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• Entering the United States

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• Student Orientation
• Welcome Events
• Getting Involved with OIA

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• COVID-19 Information
• Student Testing Program
• COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility
PREPARING TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES
Pre-Arrival: Immigration Process

• Download I-20 (Buckeye Mail)
• Pay I-901 SEVIS fee at fmjfee.com
  • For more information on the SEVIS fee, please visit ice.gov/sevis/i901
• Schedule your visa appointment at nearest U.S. Consulate or Embassy
• Transfer Students Only: Complete SEVIS transfer process if transferring from another U.S. school
Pre-Arrival: Visa Appointment

- Items to take to your visa appointment
  - Valid passport and I-20/DS-2019 Form
  - Financial documents
  - Evidence of English ability (example: TOEFL or IELTS score)
  - Evidence of intent to depart the U.S. after completion of studies
  - SEVIS fee receipt
  - Photograph for visa
Pre-Arrival: Visa Appointment

• When applying for your U.S. visa, remember:
  • Ties to home country – dependents remaining at home
  • Speak English during process
  • Maintain positive attitude
  • Know your academic program and how it fits into your long-term plan
  • Be brief in responses
Pre-Arrival: Preparing Your Travel

- Confirm travel arrangements to John Glenn International Airport (CMH)
- You can enter the U.S. up to 30 days before the start date on your I-20
  - Unless transferring SEVIS record from another U.S. institution
- Keep passport valid for at least six months into the future
- Check packing restrictions with U.S. Border and Customs and your Airline prior to leaving for the airport.
Review COVID-19 Entry Requirements

- Travel restrictions to enter the United States were lifted on November 8, 2021 for visitors from 33 countries (Brazil, China, India, Iran, Ireland, Schengen Zone and the UK)
  - As of November 29, 2021, travelers from Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe are prohibited from entering the country.

- Prior to Departure, you’ll need to ensure you have:
  - Proof of a negative COVID-19 test result within three days of departure or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 when traveling to the United States by air.
  - New vaccination requirements have been put into place for all non-U.S. citizen and non-U.S. immigrants traveling to the United States by air. Travelers are required to show proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
  - Wearing a mask over your nose and mouth in indoor areas of public transportation including airports and airplanes.
At the Port of Entry: Customs & Border Protection

• You will be processed through CBP upon arrival to U.S.
• Denial of entry is extremely rare
• Pack documents *before* departure in carry on luggage
• **Required to have in hand at CBP:**
  • *Passport with valid F-1 or J-1 visa*
  • *Form I-20*
  • *Ohio State admissions letter*
At the Port of Entry: Customs & Border Protection

- **Recommended to have in hand at CBP:**
  - Financial documentation (example: bank statement copy)
  - Autumn Semester full time course schedule (if available)
  - Students may be asked to go through “secondary inspection”

- **Need help with CBP? Contact OIA:**
  - Daytime hours 614-292-6101
  - After hours: 614-292-6677

- **Important! Do not pack:**
  - Fresh fruit, produce, meat, prepared food, spices or plants
  - CBP officers will not allow you to bring these items into the country
After Arrival: Transportation to Campus

• Limited free transportation from John Glenn International Airport to The Ohio State University using Lyft ride share service
  • Students must request code in advance from global-engagement@osu.edu

• Additional ride share (uber) and taxi services:
  • Taxi cost is approximately $30
  • Drive takes approximately 15 minutes

• COTA Bus: Line 7 to Line 22
  • Ride is approximate 1 hour and 15 minutes
After Arrival: Immigration Check-In

• Complete your mandatory Immigration Check-In with OIA
  • Required by U.S. federal law for all new F-1 and J-1 students
  • Immigration documents copied and reviewed by OIA staff
  • Virtual appointment registration opens December 01
    • Visit go.osu.edu/mandatory-int-stu-check-in-appt
• Complete your Student Record eForm in advance
  • Visit go.osu.edu/newintstucheckin
• Download and print your I-94 entry card
  • Visit cpd.gov/i94
• Be sure to read the pre-arrival emails for details and links
  • Visit oia.osu.edu/units/international-students/pre-arrival-check-in-and-orientation/
After Arrival: Immigration Restrictions and Benefits

• In order to maintain F-1 student immigration status in U.S.:
  • Update local address upon arrival and within 10 days of any address change during your time at Ohio State
  • Enroll full time (12 credit hours) during each semester
  • During the summer term, enrollment is not required except for graduating students
Planning to Arrive Early

- Students should arrive *two to three weeks* before classes start on January 10
- Opportunities to take advantage of pre-semester welcome activities and workshops January 3-8
- Additional time to network with American and international students and visit local landmarks
- Students feel rushed to complete all necessary tasks if they arrive the week before classes begin
Questions on immigration?

