



# The Office of Accessibility Newsletter

## Make Plans for a Successful Semester!

Welcome to the Fall 2018 semester at The University of Akron.

The staff in the Office of Accessibility extends a sincere welcome to all students registered with us. We are so glad you are here.

The University of Akron has so much to offer. From our world-class teaching faculty, to an ever growing green campus, to our many clubs and organizations—UA has it all!

You are an important and valued member of The University of Akron community. As you take advantage of all the resources UA has to offer, take time to meet new people and explore all that our campus has to offer. The University of Akron works tirelessly to make your college experience one that you will remember fondly.

The friends you will make here will be your colleagues in the future. Your professors become mentors, and the campus becomes your new home. I challenge each of you to take advantage of all the University of Akron has to offer.

We are excited you chose The University of Akron!

Kindest regards,

Kelly Kulick  
Director

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## Welcome Back to the OA!

The Office of Accessibility is so excited to kick off another great academic year here at the University of Akron! We are excited to help you all achieve your post-secondary goals throughout your time here at UA!

Please read through this newsletter to find helpful information about happenings in the Office of Accessibility, events on campus, and opportunities for you!

The  
University  
of Akron  
Office of Accessibility



# Start your own startup company with Starting Line

Starting Line is a program offered by the University of Akron Research Foundation (UARF) to help entrepreneurs develop their business concept into a full-fledged startup. Through our 10-step process, you will craft a business plan, interview customers, sketch out your prototype concept, and construct your first startup pitch. Along the way, we have curated a collection of resources that show you the tricks and tips to leveling up your idea.

Starting Line is comprised mainly of online, "at-your-own-pace" lessons, including podcasts and TEDtalk videos selected by our entrepreneurial advisors, along with one or two deliverables to submit at each step. You also will get the chance to have one-on-one meetings with our entrepreneurial experts to guide you through the program. Check out our video to get the full scoop from our program mascots, Linus and Lucy the light-bulbs!

Those who have what it takes to finish all 10 steps **will be eligible to win up to \$4,000 in prizes**. Getting stuck at a step along the way? Come to the EX[L] Center in Bierce Library on Fridays from 2:30-3:30 p.m. to work with one of our advisors.

You can apply at [uakronuarf.com/step1](http://uakronuarf.com/step1) to begin your ascent today!

## Want to Share your love of UA? Then ZRC is the club for you!

Do you remember the very first time that you visited Akron's beautiful campus? What do you remember about that visit? Was it the look of the scenery or buildings? How about the people you saw? For most people, they remember the student that gave them their tour around campus. Now is the time to become someone that prospective students remember. By joining Zips Recruiting Club, you will be able to share everything you love about our campus to prospective students through campus tours.

Joining is simple! First, fill out the application on OrgSync. Then, have a short interview with our campus advisor and/or a member of the leadership team. Next, you will be trained by experienced tour guides. Finally, you will have the opportunity to share your story and what you enjoy about campus with future zips!!! IT'S THAT EASY!!!

Application

1. Go to OrgSync and Search ZRC.
2. Go to "Feed" and select "Fill out Form" underneath of "Membership Application"

Contact: Mallory Kennedy (Campus Advisor) [mak146@uakron.edu](mailto:mak146@uakron.edu)

