Pre-departure Guide 2013-2014
Welcome

This brochure is intended for the following types of international students:

- Bachelor's
- Master's
- PhD
- Professional
- Exchange Students (non-degree)

Dear Students,

The staff in International Student Advising and Services (ISAS) congratulates you on your admission to Oregon State University! This brochure contains important information you will need to know as you prepare for your journey to Oregon State and Corvallis, Oregon. Whether you are a newly-admitted freshman, transfer, post-baccalaureate, graduate or non-degree exchange student, we want to welcome you to Oregon State University. The next several pages include a variety of important information. Where relevant, please be sure to visit our web site at oregonstate.edu/international/atosu for the most up-to-date and detailed information.

See you soon,
The International Student Advising and Services Team

If you will enroll in General English, Academic English or a Pathway Program for your first term at OSU, please refer to the INTO OSU Pre-Departure Guide or go to blogs.oregonstate.edu/intoosu/student-services/pre-departure-guide.

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Connect with Us

International Student Advising and Services
Located in Heckart Lodge, International Student Advising and Services (ISAS) provides a wide range of programs and services for more than 2,300 international students on the OSU campus. The staff offers orientation and advising on topics including immigration and governmental regulations, scholarships and sponsorship, employment and practical training, cultural, personal and re-entry issues, and also serves as a resource for the community and the university on cross-cultural awareness and concerns.

INTO OSU
Located in the new International Living-Learning Center, INTO Oregon State University offers both general and academic English programs at all levels as well as a number of undergraduate and graduate pathway programs designed to better prepare international students aiming to pursue a degree at OSU. INTO OSU also facilitates an expanding array of trips, activities and services that enhance the experience of international students enrolled in its programs.

International Degree and Education Abroad (IDEA)/OUS Study Abroad
Located in Heckart Lodge, IDEA and OUS Study Abroad offer programs for students who wish to study, conduct research or participate in internships abroad. International exchange students are frequently assisted by these two offices. IDEA also oversees the International Degree Program, which is open to all undergraduate students in combination with a primary major. For more information, visit oregonstate.edu/international/studyabroad.

International Students of OSU (ISOSU)
Located in the International Resource Center in the Memorial Union, International Students of OSU (ISOSU) is a student-led organization which encompasses many cultural and regional student groups on campus. ISOSU provides international opportunities to the campus and Corvallis communities, and offers a great way to connect with international and domestic students. Visit oregonstate.edu/groups/isosu and click Affiliates for all ISOSU organizations.

Crossroads International
Crossroads International is a volunteer community organization that encourages global understanding through friendship between international students and local residents from Corvallis and the surrounding area. Crossroads offers a variety of programs for international students and their families. Women who come to the US on dependent visas may be interested in practicing English at the Crossroads Conversation School. Visit oregonstate.edu/international/crossroads.

Social Media

For new international students
Search “New2OSU-International”
OSU facebook.com/osubeavers
ISOSU facebook.com/isosuatoregonstate

OSU twitter.com/oregonstateuniv
Powered By Orange twitter.com/poweredbyorange

OSU youtube.com/user/oregonstateuniv
INTO OSU youtube.com/user/intotv
Getting Ready to Come to the US

OSU Email Account (ONID)
In order to complete many important steps in your preparations to come to OSU, you will need to set up your OSU Network Identification (ONID) computer account. You will need to know your OSU Student ID number to create your account. Carefully follow the instructions found at oregonstate.edu/helpdocs/onid/getting-started/sign-instructions. You will also be asked to create a General Access PIN (GAP) number. Be sure to record your OSU ID, ONID username, ONID password, and GAP in a safe place and bring them with you to the US. DO NOT FORGET THIS INFORMATION.

Checklist - All students

☑ As you prepare to join OSU:

☐ • Confirm your intent to attend OSU by completing the short survey found at infosu.oregonstate.edu/login.

☐ • Activate your ONID email account (instructions at oregonstate.edu/helpdocs/onid/getting-started/sign-instructions). Be sure to write down the GAP number, ONID username and password you create in a safe place and bring them with you to the US.