• Contact the International Student and Scholars team for questions about immigration process at iss@osu.edu

• Review immigration presentation in the Online Orientation

• Visit Spring 2021 Updates on https://oia.osu.edu/units/international-students/spring-2022-updates/
NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION
65 countries represented

1700+ Buckeyes

62% undergrad
19% graduate
19% professional
New International Student Orientation

- **December 20**: Mandatory Online Orientation before arrival
  - Required for all new and transfer international students
    - You DO NOT have to register.
    - You will automatically be enrolled in the Carmen Canvas course
    - Email instructions will be sent December 20 to your Buckeye Mail account
  - Online Orientation is approximately 8-10 hours for completion
  - Students should complete Online Orientation by **January 7**
    - OIA is automatically notified of your completion after finishing review quiz at the end of the course.
  - Once completed, course remains available for reference
New International Student Orientation

• What will I experience during Online Orientation?
  • Pre-recorded presentations from OIA and campus partners
  • Overview of requirements for international students
  • Links to campus offices and support resources

• Why do I need to complete? Student success is linked to Orientation!
  • Maintaining your immigration status and OIA services
  • Academic requirements and resources
  • Life on campus and outside the classroom
  • Health insurance and screening requirements
  • Campus health and safety requirements and services
  • Housing and dining services
The Student Health Insurance Office manages the university's requirement for student health coverage and provides options to meet it. We support informed health insurance choices so they can help protect their academic progress from disruptive healthcare costs.
New International Student Orientation

• **January 3-8:** Attend Orientation welcome events and workshops
  - Opportunity to attend online information sessions and in-person social programming to make friends and feel comfortable in a new place
  - Types of events: *neighborhood tours, local landmark visits, academic workshops, and presentations about life in the U.S.*

• **How do I register for events?**
  - A full schedule of events, including instructions for registering and links to CarmenZoom sessions, will be available in your Online Orientation calendar.
  - Download the Global Events at Ohio State app to schedule.
  - Events subject to limited registration

• **Visit the virtual Welcome Booth for help with questions**
  - Hours listed on the event calendar in orientation January 3-7
Orientation Q&A Session

May 11, 8am - 9am

Calendar: OIA International Student Orientation
Location: Zoom Webinar Online
Details: Join representatives from the Office of International Affairs
Other Important Student Action Items

• Complete placement test online in ESL and/or Math, ASAP *(if required)*
• Purchase interim student health insurance if you will arrive in the United States before January 1, when semester coverage begins
• Decide arrangements for early-arrival and permanent housing
• Complete your Campus move-in beginning January 9, based on your assigned date and time *(instructions in BuckeyeMail)*
• Schedule an appointment to obtain your BuckID *(buckid.osu.edu)*
• Monitor Buckeye Mail for contact from Academic advisor
• Download Ohio State Mobile App from iOS or Android store – *[www.osu.edu/downloads/apps]*
• Complete the SHS International Student Vaccination Requirement
• Complete set-up for COVID-19 requirements upon arrival
Questions about orientation?

• Contact the Global Engagement team for questions on orientation and your AU21 transition at global-engagement@osu.edu

• Contact OIA’s Village at village@osu.edu for general questions about adjusting to life in the United States and Columbus.

• Visit oia.osu.edu/internationalstudents
GETTING INVOLVED WITH GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT
Internationalization and the College Experience

- Improve your time at Ohio State
  - Friends and experiences
  - Articulating your own experience
- Internationalizing your experience will allow you to cultivate global competence
Cultural Adaptability

• Your future career will likely oblige you to interact with individuals who are not like you
Global Engagement

- Facilitating relationships between international students and domestic students
- Cultivating cross-cultural learning and interactions
- Opportunities for global engagement on campus
Global Engagement Nights

- Weekly sessions for international and domestic students
- Tuesdays from 6-7 p.m. in 160 Enarson Classroom Building
- Topics range from cultural stereotypes to dating norms
- SP22 topics released mid-December
English Conversation Program

- Promotes the development of global English skills by facilitating student-led interactions between a linguistically and culturally diverse group of individuals
- All participants, native and non-native speakers of English, can increase their global competency
English Conversation Program Group Dynamics

- Groups are intentionally linguistically/culturally diverse
- Groups are egalitarian in nature
- The success of the group is dependent on each individual member
- Meet six times per semester
- Three large events per year
International Film Series

- International film viewing on the 4th Wednesday of every month with subtitles
- Located at Gateway Film Center on High Street
- Free admission with BuckID and first 30 get free popcorn and soda vouchers
Global Engagement Athletics Events

• Join us each month for free admission to a different Ohio State athletic event every month
• Learn chants, cheers, and traditions to feel part of the Buckeye family
• Meet American students and make friends while in the student section with Block-O
• Raffles and giveaways and team meets
• SP22 Sports: Basketball, Ice Hockey, Baseball, Softball, Lacrosse
Global Engagement Certificate Program

• The Global Engagement Certificate Program is an opportunity for students to enhance their Ohio State experience while becoming global citizens

• Students earn points for completion by attending or participating in globally engaging events or activities offered at the Office of International Affairs
Staying Connected

• Sign up for Global Engagement Newsletter
  • (oia.osu.edu/get-involved/global-engagement)

• Global Engagement Facebook
  Facebook (@GlobalEngagementatOhioState)

• Office of International Affairs social media
  Facebook (@InternationalAffairsatOhioState)
  Twitter (@OSUGlobal)
  Instagram (@OSUGlobal)

• Join our 2021 new student Facebook group
  Facebook (New Ohio State International Students - 2021)

• Global Events at Ohio State app
  • Available on iOS and Android
DOWNLOAD THE GLOBAL EVENTS AT OHIO STATE APP

BE GLOBALLY ENGAGED.

Events
Opportunities and events hosted by the Office of International Affairs
Latest details and live updates

My Schedule
Ability to track events you want to attend
Capability to sync with your calendar
Reminders and notifications

Campus Resources
Important information for international students and scholars
Opportunities to be globally engaged at Ohio State

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

go.osu.edu/globalevents
Questions on getting involved?

- **Global Engagement team** for questions on orientation and your AU21 transition at global-engagement@osu.edu
- Visit [oia.osu.edu/global-engagement](http://oia.osu.edu/global-engagement)