



University of Vermont
Division of Faculty Affairs

Office of the Vice Provost
for Faculty Affairs

To: New Faculty Colleagues

From: Jane Okech, Professor & Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

Date: July 1, 2026

Subject: Updated New Faculty Orientation Requirement for AY2026–2027

Dear New Faculty Colleagues,

Welcome to the University of Vermont. I am writing to share an update on the New Faculty Orientation (NFO) requirement for AY2026–2027 and to provide important information about the revised hybrid format.

The revised NFO includes two required components: a one-day, in-person orientation session on August 24, 2026, at the Davis Center, and a Brightspace course that must be completed by December 1, 2026. Please [register for NFO online](#); you will receive the Brightspace course link when you register, although the course will not be available until August 24.

Participation in the hybrid NFO program is required for all full-time new faculty, except faculty in the Larner College of Medicine. Once available, the Brightspace course will extend learning from the in-person session, provide access to important institutional resources, and support completion tracking through an automatically generated certificate.

This revised model was developed in response to participant feedback that the previous two-day format included more information than could reasonably be absorbed in a short period. The hybrid format preserves the value of an in-person welcome and community-building experience while giving you more time to engage with essential content, policies, resources, and expectations through Brightspace.

We look forward to welcoming you in August and supporting your transition into the UVM community.