Preparing for Your Departure

[Presenter]
Carry-on luggage

- A printed copy of your acceptance email to Ohio State
- Valid passport
- Valid U.S. visa
- Form I-20 or Form DS-2019
- SEVIS fee payment receipt, if applicable
- Proof of funding (financial documentation as listed on your Form I-20 or Form DS-2019)
- Official final transcripts and proof of high school graduation
- Any essential medications
- Valuables
Do not pack

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers will not allow you to bring these items into the country:

• Fresh fruit
• Produce
• Meat
• Prepared food
• Spices
• Plants
• Large sums of cash
Arriving at the U.S. port of entry

• When you arrive at your first stop in the U.S., you will need to go through U.S. Customs

• Make sure you are ready to present the following documents—do not pack them in your suitcase:
  – Passport with valid F-1 or J-1 visa
  – I-20/DS-2019
  – Printed copy of your admission letter
  – Financial documents
Arrival
Landing in Columbus, Ohio
Visit the Ohio State Airport Welcome Center located in the baggage claim area.
Transportation

• Meet at the Welcome Center for limited free transportation from John Glenn International Airport to The Ohio State University main campus

• Ohio State’s main campus is located less than 10 miles (16 km) from Port Columbus International Airport, and taxi service from the airport to campus is relatively quick (15 minutes) and inexpensive - $30 (207 RMB)
Housing

• Move-in day is Saturday, August 17, 2019

• For students with Ohio State housing contracts, on-campus early arrival housing is available starting Friday, August 2, 2019

• The cost for early arrival on-campus housing is $35 per day (242 RMB)
Arriving on campus
Immigration Check-in and Orientation
The Office of International Affairs encourages all students to arrive two – three weeks before the start of classes. Arriving early allows you:

- to have better course availability and selection
- allows time to complete pre-semester tasks and activities
- more time to learn to navigate campus and Columbus
- additional time to network with American and international students

If you have not registered online for your immigration check-in session please do so as soon as possible.

The deadline to make your reservation is June 22, 2019.
# Check-In & Orientation Dates

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Mandatory steps

• The Immigration Check-In and Orientation process includes:
  • In-person immigration check-in
  • Three-day orientation that includes:
    – Meeting campus partners and offices
    – Mandatory health screening
    – Course registration

• You will not be able to register for classes until you have completed the above steps
Immigration check-In

You must bring the following to your Immigration check-in appointment:

• Admission letter to Ohio State
• Current passport, with current U.S. visa
• I-94 (print from cbp.gov after entry to the U.S., or staff can print for you)
• Ohio State Form I-20 or Form DS-2019; **Note:** if you are transferring your SEVIS record from another school in the U.S., also bring your previous school's I-20/DS-2019
• Form I-20(s) or Form DS-2019(s) of any F-2 dependents
• Emergency contact information for someone in China
• You must have BuckeyePass activated on a mobile device prior that you have with you at Check-In
Mandatory Orientation

• One of the goals of orientation is to provide you with information on university requirements
  – These requirements include the mandatory health screening, placement tests, how to pay tuition and fees, and more

• In addition to helping you organize these required tasks, we also provide opportunities for you to make new friends and feel connected to the Ohio State community prior to the start of the semester
Helping you start to feel at home

- Orientation Leaders organize trips around campus and around Columbus, including
  - tours of the city and campus
  - the Columbus zoo
  - sporting events
  - dinner at local restaurants
  - grocery shopping trips and more
Events and activities

• On-going events will help you:
  – Learn about your new home in Columbus
  – Meet current international students
  – Meet American students
  – Get to know other new international students

• All of these trips are optional and are free or low cost, so please feel free to attend as many as you like
Recap

• Important tasks
• Action items
Recap of important tasks

- Friday, June 22: Deadline to register on-line for Immigration Check-In appointment
- Complete the online ESL Composition exam
- Complete the online math placement test
- Monday, July 29: Immigration Check-In begins
- Tuesday, August 13: Immigration Check-In ends
Recap of important tasks

• Friday, August 30: Tuition payment is due
  • This is a one time exception for first semester international students
  • Tuition is normally due one week prior to the start of the term

• Tuesday, August 13: Health insurance coverage begins
  – Consider purchasing interim insurance coverage if you will arrive before this date

• Saturday, August 17: Residence hall move-in day

• Tuesday, August 20: First day of autumn semester
Action items

• Activate your Ohio State email account
• Take math and ESL placement tests
• Register for an Immigration Check-In session
• Pay your I-901 SEVIS fee (fee increases as of June 24!)
• Apply for your U.S. student visa
• Confirm your travel arrangements
• Confirm your housing arrangements
Group Activity
How would you reply?

Directions:
1. Two students in each group should volunteer to read aloud ("act out") the scenario on your paper.
2. Discuss as a group how you would respond and why.
3. Do the same for the second scenario.
4. Lastly, we'll need volunteers to come to the front to act out the dialogue, **including your response**, for the whole group. Don't be shy! :)
Student Panel
Carmen Ohio

Oh come, let’s sing Ohio’s praise,
And songs to Alma Mater raise,
While our hearts, rebounding, thrill
With joy which death alone can still.
Summer’s heat or winter’s cold,
The seasons pass the years will roll.
Time and change will surely show
How firm thy friendship ... OHIO!
See you in Ohio! Go Bucks!