If you need an F-1 or J-1 visa (please refer to pages 6 & 7):

☐ • Review the visa application instructions on the website of the nearest US embassy

☐ • Pay the SEVIS I-901 Fee and print your receipt

☐ • Schedule your appointment and submit your visa application (Form DS-160)

☐ • Get your measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine if you have not done so already, and have your doctor sign the Immunization Documentation Form. (see page X) Send your scanned and attached Immunization Documentation Form via email to immunizations@oregonstate.edu or fax to 541-737-9665, AT LEAST TWO WEEKS BEFORE YOUR TERM START DATE. Please bring a copy of these documents with you to Orientation.

☐ • Make travel arrangements to arrive in Corvallis at least one day before the New International Student Orientation (REQUIRED)

☐ • Make an advance reservation with Hut Airport Shuttle if needed (see page 16)

☐ • Plan your housing arrangements. You can apply for on-campus housing at oregonstate.edu/uhds/apply. (see pages 12 & 13)

☐ • Bring enough cash in US dollars to cover expenses for your first few days, $200-$300

☐ • Bring a copy of ALL prescriptions for medicines, eyeglasses and contact lenses with you to the US, in English
Checklist - Undergraduate/MBA Degree-seeking students only

- If you will be enrolling in an Undergraduate or MBA Degree program, or an Undergraduate or Graduate Pathway program, you must provide the following documentation to the Office of International Admissions before you will be able to register for classes. You may submit these documents before arrival via mail or you may present them during Orientation.
  - Official Documents*: sealed official high school or university transcripts and final certificate/diploma/degree certificate
  - Official TOEFL score submitted online via ETS directly to OSU (OSU College code 4586)
  - Official results from other accepted English language tests
- To submit by mail:
  OSU Office of International Admissions
  1701 SW Western Blvd.
  Corvallis, OR. 97333 USA

*We define Official Documents as official, original transcripts, including graduation certificate, which are certified or attested by the appropriate school official in a sealed envelope and issued directly by the institution attended and/or government educational body. In cases where only a single original document is issued, we will accept copies of the original that are certified or attested and sealed by the appropriate school official.

Checklist - Undergraduate Degree-seeking Students Only
(Non-degree seeking students should refer to the enclosed letter)

- Pay the Advance Tuition Deposit ($200) online

- Register for START (academic advising and registration program) (FALL ONLY)
  - If you are currently in the US or will be in the US during the summer, register online for a START session in June, July or August
  - If you are currently outside the US and will be entering the US for the first time on an F-1 visa, additional information will be sent to you regarding an online START session and registration
  - Conditionally-admitted, exchange and graduate students do not need to register for START

- Request to have your official documents and test scores sent to the Office of International Admissions if still needed

Checklist - Graduate (Degree-seeking)

- Check the Graduate School website for Graduate School Orientation information (FALL ONLY)
- Check your Department’s website for orientation information
- Request to have your official documents and test scores sent to the Graduate School if still needed
### Getting a Student Visa

#### Get Your F-1 or J-1 Visa

You must have a valid passport in order to obtain a US visa. Your passport expiration date should be at least six months in the future at all times while you are living in the US.

Before visiting the US Consulate for your visa, please carefully read the instructions on the Certificate of Eligibility (I-20 for F-1s and DS-2019 for J-1s) issued to you for your studies at OSU. Students with an I-20 will apply for an F-1 student visa. Students with a DS-2019 will apply for a J-1 visa.

The US Government requires that international students pay a SEVIS I-901 fee based on the SEVIS ID number on your I-20 or DS-2019 when applying for an F-1 or J-1 visa. The fee must be paid prior to the visa interview at the US Consulate. This fee is in addition to the visa application fee.

For information about applying for an F-1 or J-1 visa, go to the website of your closest US Consulate or Embassy at usembassy.gov. You can also visit the US Department of State's websites:

- For F-1 students, go to travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types_1268.html.
- For J-1 students, go to j1visa.state.gov.

At the time of your visa interview, you will need to provide documents certifying the amounts and sources of financial support for your studies. Please keep your I-20 or DS-2019, SEVIS fee payment receipt and proof of financial support to present to a US immigration official at the Port of Entry.

