THE PRIMARY GOALS OF THE BLUE GOLD WELCOME WEEK PROGRAM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Aid new students in making the transition from their previous environment to UNK
- Acquaint new students and their families with the mission, programs, and services of the university
- Inform students of campus services and resources that will enhance their academic success and overall college experience
- Acquaint and educate students of their rights and responsibilities within the campus community
- Emphasize the importance of students being involved on campus and taking responsibility and initiative for their own growth and development
- Enhance students' understandings of strategies for success and begin to understand their own potential and challenges
- Provide students and their families the opportunity to interact with other students, faculty, and staff of UNK
- Enable students to begin to feel connected to the UNK community and feel confident and excited about their college choice
FIRST YEAR STUDENT
LEARNING OUTCOMES

BY PARTICIPATING IN OUR BLUE GOLD WELCOME WEEK PROGRAM, FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS WILL:

- Meet one fellow first-year student and one returning UNK student
- Meet a faculty member within a chosen field of interest
- Discuss possible transitional issues they may encounter, specifically managing relationships including roommates, making choices, and adjusting to academic expectations
- Be knowledgeable about at least one department location and contact information so that future questions may be directed appropriately
- Confirm their decision to attend UNK

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM OBJECTIVES
Transitioning to the college environment is a process and, therefore, does not occur solely over the course of our Blue Gold Welcome Week program. In light of this, it is our hope that by participating in our program, students will increase their understanding and knowledge of resources on campus to help them manage this transition. In addition, we hope that our program will assist first-year students with:

- Gaining insight and appreciation of:
  - Campus resources and services available to them
  - Campus organizations and how to become involved
  - The skills and competencies necessary to be successful academically including listening and note-taking skills in a large lecture hall
  - The rights and responsibilities associated with being a part of UNK’s campus community
  - UNK’s residential living experience
- Beginning to understand:
  - The terminology and language used at UNK
  - Their academic requirements and expectations
  - The use of MyBlue and Canvas for students
  - Community expectations, requirements, and responsibilities of being a UNK student
- Developing a connection to the UNK campus through interacting with fellow students, Blue Gold Welcome Week volunteers, faculty, and staff
- Feeling comfortable on campus
- Developing strategies for managing some of the transitional issues they may encounter
- Having fun and being excited to return to campus
TRANSFER STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

BY PARTICIPATING IN OUR BLUE GOLD WELCOME WEEK PROGRAM, TRANSFER STUDENTS WILL:

- Meet a fellow transfer student
- Be knowledgeable about at least one department location and contact information so that future questions may be directed appropriately
- Confirm their decision to attend UNK

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Transitioning to a new college environment is a process and therefore does not occur solely over the course of our Blue Gold Welcome Week program. In light of this, it is our hope that by participating in our program, students will increase their understanding and knowledge of resources on campus to help them manage this transition. In addition, we hope that our program will assist transfer students with:

- Gaining insight and appreciation of:
  - Campus resources and services available to them
  - Campus organizations and how to become involved
  - The rights and responsibilities associated with being a part of UNK’s campus community
- Beginning to understand:
  - The terminology and language used at UNK
  - Their academic requirements and expectations
  - The use of MyBlue and Canvas for students
- Develop a connection to the UNK campus through interacting with fellow students, Blue Gold Welcome Week volunteers, faculty, and staff
- Developing an awareness of the resources for managing some of the transitional issues they may encounter
- Feeling comfortable on campus
- Having fun and being excited to return to campus
PARENT AND FAMILY LEARNING OUTCOMES

IT IS OUR HOPE THAT AFTER PARTICIPATING IN OUR BLUE GOLD WELCOME WEEK PROGRAM, PARENTS AND FAMILIES OF NEW STUDENTS WILL:

- Be introduced to:
  - Campus resources and services available to them and their student
  - The terminology and language used at UNK to better communicate with their student about their experience
  - Some of the transitional issues their student may encounter (roommates, diversity, choices, time management, relationships, etc.) and develop some strategies to help their student through these transitions
  - Various campus offices and departments
- Begin to understand the academic requirements at UNK and strategies to help their student succeed academically and socially
- Develop a connection to the UNK community through interacting with fellow parents, Blue Gold Welcome Week volunteers, faculty and staff
- Explore your shifting role as a parent and how this relates to communicating with your student, student privacy, and family dynamics

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM OBJECTIVES
We also hope that by attending our program, parents and guests feel comfortable and confident in their student’s decision to attend UNK.
UNIVERSITY

LEARNING OUTCOMES

IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR BLUE GOLD WELCOME WEEK PROGRAM, THAT THE INSTITUTION WILL:

• Understand the developmental and demographic needs and concerns of new students
• Build connections and relationships with various offices and departments across campus
• Reflect on our ability to communicate effectively with parents and students
• Evaluate the effectiveness of our program through a formal evaluation process
• Continue to create an intentional connection between New Student Enrollment and the beginning of the fall semester
• Develop and increase awareness of the importance of Blue Gold Welcome Week to the entire Kearney community
• Evaluate how the campus community is perceiving Blue Gold Welcome Week

VOLUNTEER

LEARNING OUTCOMES

BY PARTICIPATING IN OUR BLUE GOLD WELCOME WEEK PROGRAM, VOLUNTEERS WILL:

• Understand various student cultures on campus and have increased self-awareness of own identity within these cultures
• Improve or refine interpersonal skills such as active listening, effective communication, recognition of emotions in self and others, and how to manage conflict
• Develop skills related to being a successful member of a team
• Demonstrate flexibility, responsibility, adaptability, and willingness to serve others
• Understand the ethical implications of leadership, civic, and social responsibility
• Report meaningfully increased confidence, peer friendships, and/or mentorship experiences