dining at the University of Florida. #LoveWhereYouChomp

NOTE: RSVP is required for this event.

CRAFT-A-GATOR

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. | Reitz Union - Arts & Crafts Center, Lower Level



Create a lasting memory with your Gator! Join the Arts & Craft Center for "Craft-A-Gator", a time to relax and paint a family keepsake with your student. Each registered guest may paint their own custom gator design or choose to paint as a family. If there is space available day of, you can RSVP your family via the QR code!

NOTE: RSVP is required for this event and it is until supplies last.

COLLEGE OF JOURNALISM AND COMMUNICATIONS OPEN HOUSE

2:30 p.m. & 3:30 p.m. | Weimer Hall Breezeway



The College of Journalism and Communications invites students and their families to join us for an Open House/Tour of Weimer Hall. Here you can experience firsthand how communication strategies and media play a pivotal role in today's society. Visit the spaces in which students are able to fully immerse themselves into the world of journalism and communications. **NOTE:** RSVP is required for this event.

HOUSING BEYOND FRESHMAN YEAR

3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m. | Reitz Union, Room G320

Do you have a Gator that is moving or wanting to move off campus next year? Unsure where to start? The department of Off Campus Life is here to help! Off Campus Life hopes to share with you the ins and outs of housing search, as well as the resources for your aspiring off-campus Gator.

GATOR RESOURCE FAIR

3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. | Reitz Union, Room G330

Looking for ways to learn more about UF's campus and the resources provided? During this time, you will be able to gain insight about various UF departments as they table for you to ask questions and learn more about their services. Gain information ranging from counseling services to student involvement and more!

COOKIES WITH A (UFPD) COP

3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. | Reitz Union, Room G310

Meet leadership from the University of Florida Police Department with cookies and conversation! Ask questions about campus safety and resources.

DINNER (ON YOUR OWN)

4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. | Varying locations

Take this time to get off campus and into the city of Gainesville to try some of the fantastic restaruants Gainesville has to offer!

FAMILY WEEKEND FUN NIGHT

6:30 - 9:00 p.m. | Reitz Union North Lawn, Reitz Game Room, Reitz Rooms G310 & G315

The University of Florida is excited to welcome our Gator families to campus! After an action-packed day of events and travel, end the night with yard games, inflatables, crafts, and much more! During this event, there will be fun for the whole family! Be sure to head for the Game Room on the ground floor for Bowling & Billiards. Use this time to spend time with your Gator and connect with your fellow Gator families.

FAMILY WEEKEND REMINDER

In order to participate in family weekend events, you must wear your family weekend wristbands!

Saturday, February 22

YOGALATES

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. | Southwest Recreation Center, Activity Room 3

A combination of yoga and Pilates, Yogalates gives you a workout focused on strengthening the core, improving posture, and increasing flexibility. This class offers a balance of strength and flexibility while catering to all body types and fitness levels! No yoga or Pilates experience is required.

LATER GATOR CHECK-IN

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Reitz Union, North Lawn Terrace

For family weekend attendees who needs to check in on day two. All families will receive a Family Weekend bag with the appropriate number of wristbands, swag items, vouchers, and schedules. There will be a Help Desk for questions about missing items, registration needs, and any other concerns.

TRADITION KEEPER TRAIL WITH THE UF CICERONES

10:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., & 11:00 a.m. Reitz Union, Room G310

Looking for the perfect picture with your Gator? Join the Florida Cicerones and Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow for the ultimate photo-op tour around campus. This 45-minute tour will take you to iconic spots like the French Fries, Century Tower, and the Stadium.

□ UF FAMILY TRIVIA

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Reitz Union, Room G320

How well do you think you know UF? Come join an afternoon of friendly competition over custom-made trivia, wings and things, music, grand prizes, and fun for the whole family! This event is first come, first serve. Come on over and test your logic with the Center for New Student and Family Programs!

CRAFT-A-GATOR

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. | Reitz Union - Arts & Crafts Center, Lower Level



Create a lasting memory with your Gator! Join the Arts & Craft Center for "Craft-A-Gator", a time to relax and paint a family keepsake with your student. Each registered guest may paint their own custom gator design or choose to paint as a family. If there is space available day of, you can RSVP your family via the OR code!

NOTE: RSVP is required for this event and it is until supplies last.

BASEBALL GAME: FLORIDA GATORS VS DAYTON

4:00 p.m. | Condron Family Ballpark (TICKETS REQUIRED)

Let us take you out to the old ball game! Sport your Gator Spirit and Family Weekend attire with pride as our Florida Gators play Dayton University in the newly renovated Condron Family Ballpark! Doors open 90 minutes (2:30 p.m.) before first pitch.

