



# The Academic Advisor's Guide to JumpStart for Incoming UM Freshmen

JumpStart is a residential summer program for incoming freshmen at the University of Mississippi, coordinated by the Office of Pre-College Programs. The program allows students to take six (6) credit hours during the Summer June and July sessions ahead of the Fall semester. JumpStart programming includes student success workshops and college life sessions, in addition to informal meetings with undergraduate peer mentors that lead and support the students. Students live on campus in summer housing managed by the Department of Student Housing.

## **Who is JumpStart for?**

JumpStart serves a variety of students, in-state and out-of-state, academically prepared and academically at-risk, students affiliated with special programs and unaffiliated students. There are no eligibility criteria to register.

## **Do students pay anything to be in JumpStart?**

Students pay an initial, non-refundable registration fee of \$100. In addition, students are charged a program fee for each session enrolled (\$400 for Classic Track; \$100 for Opportunity Track).

A full cost estimate for expenses (i.e. tuition, housing, fees, etc.) is available on the JumpStart website (<https://www.outreach.olemiss.edu/jumpstart/costs.html>).

## **How does a JumpStart student register for Summer courses?**

Students register for Summer courses at the same time as Fall courses. Students are advised to discuss a potential Summer schedule with their academic advisor during or immediately following their Ole Miss Freshman Orientation session at the same time as their Fall academic advising.

## **Which courses can a JumpStart student take during the summer?**

Students are to discuss their summer course options with their academic advisor. We do recommend students take courses that speak to their academic strengths due to the short duration of summer sessions.

The JumpStart Office does not provide academic advising or register students for summer courses.

## **How many credit hours are JumpStart students enrolled in?**

The general JumpStart population is enrolled in a minimum of six (6) credit hours for June or July sessions. Students may also take a one (1) hour lab-based course for seven (7) total credit hours. Students in specialized programs, like an intensive language program, may take 5-6 credit hours, depending on the program requirements.

## **Do JumpStart students receive a financial benefit for taking summer courses?**

ONLY JumpStart students in the Opportunity Track, Grove Scholars, Arabic Flagship, and Chinese Flagship receive a tuition scholarship (amount varies by track/program). Students in specialized programs taking less than six hours will have their scholarship prorated based on the number of hours enrolled. No additional financial aid is awarded for seven credit hours.

In order to retain the JumpStart Scholarship, students must attend all class meetings and JumpStart-sponsored activities and workshops.

### **How many summer sessions can a student take in JumpStart?**

Students can enroll in one or more of the following JumpStart sessions. Students may register for all three sessions of JumpStart.

- First Summer Session (May 30-June 27, move-in on May 29)
- Second Summer Session (June 29-July 28, move-in on June 28)

Students may not register for Full Summer Session or enroll in six credit hours across two individual sessions for the purposes of JumpStart.

### **Can a student participate in another summer program concurrent with JumpStart?**

Students can participate in another program alongside their JumpStart programming. JumpStart works with a number of campus partners to supplement their academic programming. In this case, partner program events will take precedence over JumpStart events when there is a time conflict.

Current examples of partner programs:

- FASTrack and Grove Scholars
- Intensive language programs (Arabic, Chinese, German, etc.)

If a department is interested in partnering with JumpStart, please contact Wendy Pfrenger, Associate Director of Pre-College Programs, at [wendyp@olemiss.edu](mailto:wendyp@olemiss.edu).

### **Is it worth it for students to do JumpStart?**

JumpStart's programming is designed with student success at the forefront. The goal of the program is to help students get a soft introduction to academics and college life at the University of Mississippi ahead of the Fall semester and to assist with the University's freshmen retention efforts. Our research has shown that JumpStart students are more likely to persist through sophomore year than the general UM freshmen population and maintain a higher GPA than their peers. In spring 2020, they also reported being more resilient in the uncertainty of the pandemic due to their knowledge of campus resources and social connections developed during JumpStart.

The logo for Ole Miss, featuring the words "Ole Miss" in a red, cursive script font.

## **Pre-College Programs**

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