# Start of the Semester Checklist for Success at UA!

	Items:	Why Needed:	Information to obtain item/ resource:
1	<b>Current copy of class schedule</b>	Check for changes in room location and times	Log in ZipLine (need UANet ID and Password) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access my Student Center</li> <li>• Obtain schedule from dropdown menu</li> </ul>
2	<b>Class syllabus</b>	Instructor will review the syllabus on the 1st day of class	Log in ZipLine (need UANet ID and Password) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access my Springboard</li> <li>• Click on course</li> <li>• Click on "content" (select syllabus)</li> </ul>
3	<b>Parking Permit – Placed on rear view mirror</b>	Park in designated lots	<a href="http://www.uakron.edu/parking/">http://www.uakron.edu/parking/</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information under Parking Permit</li> </ul>
4	<b>Campus map</b>	Find buildings on campus	<a href="http://www.uakron.edu/parking/">http://www.uakron.edu/parking/</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information under Campus Map</li> </ul>
5	<b>ZipCard (student ID card)</b>	Ride the Roo Shuttle, access your meal plan or workout at the JAR or ONAT	<a href="http://www.uakron.edu/zipcard/">http://www.uakron.edu/zipcard/</a>
6	<b>Computer Help Desk</b>	Forgotten password or computer help	330-972-6888 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.uakron.edu/helpdesk/">http://www.uakron.edu/helpdesk/</a></li> </ul>
7	<b>Cell Phone Turned <u>OFF</u> during class</b>	Important contact numbers: UA Info: 330-972-7111 SC Advising: 330-972-7220 UA Police: 330-972-2911 SNOWLINE: 330-972-SNOW	
8	<b>Pencil, pen and paper</b>	Taking notes the 1st day	Campus bookstores
9	<b>Folder, notebook or binder</b>	Hold paper or course information	Campus bookstores
10	<b>Textbooks</b>	Confirm that you have purchased the correct text	Campus bookstores
11	<b>Student email account (ZipLine)</b>	Check DAILY for updates	Log in ZipLine (need UANet ID and Password) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access my Email</li> </ul>
12	<b>Computer Labs</b>	Designated for student use	Polsky Building Location: M158, 305, 333, 335; Auburn Science, Student Union, College or Business Administration, Schrank North (Adult Focus), Residence Halls, College of Arts & Sciences
13	<b>Tutoring Labs</b>	To assist students in various subject areas	<b>College Reading and Study Skills Lab</b> -Bierce Library/ Polsky Building <b>Writing Lab</b> –Bierce Library/ Polsky Bldg. <b>Math Lab</b> – Bierce Library/ Polsky Building

## Need to Drop a Class?

Students must drop a class within 14 days to receive a refund. Students will receive 100% during first two weeks of the new semester if they need to drop a class. After the first two weeks of the semester are over, no refunds will be given.





Registration for the Make a Difference Day 2018 is now open!

For the last 13 years, the University and the Department of Student Life have organized volunteer efforts for Make a Difference Day. The annual day of giving back is celebrated in communities across the country on the last Saturday of October.

With the launch of Five-Star Fridays, our 14th annual Make a Difference Day will take place on Friday, Oct. 26, with two shifts of volunteering available — 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. The Five-Star Fridays initiative offers an innovative schedule with a weekly course load for most students of Monday through Thursday, with Fridays dedicated to hands-on, real-world experiences, including volunteer work.

To date, the University has assisted more than 8,685 students and staff in volunteering to serve on this annual day of service. Combined over the last 13 years, our volunteers have dedicated more than 28,510 hours of service to the greater Akron area and the program (on average) partners with more than 40 nonprofit organizations each year.

For those wishing to participate in our largest service event, the registration form for students, faculty, and staff is open and located at [uakron.edu/mdd](http://uakron.edu/mdd). All UA students can register themselves as an individual or on behalf of a group/organization. The deadline to register is Friday, September 28.

Questions? Contact [serve@uakron.edu](mailto:serve@uakron.edu).

## Tips for Discovering the Right Major

Here are four ways to help choose a major for a student who may be Undecided:

- 1). **Seek out help:** It's extremely beneficial to you to utilize UA's resources when it comes to choosing a major. You are able to work closely with Career Services to determine your major, taking personality tests and working with advisers. <http://www.uakron.edu/career/>
- 2). **Explore:** Another option is to spend a semester taking one or two entry level courses within a major you're interested in. You may initially think you would love psychology as a major, but after taking a class you may realize that journalism is exactly where you belong. Your perceptions of certain majors may not be entirely accurate, so don't be afraid to get your hands dirty and enroll in a few classes that sound interesting to you.
- 3). **Be introspective:** The most important component of choosing a major is getting to know yourself better. This sounds like a difficult task, but there is no better place to do this than college.
- 4). **Be proactive:** Go to the meetings of a few academically focused clubs you're interested in, such as Student Nursing Organization or Engineering Student Organizations. Attend the events—like speakers or seminars—hosted by your prospective academic departments. Speak with other students who are enrolled in the schools you're considering. Being proactive in your search for a major will be your best asset.