#### How to Pay the SEVIS I-901 Fee

Students transferring from another US institution, or dependents applying for an F-2 or J-2 visa do not usually need to pay the SEVIS I-901 fee. For more information, visit: www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/faq.htm. To complete the process, you will need to be connected to a printer in order to print your fee payment receipt. You will also need the following information:

- Your SEVIS ID number: found above the bar code on the top right-hand side of your I-20 form (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1)
- F-1 OSU School Code: PO0214F00002000
- J-1 OSU Program Code: P-1-00480

To pay the SEVIS I901 fee:

1. Go to the SEVIS I-901 fee website, www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/ and complete the SEVIS Form I-901.
2. Pay the fee at least three business days before applying for your visa interview. You will need to pay with a credit/debit card.
3. PRINT YOUR PAYMENT RECEIPT. Your SEVIS I-901 fee receipt is required for your visa interview, so bring it with you to the embassy or consulate, as well as when you enter the US.

#### SEVIS Transfer Students

F-1 and J-1 visa holders coming to OSU from another US college, university or language school (other than INTO OSU) must complete an immigration transfer to OSU within the first two weeks of class. Failure to complete the SEVIS transfer process may result in a violation of your F-1 or J-1 status.

To initiate your SEVIS I-20 transfer, please refer to the “Transfer In” form enclosed with your admission packet. Please complete the first section and forward it to the international student advisor at your current or previous school. F-1 students must request the release no later than 60 days (30 days for J-1) following completion of your program of study or following the end of your authorization for Optional Practical Training (OPT) or Academic Training in the case of J-1.

If you plan to travel outside the US before beginning your first term at Oregon State, please indicate that you will need the OSU I-20 or DS-2019 for re-entry purposes. Important: Do not use your previous school’s I-20 or DS-2019 for re-entry into the US.
Getting a Student Visa continued

INTO OSU students
If you previously enrolled in INTO OSU’s Academic English or Pathways program, and now have gained admission to an OSU degree program, you must request a new OSU I-20 from ISAS that reflects your new OSU program of study and major to which you are admitted.

Bringing Dependents
For information about how to bring your spouse and/or children on an F-2 or J-2 dependent visa, visit oregonstate.edu/international/atous. Please note that F-2 visa holders are not allowed to work or pursue a degree program.

Visa Delays
If you are unable to obtain a visa before the start of the term for which you have been admitted, please contact OSU’s Office of International Admissions at intladmit@oregonstate.edu or the Graduate School at graduate.admissions@oregonstate.edu and request to defer your admission to a future term.

Questions?
Please contact an OSU International Student Advisor at ISAS.Advisor@oregonstate.edu or at +1-541-737-6310.
Immunization Requirements

**Immunizations**
The state of Oregon requires international students to provide proof of two (2) doses of measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine (MMR) (either combined in the MMR vaccine, or given as individual doses) before you can register for classes. **In order to avoid delays in your class registration, and possible Late Registration Fees, please complete and submit the Immunization Documentation Form (pg. 8-9) two weeks before your program start date.**

You and your doctor will need to complete the Immunization Documentation Form. It must be signed by your doctor and show:

- Two doses of MMR given on or after your first birthday, and 28 days apart  
-OR-

- One dose of MMR given within 30 days prior to your course start date (you can receive the second dose after you have arrived).

Please bring a copy of this form with you to the U.S.

Students must also complete the International Student Health Information Form. Please visit the Patient Portal or studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/international-students to complete this form. The website contains helpful information, links to required forms, translations of Student Health Services (SHS) information, and details about various policies and services at SHS.

If you do not bring or submit documentation of the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine (MMR), you will need to receive this immunization upon arrival, before you can register for classes. The cost is approximately $70 per two-shot series, but is often covered by insurance.

Please complete and submit these forms via the Patient Portal, or scanned and attached via email to immunizations@oregonstate.edu, or fax to +1-541-737-9665.

Or via mail:
Immunization Coordinator  
201 Plageman Building  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, OR 97331

**THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT THESE FORMS IS TWO WEEKS BEFORE YOUR COURSE START DATE. YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES UNTIL YOU HAVE SUBMITTED THE IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH HISTORY FORMS OR RECEIVED AN MMR VACCINE.**

**Patient Portal**
[studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/patient-portal](http://studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/patient-portal)

The Patient Portal feature allows new students to complete and submit the International Student Health Form online. Your username is your OSU ID number and your password is your birthdate (MM/DD/YYYY).

