



What should I bring to Orientation?

Everything you need for Orientation should be able to fit in one average-sized travel bag. Please only bring one bag! We are not responsible if your luggage is not able to fit in the car/on a bus when you depart for your city from Orientation.

- Travel mug and/or water bottle (to limit our use of paper products)
- Cloth napkin to use throughout the retreat
- Watch and alarm clock (note that JVC retreats are cell phone free!)
- Toiletries
- Sunglasses/sunscreen
- Casual clothing and footwear suitable for different types of weather, e.g. rain jackets and sweatshirts (check the forecast for your retreat center—certain retreat sites will be very hot while others might get into the 50s at night)
- Journal (if you don't have one, Orientation is a good time to start one!)
- Musical instrument, if you play
- Pillow, sleeping bag/sheets and blanket, and bath towel
- One nice/formal outfit to wear during Orientation and also for various events you will attend throughout your year
- Swimsuit

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When packing for your JV city, keep in mind that JV houses are fully furnished homes and will contain things like books, games, cookware, etc. Besides the things you bring to Orientation, below is a suggested list of items to bring with you for your JVC year:

- Work clothes - enough for two weeks - *It would be helpful to check in with your supervisor over the summer about appropriate work attire so you know what to pack*
- Casual/leisure clothes – enough for two weeks
- Toiletries- one month's supply
- Backpack/small duffel bag (for weekend/retreat travel)

Once you arrive in your new city, you can have friends or family ship additional items to you if necessary. **Do not ship additional items before you arrive in your city, as they may end up sitting in front of an empty house.**

How will I get from Orientation to my new city?

JVC coordinates travel to your new city. You will travel with your community to the JV house, and JVC covers this cost. We will make sure that your community has a way to get to your city, such as traveling in a community member's car, a van from one of your placements, renting a car, or taking public transportation. The expenses for your travel will be covered, but we ask all JVs to plan to have about \$25 cash with them for any incidentals or travel needs.