Information retrieved from: <http://www.usnews.com/education/blogs/twice-the-college-advice/2011/11/15/10-tips-for-choosing-the-right-major>

## Important Reminders

### Testing in The Office of Accessibility, Counseling & Testing Center and CBA&E:

- ◆ If you have an alternative testing accommodation and are testing in the OA or the Counseling and Testing Center, please remember to schedule your test at least **4 business days** prior to the day you would like to take the test. Tests can be scheduled by the student through the STARS website, <https://andes.accessiblelearning.com/Akron/>, under the Alternative Testing tab. For assistance in scheduling tests, please contact our office.
- ◆ If you are taking a test in the Computer Based Assessment and Evaluation center, you must confirm with the instructor at the beginning of the semester that they will be using their exam accommodations. You will also need to provide CBA&E with a copy of your accommodation letter. Accommodation letters may be printed from STARS.

### Request your accommodations:

- ◆ Make sure you request your accommodations as soon as possible to ensure that your accommodations are provided when you need them.
- ◆ If you need help requesting your accommodations, call the Office of Accessibility at 330.972.7928 or stop in to Simmons Hall 105.
- ◆ If you receive Alternative Format for your texts, sign the AT Contract in STARS and show proof of purchase for alternative media.

### Notetaking accommodations:

- ◆ If you are utilizing notetakers as an accommodation this semester, please remember to only request notetakers for courses in which they will be needed. This does not include out of classroom experiences (labs, online, recitations, etc.). Please contact the Notetaker Coordinator at [tmiller1@uakron.edu](mailto:tmiller1@uakron.edu) if you need assistance.

### Scheduling in the Office of Accessibility

- ◆ The start of the semester is very busy for the OA. Please schedule appointments early and **show up to your scheduled appointments on time**.
- ◆ **Students arriving more than 15 minutes late to appointments and/or tests will likely be asked to reschedule.**

### Important Dates

**October 29, 2018**  
Spring 2019  
registration begins

**November 22-25, 2018**  
Thanksgiving Recess

**December 9, 2018**  
Final Instructional  
Day for Fall 2018  
classes

**December 10-16, 2018**  
Finals Week

**December 14, 2018**  
Equipment Checked  
Out in OA Due

**December 15, 2018**  
Fall 2018  
Commencement

**December 18, 2018**  
Final Grades Due



## Alternative Spring Break 2019: Apply Now!



Interested in traveling with The University of Akron for Spring Break? The Department of Student Life and serveAkron are excited to announce three Alternative Spring Break trip locations for 2019! Alternative Spring Break (ASB) trips are exciting, service-learning opportunities for students to get hands-on service experience, participate in reflection activities, and give back.

2019 Trip Locations:  
Camp Twin Lakes - Winder, Ga.\*  
Flat Rock River YMCA - St. Paul, Ind.  
Greenworks - Asheville, N.C.

Cost: \$325 (\$75 deposit with \$250 remaining fee due by February 1)

Application Deadline: Applications are due by 5:00 PM on January 18, 2019, with a \$75 deposit.

Apply Now: [uakron.edu/asb](http://uakron.edu/asb)

Questions about Alternative Spring Break? Contact Adam Beverly at [abevery@uakron.edu](mailto:abevery@uakron.edu).

## Meet the OA Staff!

### **Kathleen (Kelly) Kulick, M.Ed.,CRC**

Kathleen (Kelly) Kulick is the Director for the Office of Accessibility. Kelly has 17 years of experience working with students with disabilities in higher education. Kelly earned both her Undergraduate and Master's degrees from Kent State University and is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor. Kelly has worked extensively with the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation in Akron as well as other community agencies that work with individuals with disabilities. Kelly enjoys being part of The University of Akron family.