**Tuberculosis Screening**
Students from countries identified as high risk for Tuberculosis are required to complete a tuberculosis screening after arrival in the US. You will get more information about this process during Orientation. You do not need to submit any records in advance. If you are transferring from a US institution and have already completed a TB screening, you can have your records transferred to OSU. A list of countries and detailed information regarding the testing guidelines may be found at [studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/international-students](http://studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/international-students).
Health Insurance

Oregon State University requires international students be covered by health insurance which meets the U.S. Government visa requirements, State of Oregon requirements, and Oregon State University requirements. In most cases, students need to enroll in either the OSU International Student Health Insurance Plan or the Graduate Assistant Employee Plan (available to graduate students who hold assistantships). Enrollment deadlines and details about both plans, including the estimated cost per term, are available on the OSU Student Health Services Web site at studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/internationalplan.

In rare instances, students can be waived of the OSU insurance requirement if they can show proof of equivalent or greater health insurance coverage from a private insurer. This may include a sponsor’s insurance plan. Travel insurance policies are NOT accepted for waiver. To see if your alternate insurance will be acceptable, please download and carefully review the “International Insurance Waiver Requirements” at studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/internationalplan. If you would like to apply for the waiver, you must provide a complete copy of your health insurance plan in English with coverage amounts in US Dollars.

Travel Insurance
Travel insurance is recommended, but not required, for travel periods only. Travel insurance cannot be substituted for the OSU International Student Health Insurance.

If you have questions about health insurance, please contact the OSU Insurance Office at OSUStudentInsurance@oregonstate.edu.

Dependent Coverage
Health insurance coverage for dependent spouses and family members traveling with an international OSU student is available at an additional cost.

If you would like to enroll your family members for dependent coverage, please visit the Student Health Center after you have arrived to complete and submit enrollment forms by the end of the 3rd week of the term.

Prescriptions
Bring a copy of ALL prescriptions for medicines, eyeglasses, and contact lenses with you to the US. The prescriptions should be written in English. For more information on Health Insurance, Immunization Requirements, translated information about OSU’s Student Health Services, or other health and medical questions, please visit studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/international-students.

Smoke-Free Campus
Oregon State University is a smoke-free campus. OSU Student Health Services will work with students who would like support in quitting smoking.

To learn more about OSU’s Smoke-Free initiative, please visit oregonstate.edu/smokefree. For information about OSU’s free smoking cessation program, visit studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/tobacco-cessation.
Immunization Documentation Form

All international students are required to show proof of immunization against Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR). Students cannot register for classes until this requirement has been completed. YOU MUST ATTACH PHOTOCOPIES OF YOUR IMMUNIZATION RECORDS, OR HAVE YOUR DOCTOR/CLINIC SIGN/STAMP THIS FORM. Complete and submit these forms via:

**Patient Portal**
studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/patient-portal

**Email**
immunizations@oregonstate.edu

**Fax**
+1-541-737-9665

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**Proof of MMR - please select one of the following three options**

Your name:__________________________________________

Student ID#:______________________________

Dates of MMR vaccinations
2 doses required, on/after your first birthday and 28 days apart

Dose 1_____ /_____ /_____     Dose 2_____ /_____ /_____

1) ☐ I have attached copies of my immunization records reflecting the dates above.

-OR-

2) ☐ My health care provider has signed below, officiating the dates above.

_______________________________________________   ____________
Official health care provider signature or stamp                                          Date

-OR-

3) Lab tests (titers) may be substituted as proof of immunity in lieu of vaccinations.

COPYIES OF LAB WORK MUST BE ATTACHED.

☐ I have attached a copy of my titer results.

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Facebook: Search “New2OSU-International”
OTHER IMMUNIZATION HISTORY: Accurate immunization history is vital for effective care and treatment.

Please provide as much immunization information as possible!

MM DD YYYY is the proper format for indicated dates on this page. Two digits should be indicated for the month (MM) and day (DD). Four digits should be indicated for the year (YYYY).