Surday, February 23

BREAKFAST & "GOOD LUCK GATOR" KIT CREATION

9:00 - 11:00 a.m. | Gator Corner Dining

Wrap up Family Weekend with a grab-and-go breakfast for your travels home. Before saying goodbye to your Gator, end your weekend strong by creating a "Good Luck Gator" stress management goodie bag! Add items like gum, mints, granola bars, and more and wish your Gator luck on mid-terms.

FAMILY WEEKEND TIP

Attendance at every Family Weekend event is nearly impossible. To get the most of your Family Weekend experience, we encourage you to plan which events you'll attend as a Family. Most events are designed so you can freely come and go as you please. Events that are not hosted by New Student & Family Programs may require additional entry fees.



Choose Your Own Adventure

PUBLIC NIGHTS: ASTRONOMY VIEWING

Friday: 8:30 - 10:00 p.m. | 32611 Sweetwater Drive, Gainesville, FL 32603

Located at the Campus Teaching Observatory, the Department of Astronomy at the Univerity of Florida hosts a weekly open house for the general public. View Jupiter and other deep sky objects. Weather permitting.

BAT EMERGENCE

Every Evening; 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (sunset) | UF Bat Barn & Bat Houses

Join your Gator for an evening stroll near the UF Bat Barn & Bat Houses. The bats normally emerge during a 15- to 20-minute period after sunset--before total darkness--on calm, warm evenings when tempertures are above 65 F.

LAKE WAUBURG

No matter the activity, there is something at Lake Wauburg for you! A few activities include paddle boarding, kayaking, sailing, trail hiking, biking, rock climbing, and sand volleyball. Or, simply enjoy a family picnic or just relax on the beach. Note that the swimming area at North Shore is closed. Families will be able to visit Lake Wauburg during Family Weekend between the following hours:

North Shore

South Shore

• Friday | 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.

- · Friday | 1:00 6:00 p.m.
- · Saturday & Sunday | 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. · Saturday & Sunday | 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.

Students must have UFID to gain entry. There are 4 guests allowed per UFID.

REITZ UNION GAME ROOM

Throughout The Weekend | Reitz Union, Game Room

Located on the Ground Floor of the Reitz Union is the Reitz Union Game Room. The Game Room offers Bowling, Billiards, Foosball, and more! Utilize your 1 hour free Bowling and Billiards tickets, located in the envelope you received at check-in. Hours of operation are located on the back of the tickets.

REC SPORTS ACCESS

All guests over the age of 18 who are registered for Family Weekend are invited to use both Southwest Recreation Center and Student Recreation and Fitness Center throughout the weekend. In addition to two state-of-the art fully equipped fitness centers, Rec Sports welcomes families to participate in structured classes as well.



What's Happening Around Gainesville?

For more information on these events, please scan the QR codes provided below.

\$ (\$1-\$15) | \$\$ (\$16-\$30) | \$\$\$ (\$31+)

ADDITIONAL GATOR SPORTING EVENTS (\$)



February 21st - 23rd | Various Times

Use this "All Sports Calendar" to help you identify the sporting events taking place during the weekend. Links to prices and where to purchase tickets are provided.

KANAPAHA BOTANICAL GARDENS (\$)



- 4700 SW 58th Dr. Gainesville, FL 32608
- Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- · Saturday 9:00 a.m. to the earlier of 7:00 p.m. or dusk
- Sunday 9:00 a.m. to the earlier of 7:00 p.m. or dusk

DEVILS MILLHOPPER GEOLOGICAL STATE PARK (\$)



4732 Millhopper Rd. Gainesville, FL 32653

8:00 a.m. to Sundown, seven days a week, 365 days a year

- \$4 per vehicle, up to 8 visitors.
- · \$2 pedestrians and bicyclists.

PUCCINI: LOVE & LAUGHTER (S-SS)



University Auditorium 333 Newell Drive Gainesville, FL 32611 February 22nd 7:20 p.m.

Enjoy two of Giacomo Puccini's greatest works presented by the UF Opera Theatre & The Ocala Symphony Orchestra! Both pieces are one-act operas with supertitles, 2-hour running time.

FLORIDA VINTAGE MARKET



O Bo Diddley Plaza, 111 E University Ave. Gainesville, FL 32601 February 23rd | 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Shop vintage vendors, listen to music, and try food trucks at this outdoor market! Free entry.

