Oberlin College Fly-In Programs – Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Fly-In? Prospective students are invited to visit campus as high school seniors with other students from their area. The Office of Admissions at Oberlin reserves a block of airline tickets from several metropolitan airports on select dates during the fall semester. Interested students pay a program fee to participate. The fee covers round-trip air transportation to Cleveland, ground transportation to and from campus, overnight accommodations on campus, and all meals on campus during the visit. An Oberlin College representative will meet students at their home airport before the flight to Cleveland and a representative will also meet the group at the airport when they arrive in Cleveland.

What will I do during this visit? Participating students will have the opportunity to take a campus tour, attend a panel session with current students, visit classes, sample dining options and attend evening events and activities. Students will stay overnight on campus with a student host. Admissions interviews will be scheduled for students interested in the College of Arts & Sciences who have not previously interviewed at Oberlin. Students registered for the program will receive additional planning information in advance to help them make the most of their time on campus.

What do I need to bring with me for this visit? Participating students will need to bring personal identification, a sleeping bag or bed roll, pillow, towel, personal toiletries, coat or jacket (for unpredictable weather), and any spending money for any personal purchases or checked baggage fees. Be prepared to sleep on a residence hall room floor.

Plan to travel as light as possible. Students will need to be aware of airline baggage restrictions and fees in advance, especially for checked baggage or when carrying on items such as musical instruments, shaving kits, liquid toiletries, etc. (See TSA.gov for details.) The program fee paid to Oberlin does not include any checked baggage fees.

How do I register for the Fly-In program?

1. Review the program itinerary to determine that it meets your needs.
2. Submit the online registration form for the Fly-In program for your region.
3. Pay the program fee. Payment is due at the time of registration. Payment may be made by credit card or with an electronic check.
4. Complete the visitation permission release on your registration form -- both the student and parent electronic signatures will be required to complete the form.

Space for the program is limited and registration will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

I have submitted my registration form. What happens next? Once you submit your registration form, you will receive an email message confirming your participation.

Once your reservation is processed, you will receive details and information by email to help you plan your time on campus. We will provide an itinerary for your visit that will include a campus tour and information session, but you will also have some flexibility to arrange activities that are of specific interest to you.
Can my parent register for this program and attend with me? No. This visit program is for high school senior students only. If you would like to plan a visit to campus with your parent, please review our online Campus Visits page for information about planning a visit to campus on another date.

What if I try to register for the program and the spaces are filled? Is there a waiting list? Once all spaces have been filled for the program, a waiting list will be available. Payment of the program fee will be required when you submit the registration form to be part of the waiting list. Open spaces will be filled in the order that waiting list submissions were received. If you are offered a space in the program, we will contact you to confirm that you are still available to join the program. If you confirm, your registration will then be added to the program and you will receive an email message confirming your participation. If you are on the waiting list and you are not offered a space in the program, your paid program fee will be refunded.

Is financial assistance available for travel expenses? Financial assistance is not offered for the regional Fly-In programs. The program fee is reflective of discounted transportation and accommodation costs. Oberlin offers a fully paid multicultural visit program several times during the fall semester. More information is available online: go.oberlin.edu/visitprogram

What if I need to cancel my reservation after I have paid the program fee? We will issue a refund for cancellation requests received at least 30 days before the date of the program. The program fee will be refunded in the same manner in which the program fee was received.

For cancellations made less than 30 days before the program date, a refund will depend on the program waiting list and whether or not we are able to fill the space with another student. Any refund amount available will then depend on how close to the program date you decide to cancel as there are deadlines and fees assessed by the airline in order to change passenger names once the airline ticket has been issued.

Can I change the date of my visit and still use the airline ticket reserved for me through this program? No. Airline tickets purchased for this program are not transferrable or able to be modified because they are part of a group reservation. You may cancel your registration for the Fly-In program using the cancellation information provided above.

What if I am only interested in the Conservatory of Music at Oberlin? While there are no activities planned specifically for students interested in music, all students registered for the program will have the opportunity to plan and schedule activities for their visit in advance to make the best use of their time on campus. Students interested in music may contact the Conservatory Admissions Office in advance to inquire about attending an information session and tour, scheduling a lesson with a professor, or visiting a conservatory class or rehearsal.

Can I stay overnight with someone I know on campus? Yes! Staying in campus housing will, hopefully, be an enjoyable experience for you. However, staying with someone you know on campus will likely add even more fun to your visit. Please be sure to enter your host’s name on the registration form in the “Overnight Stay” section.