Example: If your birthdate is July 5th, 1984:

Dose 1 \[07/05/1984\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Immunization</th>
<th>Date 1</th>
<th>Date 2</th>
<th>Date 3</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polio</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hepatitis A</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 2</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
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<td>Dose 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 2</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twinrix (Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B combined)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Varicella (Chicken Pox)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>OR date of disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tetanus-Diphtheria (Td)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date childhood series completed:</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>most recent booster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussis (Tdap)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Meningococcal</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 1</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HPV</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 1</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Exemptions:

☐ I was born before January 1, 1957 (automatic exemption from MMR requirement, though a completed health form is still required).

☐ Medical or religious waiver requested: you must come to Student Health Services to sign a waiver with a SHS clinician in order to receive a waiver.
Plan Your Housing

There are many options for long-term housing in Corvallis, both on and off campus. Apply ahead of time if you plan to live on campus. If you do not want to live on campus you are responsible for securing a place to live. We suggest arriving in Corvallis up to 30 days early with temporary housing arrangements already made.

On-Campus Housing
If you wish to live in an OSU residence hall (dormitory), please refer to oregonstate.edu/uhds to gain valuable information regarding housing and dining options at Oregon State University.

Starting fall term 2013, first-year students who enroll at OSU within one year of high school graduation, regardless of class standing, must live on campus for the full academic year (fall, winter and spring terms).

Be sure to complete your online application as soon as possible at oregonstate.edu/uhds/apply.

If requested, University Housing and Dining Services (UHDS) staff make an intentional effort to assign international students with an American roommate. After you apply and have selected your room, you should receive an email to your ONID account from UHDS with your hall and room assignment. You may also check your MyUHDS account to see your assignment information.

The date you are able to move into your residence hall will also be sent to your ONID email account. The move-in date is usually one-to-two days before your orientation start date. If you arrive before your assigned move-in date, you will need to make temporary arrangements to stay in a hotel until you can move into the residence hall. In rare cases, early check-in to your room is available for an additional daily fee.

Dining on Campus
When you reserve your accommodations, you will also select a meal plan. The cash value of your meal plan will be loaded onto your OSU ID card. You will then use your OSU ID card as a debit card to pay for meals. OSU has three main dining centers, as well as many convenience stores, coffee shops, and other cafes around campus. Remember to always bring your OSU ID card with you and use it to pay each time you dine. Additionally, residence halls have shared kitchens, which allow you to cook what you want - for yourself or with friends.

Please direct all questions about on-campus housing or dining to UHDS at +1-541-737-4771, UHDS@oregonstate.edu or oregonstate.edu/uhds.

OSU Homestay Program
UHDS also offers homestays for new international students, for one or more terms, with hosts in the community. The Homestay Application Form can be found at oregonstate.edu/uhds/homestay-student-information. For more information, contact the OSU Homestay Program Coordinator at homestay@oregonstate.edu.
Plan Your Housing

Off-Campus Housing

If you want to rent an apartment or house, you should arrive one-to-two weeks before your program start date. Off-campus housing in Corvallis is very limited due to a recent increase in the number of students attending OSU. Please plan ahead. Be careful about paying for housing before you see it. Here are some helpful resources for finding off-campus housing:

- Craigslist corvallis.craigslist.org
- Corvallis newspaper gazettetimes.com/admarket/rentals
- The Daily Barometer’s Corvallis Area Renter’s Guide dailybarometer.com/renter-s-guide

More housing information is available on the International Programs page of the OSU website at oregonstate.edu/international/atosu/resources/housing.

If you plan to live off campus, bring enough money to cover the cost of making all the necessary arrangements. This could include first and last months’ rent, security deposit, utility deposits for gas, electric and telephone, and the first month’s utility bills. These deposits and rent can cost anywhere from $1,500 to $2,000 or more. There may also be expenses for household items (furniture, kitchen appliances, etc.). In addition, you should budget for a hotel and other temporary housing for at least your first week in Corvallis.

If you live too far from campus to walk, it’s free to ride the city bus!

Short-term Housing

If you will need a temporary place to stay once you arrive in Corvallis, it is best to make reservations for short term housing before you arrive. Your options include:

Three-day homestay: If you are interested in staying with a Corvallis family for your first three nights, complete a homestay application and submit it to Crossroads International at crossroads.homestay@gmail.com. Applications and deadlines can be found online at oregonstate.edu/international/crossroads/programs. Fall term applications are usually due Aug. 1, but check the website for details.

