



## Freshman Onboarding Website: FAQ

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Potential Name: Pup Portal

**Question: What is the mission of this resource?**

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**Answer:** We aim to create a resource that is simple, direct and easy to use for freshman. We want their first semester and beyond here at UGA to go as seamless as possible with our goal being to eliminate the “I wish I knew this before Freshman year” sentiment. We carry this out by including helpful UGA lifestyle tips and resources that you would have never known unless someone told you about them.

**Question: How is this resource different than the others that UGA has to offer?**

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**Answer:** UGA has so many informational resources it is sometimes hard to keep up. This app is specifically tailored towards freshman and the information we find most useful to them. Curated by extensive research on freshman problems, we believe the Pup Portal offers a streamlined experience personalized to the lifestyle and academic needs of incoming UGA students.

**Question: Do you need a UGA login to use this resource?**

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**Answer:** The simple answer is no, we believe access to the Pup Portal should be as simple as possible, without multiple login steps. As an added plus, parents can utilize this resource as well if they want to take a look into what their incoming freshman will be getting into.

**Question: Is their information about the UGA Bus system?**

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**Answer:**Yes, this is a common problem area for incoming freshman. We have provided a list of helpful information and links about this service under the transportation section of the Pup Portal.

**Question: Do I need to be a freshman to use Pup Portal?**

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**Answer:** Not at all, the Pup Portal's resources are useful for transfer students and regular students alike. It's never too late to get more information, or get involved!

**Question: I've looked at the sight and still have questions What do I do now?**

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**Answer:** We try to tailor our resources to provide information about the most common pain points for freshman. If you have specific questions we have not answered, we suggest making note of all you are confused about and get in contact with your advisors! They truly are wonderful resources.

**Question: How do I know what information is important?**

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**Answer:** It's simple, what are you most interested in, or have the most questions about? That's the information you should be seeking out on our page. We've done our best to make this process easier for you by putting together common freshman pain points all in one place!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **New 'Pup Portal' Website Is the All-In-One Freshman Resource**

Students at the New Media Institute have developed a user-friendly resource portal for freshmen

**ATHENS, Ga.-** Pup Portal, an initiative by several students at the New Media Institute, has officially launched. This website aims to help freshmen adjust to life as a UGA student by compiling the institution's many resources into one streamlined portal. Upon visiting the website, students can find everything from textbook tips and tricks to guides on finding their community. With a wide variety of categories and an easy-to-use design, Pup Portal is the virtual companion that every freshman needs.

With such a large campus, uncertainty about which major is best, and feelings of homesickness, there are many challenges that a student can face in their first year. While some students have no problem adjusting to university life, others may need a more focused portal to direct them to the right resources at the right time.

The role of Pup Portal is to provide freshmen with time, energy, and money-saving resources that can improve their quality of life as a student. While a variety of useful resources are buried within UGA's existing portals, they aren't always easy to find. Pup Portal is like having a pocket-sized upperclassman friend that guides each student through all that UGA has to offer.

"Pup Portal is the kind of directory that I could've really used during my first year. I'm glad we've developed a way to make freshman year less intimidating!" says Liz Habersham, UX and Content Writer for the Pup Portal team.

Using the website is simple! All students have to do is visit the URL below and begin looking through Pup Portal's categories.

"I didn't have a lot of friends when I first got here, but Pup Portal showed me how to find my community on campus! I'm so thankful for this website," says first-year student Selena Roberts.

To begin exploring Pup Portal, simply visit <https://www.http://pupportal.mynmi.net/>.

**About Pup Portal:** Pup Portal, "the website designed with freshmen in mind", was developed by five talented students at the New Media Institute: Gennifer Allen, Cassidy Thomas, Dara Carr, Claire Phillip, and Liz Habersham.

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