### **Jessica DeFago, M.A.**

Jessica is the Associate Director whose area of specialty is working with students with learning disabilities and ADHD. An alumna of The University of Akron, Jessica has a Master's Degree in Higher Education Administration. Jessica is dedicated to helping students learn how to navigate and succeed in higher education through developing study skills and self-advocacy skills. Jessica also works closely with University students, faculty, staff and area high schools through department outreaches and educational opportunities.

### **Tess Miller, M.Ed., CRC**

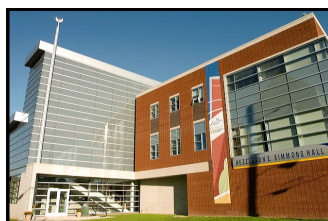
Tess is a Disability Specialist and Service Coordinator for the Office of Accessibility. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from The Ohio State University and earned her Masters of Education in Rehabilitation Counseling from Kent State University. Tess is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, with strong interests in student advocacy and helping others. She is dedicated to both supporting students in the process of adapting to the post-secondary setting, and assisting them in working towards their higher education goals.

### **Leigh Sveda**

Leigh is the Adaptive Technology and Service Coordinator for the Office of Accessibility. She graduated from The University of Akron with a Bachelor of Arts degree. She is responsible for the administration and implementation of alternative media for students with disabilities, the supervision of student assistants and administration of STARS. Leigh also oversees the adaptive technology lab housed in the office.

### **Natalie Bendel**

Natalie is the Program Assistant for the Office of Accessibility, where she manages the front desk and coordinates testing. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Hiram College, and decided to pursue a career in higher education after completing an internship in the field. Natalie is passionate about helping students succeed in their post-secondary goals.



## Meet the OA Student Assistants!

### Lauren

Lauren is a senior studying psychology with a future focus in behavioral neuroscience. She is a member of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority and serves as the Director of Social Enrichment and Risk Management. She loves elephants, anything purple, sports, and Netflix. Jade Dragon is her favorite place to order food.

### Cora

Cora has been working in the Office of Accessibility for 2 years this upcoming fall. She is currently studying Special Education with aspirations to be an Intervention Specialist at the high school level. She currently serves as the Vice President of New Member Education for Delta Zeta Sorority, she is a camp counselor, and she loves cats.

### Cierra

Cierra is a senior studying Pre-Physical Therapy with a double minor in Child Development and Psychology. She has plans to move on to Graduate School to become a Pediatric Occupational Therapist preferably in a school district. She is involved heavily across campus with many leadership roles and a passion for service. She loves elephants, cats, and Jimmy Johns.

### Sydni

Sydni is from New Washington, Ohio and is going into her third year at the University of Akron. Her major is Family and Consumer Science Education. Apart from school, Sydni spends her days practicing yoga, reading and crafting.

### Nichole

Nichole is from North Royalton, Ohio, and is beginning her second year at the University of Akron. Her major is speech-language pathology with a minor in Spanish and a certificate in American Sign Language. When she is not focusing on school work, she spends her time with friends, volunteering with her sorority sisters, or binge watching her favorite shows on Netflix.

Two new student assistants will be joining us soon! Stop in and say "Hi"!

## Resources

Check out the "Links" page on the OA website for helpful on and off campus resources!  
<https://uakron.edu/access/links.dot>

## Suggestion Box

We want your feedback! Email [nab87@uakron.edu](mailto:nab87@uakron.edu) with comments about the current newsletter or ideas you would like to see in future newsletters.

**Office of Accessibility**  
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**Phone: 330-972-7928**  
**TDD: 330-972-5764**  
**E-mail: [access@uakron.edu](mailto:access@uakron.edu)**

**Fall & Spring Office Hours:**  
**Monday- Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.**



Simmons Hall at The University of Akron