Corvallis has several hotels within 8 kilometers (5 miles) of the OSU campus. You can contact the hotel by phone or on the internet and make a reservation using a credit card. When you make a reservation, ask about possible weekly discounts and tell them you are an OSU student. Many hotels require you to be at least 18 years old to rent a room.

- Hilton Garden Inn (closest to OSU) Tel: 541-752-5000 hiltongardeninn1.hilton.com
- Holiday Inn Express Tel: 541-752-8088 hiexpress.com
- Super 8 Tel: 541-758-8088 super8.com
- Towne House (close to OSU) Tel: 541-753-4496 townehouse.mfbiz.com
- Super 8 407 NW 2nd Street super8.com
- Holiday Inn Express 781 NE 2nd Street hiexpress.com

Additional short-term housing options include:
- Corvallis iHouse corvallisihouse.com
- The GEM housingnorthwest.org/studenthousing/osu
- Corvallis Visitors Bureau visitcorvallis.com

Visit Oregon State University online at oregonstate.edu!
What to Pack

Weather
Summer and fall in Oregon are generally sunny and warm. It can get hot during the day (24-32°C) but cools down in the evening (10-15°C). Winter and spring bring lots of rain, and occasionally snow. Temperatures range between 10°C and -1°C. It is very important to have a good raincoat and an umbrella. You can purchase these items after you arrive.

Dress
Most students are Oregon State University dress very casually. There is no official dress code.

Food
There are opportunities to cook for friends in the residence halls and for special events on campus. Many spices and food items from other countries can be found in Corvallis, but be sure to bring recipes with you.

Cultural Items
There are many wonderful opportunities for international students to share their culture on campus during festivals and special events such as fashion shows, international dinners, cultural exhibits, and talent shows. Please consider bringing your national dress, or other clothes associated with a hobby or sport you enjoy in your home country. (For example: martial arts attire, costume for national dances, soccer uniform or other sports team uniform, clothing worn for formal or religious ceremonies, etc.) You may also wish to bring items of cultural interest, such as photos, books, souvenirs, recorded music, and musical instruments.

Transferring Money
Some countries have strict rules about transferring money to the United States. Be sure that you have made the necessary arrangements with your government and familiarized yourself with your bank’s procedures for transferring funds. It is a good idea to transfer enough money to cover expenses for one term in addition to the cost of tuition. You should have access to at least $1,000 or more.

What to Carry on the Plane
• Your Pre-departure Guide!
• Valid passport and visa
• I-20 and DS-2019 form
• All papers from the Admissions Office
• Evidence of funding for your tuition fees and living costs, including sponsor letter if appropriate
• Enough money for the first few weeks
• Health forms and immunization documentation
• Any insurance documents
• Any valuable items
• A copy of all prescriptions for medicines, eyeglasses, and contact lenses, written in English
• Do not bring any sharp objects, such as scissors or a penknife, or liquids or gels as these will be confiscated by airport security
Arriving in the US

Let Us Know You’re Coming
Please confirm your intent to attend OSU by completing the short survey found at infosu.oregonstate.edu/login (requires your OSU ID and date of birth indicated as MMDDYY, or your ONID username and password).

When booking your flights please remember you should arrive in Corvallis at least one day before the start date printed on your I-20. Orientation begins at 8:00am.

Entering the US
As an F-1 student, you are allowed to enter the US no earlier than 30 days before the program start date listed on item #5 of your I-20 or box #3 on your DS-2019. Be sure to have the following documents with you on the plane and ready to present at the US Port of Entry:

- Original I-20
- Valid passport
- F-1 or J-1 visa
- DS-2019
- SEVIS I-901 Fee payment receipt
- Documentation of finances for your first year of studies

For more information about preparing to enter the US, visit studyinthestates.dhs.gov/students/arriving.

Questions?
Please contact an OSU International Student Advisor at ISAS.Advisor@oregonstate.edu or at +1-541-737-6310.

Customs & Immigration

Form I-94
You may receive Form I-94 (below) or similar official document to complete during your flight. In order to enter the US as a student, you must complete the form provided to you, and present it to the immigration official when you enter the US. The immigration official will stamp your form and/or your passport with your type of visa status. DO NOT LOSE THIS FORM. We will make copies of the Form I-94 and/or passport stamps at the Immigration Document Check-in and you may need it to leave the country.