ART & MINDFULNESS



Harn Musuem of Art Saturday, February 22nd | 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Take a break from your regular schedule to slow down, experience stillness, and re-charge. Forty minutes of guided meditation is followed by an art spotlight tour. Register to hold a space!

HAILE FARMERS MARKET

9 5213 SW 91st Terrace, Gainesville, FL

Saturday, February 24th | 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The Haile Farmers Market is an independent farmers market owned and operated by local farmers. Take a stroll down the tree-lined streets of the Haile Village Center to browse for groceries, prepared food, and handmade gifts, then continue on for more shopping or brunching at the Village Center's locally-owned shops and restarants!

MUSEUMS

- Florida Museum of Natural History 3215 Hull Rd | Gainesville, FL 32611
- · Mon Sat: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Sun: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Harn Museum of Art
 3259 Hull Rd | Gainesville, FL 32608
- Cade Museum 811 S Main St | Gainesville, FL 32601
- Matheson History Museum
 513 E University Ave | Gainesville, FL
 32601

DEPOT PARK 5K

Saturday, 7:30 a.m.

9874 SE 4 St. | Gainesville, FL 32601 Register at parkrun.us/depotpark/

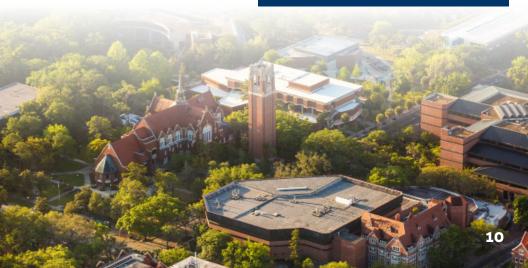
SANTA FE TEACHING ZOO (\$)

Friday - Sunday | 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

3000 NW 83 St | Gainesville, FL 32606

FAMILY WEEKEND REMINDER

None of these events are associated with New Student & Family Programs or Spring Family Weekend. Please reference QR codes/ websites for more information on events.





FAMILY WEEKEND TIP

In the case of rain, outdoor locations may be updated via GatorWay. RSVP (optional) for any event by utilizing the Check-In feature on GatorWay. Events that are not hosted by New Student & Family Programs may require additional

RELAX

Family Weekend can be both physically and mentally draining, so use this time to not only connect and engage with your student and your fellow Gator families, but to also take a step back, when needed, and enjoy your visit. With your self care in mind, we have a **Reflection Room in the Reitz Union**. In this room you will find a place for you and your family to recoop and take advantage of mind stimulating activities before heading back to to take on the rest of the family weekend activities!

CAMPUS PARKING



Parking is extremely limited throughout campus, so please plan accordingly. Each family will receive one parking pass at check-in to be used in designated lots throughout Family Weekend. All Parking restrictions are lifted daily at 4:30 p.m. and all day Saturday-Sunday. Guests who utilize handicap accessible parking will need the family weekend parking pass as well as their state issued Disabled Persons Parking Placard. Scan this QR code to view a campus map.

GAMEDAY PARKING



General Parking is available in the Condron Family Ballpark baseball lot and the Fifield parking lot located directly across Hull Road. Disability parking is available on a first-come, first-serve basis in the Florida Ballpark west lot with a valid Placard. Please do not park on grass or in No Parking Zones. Scan this OR code to view a pdf of gameday parking locations.

CLEAR BAG POLICY: The clear bag your family received at Family Weekend check-in is perfect for the game!



APPROVED BAGS

- ✓ Clear plastic, vinyl or PVC bags that do not exceed 12"x6"x12"
 - A logo no larger than 4.5"x 3.4" can be displayed on one side of a permissible clear bag.
 - A clear bag shall be clear from top-to-bottom and up to a 2" trim/border on the bag is generally acceptable.
- One-gallon clear, re-sealable plastic storage bag
- Small clutch bags no larger than 4.5"x6.5", approximately the size of a hand, with or without a handle or strap
- Medically necessary items (after proper inspection)

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- X Outside food or drink (including alcoholic beverages)
 - Fans are permitted to bring one commercially branded (i.e.: Aquafina) empty plastic water bottles, no larger than 20 oz., in to Ben Hill Griffin Stadium
- X Artificial Noise Makers
- × Personal seatbacks

- X Ice chests or bags
- × Strollers
- X Tobacco products (including e-cigarettes, vapor pens, and chewing tobacco)
- × Umbrellas
- X Video cameras/cases
- × Weapons