



First Things First

Supporting you before day one.

If you missed past mailings, check out the archive here!

June 23, 2026

Welcome to **First Things First**, your (mostly) biweekly newsletter that guides you smoothly through summer, and gets you prepared for life at Bates.

Today's Updates:

- **Join us for a Being at Bates Panel.** These panels feature key Bates community members including current students – and sometimes alums! – people who have experienced the day-to-day trials and triumphs of, well, being at Bates. We're offering them to help you further envision what your day-to-day experience will be like.
 - We're hosting panels at 7:00pm ET on Mon 6/29, Tue 6/30, Tue 7/7, and Tue 7/14.
 - If you can't make it, let us know, and we can connect you with the folks on the panel directly.
 - [View full descriptions and register to attend today.](#)
- Heads up: Bates has joined a cohort of institutions formed by the American Association of Colleges & Universities and the Constructive Dialogue Institute (CDI) to provide CDI's ***Perspectives* curriculum** to all new students. ***Perspectives* is an online learning experience that helps students build the skills to engage across differences with curiosity and confidence.**
 - The next time you hear from us, you'll be invited to start engaging with this content in preparation for an in-person session during Orientation, and additional engagements throughout the academic year.
 - All new students are required to take *Perspectives* - it's an important part of being a member of our community, is aligned with First-Year Experience values, and directly supports Bates' commitment to positively impacting the wider world

through the transformative power of our differences.

- **Several New Student Forms are due this Monday 6/29.** Visit [Garnet Gateway](#) to complete them. Also note the Direct Deposit form, which was previously unavailable, is now ready for you to complete.
- **Reminder: Round one of course preference ranking closes this Friday 6/26 at 4:00pm ET.** Visit [Garnet Gateway](#) to complete your rankings.
 - In this round, you'll rank your top four First-Year Seminar (FYS) clusters, and at least six non-FYS classes.
 - You'll be registered for two classes as a result of this round, and will find out the results on Friday 7/10 at noon ET.

That's it for now! If **anything** comes up at any time, don't hesitate to reach out to us by replying to this email, emailing fye@bates.edu, or calling us at 207.755.5900. We're so excited to welcome you to campus in the fall, and want to hear from you.

With Bobcat spirit,

[The First-Year Experience Team at Bates](#)



Upcoming Dates

- **Fri 6/26:** Round one of fall course registration closes @ 4:00pm ET
- **Mon 6/29:** Several New Student Forms due

[Check out all upcoming dates here.](#)

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