

# 2026 SUMMER INSTITUTE FAQ'S

## (FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS)

Will I have a roommate during SI?

*Yes! You will have the opportunity to get the full roommate experience during SI! If you have any questions or concerns about having a roommate, please feel free to discuss with your counselor.*

What if I have a family obligation during SI?

*Please explain to your family that this is a requirement for you to matriculate to Ithaca College in the fall and ask for their support in completing this program.*

Will I have any time for myself during this program?

*You will have some unscheduled time when you will be able to choose what to do, which is good practice for life as a college student. We call that choice time, because you get to choose how you will use it. However, in order to achieve the program's goals, we will keep you very busy, so there isn't a lot of choice time. You will also be responsible for completing a significant amount of academic work outside of class, and you may need to use choice time for that.*

What is a typical day like during SI?

*You will be at breakfast by 7:30am in order to get to class on time. You will be in class every day (Monday-Friday), and depending on the day, you might also have a meeting with your counselor or attend a panel where you get to know resources on campus. You will attend study hours Sunday through Thursday, in the evenings or during the day (depending on the day).*

*On the weekends, we will have planned activities for you, on and off campus, to encourage connection and community-building and to help you get to know the area.*

*This schedule will give you a taste of college life in these ways:*

- *Every day's schedule isn't the same, giving you a chance to build your time management skills*
- *You'll learn campus and get used to eating in the dining hall*
- *You'll get to experience "dorm life" in the res hall, complete with sharing spaces and unexpected friendships*

How will Summer Institute compare to my first semester in college?

*Summer Institute will not be exactly like college – there are many things about life in college that we cannot perfectly provide for you. However, it will push you to develop skills and mindsets that you will need in your first semester in college. For example, in college, you may have more freedom in your day to day than you are used to. If the SI structure works for you, you can use that same structure during your first semester in college. But no one will force you to do that – it's a choice you have to make.*

Will I have someone to help me with picking my classes for freshman year?

*Your first semester schedule will be created for you based on your Academic Interests Survey from your New Student Checklist. However, if you have concerns about your major or questions about your survey or the courses on your schedule, your HEOP counselor is there to support you. Please don't hesitate to let us know if you have questions!*

What happens if I don't pass all my classes during SI?

*You are required to successfully complete all aspects of SI, including your classes, in order to join us at IC in the fall. We will provide the supports needed, and you will need to do the work to achieve the promise that we see in you. This begins with passing everything during SI, and continues throughout your time at Ithaca.*

Will I be in the same room during SI as the academic year?

*No. All SI students will stay in the same building during the summer, but you will need to fully move out at the end of SI. Ithaca College has Theme-based living for the academic year. All incoming HEOP first years will be required to live in the same residence hall for the academic year, so you need to select "Explore Ithaca" when you fill out your housing form. When you return in the fall for Orientation, you will move into your room for the year.*

If I got accommodations in high school, can I get them in SI?

*If you have a disability and would like to request accommodations for SI or Fall 2026, please fill out the [Disability Identification Form](https://www.ithaca.edu/student-accessibility-services/how-get-accommodations-ic) (further instructions to be found at <https://www.ithaca.edu/student-accessibility-services/how-get-accommodations-ic>). Once completed, Student Accessibility Services will email next steps to your IC email account. If you are not sure whether you should do this or whether you will need your accommodation in college, your HEOP counselor can help you.*

*More information can be found at <https://www.ithaca.edu/sas/>*

If I am an athlete, can I leave SI early for athletic commitments?

*No. Your coach will understand that SI is a critical part of your successfully joining IC and their team, so they will work with you.*