US Customs Declaration Form
You will also receive the US Customs Declaration Form (below) to complete during your flight. You must complete this form and present it to the immigration official when you enter the US. The immigration official will stamp it and return it to you. You will then present it to the customs official at a separate checkpoint, so DO NOT LOSE THIS FORM. If you are traveling with dependents, you will need to complete only one of these forms.
Arriving in Oregon

Arriving in Oregon
The Portland International Airport (PDX) in Portland, Oregon, is the nearest international port of entry to Oregon State University. Information about PDX, including maps, can be found online at flypdx.com.

Airport Transportation
Portland International Airport (PDX) is located about 145 km from Corvallis. HUT Airport Shuttle makes daily trips from Portland to Corvallis, with drop-offs at the OSU Memorial Union and Hilton Garden Inn hotel near campus. The one-way student fare is $44 (fees may change). Advance reservations are required. Contact HUT Airport Shuttle by phone at 541-926-2525 or make a reservation online at hutshuttle.com.

Try to challenge yourself and try to do new things, even if it looks hard or even if you are nervous.

Jong-Min Kim, South Korea
Orientation

It is helpful for our planning purposes if you let us know of your intent to attend Oregon State University. Please complete the short survey found at infosu.oregonstate.edu/login (requires your OSU ID and date of birth indicated as MMDDYY or your ONID username and password).

ALL INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION before the OSU term begins. This includes students transferring to OSU from other schools in the US as well as students changing from INTO OSU to OSU.

All new students should plan to arrive in Corvallis the week before the start of classes in order to participate in the mandatory International Student Orientation.

The International Student Orientation provides specific information about F-1 or J-1 immigration regulations, including registration requirements, travel, employment, health insurance requirements, cultural adjustment, and public safety. Refer to the Web site at oregonstate.edu/international/atosu for detailed information regarding orientation. To cover the cost of the International Student Orientation, an orientation fee is automatically charged to your OSU student account during your first term at OSU.

As part of the International Student Orientation, you are required to attend the Immigration Document Check-In. Please bring photocopies of the documents listed below for yourself and your dependents:

- I-20 or DS-2019 form showing the port of entry stamp
- ID page in your passport showing name and current expiration date
- Your US visa stamp
- The front and back of your I-94 Arrival/Departure Document (usually stapled in your passport once you arrive in US)
- Any previous I-20 or DS-2019 (if you are transferring from another US school)

If you do not attend the International Student Orientation AND the Immigration Document Check-In, a hold will be placed on your student record that prevents you from registering for classes in the future until you meet this requirement.
Registration

Most international students will be able to complete some steps to prepare to study at OSU while you are still in your home country. In some cases you will be able to register for your OSU classes before you arrive in Corvallis. Please find your student type below for more information about registering for classes at OSU.

**Undergraduate Students**

New undergraduate students are required to complete the Advance Tuition Deposit (ATD) form and pay the Advance Tuition Deposit of $200. Deposits for fall terms are not refundable. For all other terms, the deposit is refundable up to three weeks before the term begins.

The ATD applies to all terms and allows us to create your student account and make plans for your arrival. When you arrive on campus, your $200 deposit can be applied to your tuition or any account balance.

There are four steps that fully-admitted undergraduate international students must complete in order to register for OSU classes. These are the steps that comprise the START program.

1. OSU Introduction
2. Academic Orientation by college/major
3. Advising session with Academic Adviser
4. Registration

If you are outside the US, you will receive instructions by email as to how you can participate in a START session remotely. If you are currently in the US, we encourage you to register for one of the START sessions that will take place on campus during the summer.

**Undergraduate Academic Transfers**

If you have studied previously at a college or university, be sure to submit your official transcripts and pay the Advance Tuition Deposit. Upon receipt of both items, OSU’s Office of International Admissions will begin the review of your transcripts for credit transfer. Students are generally notified of their advance standing via e-mail within four to eight weeks. For more information about the transfer credit process, go to [oregonstate.edu/admissions/transfer/advstanding.html](http://oregonstate.edu/admissions/transfer/advstanding.html).

**Undergraduate Registration Requirements**

Undergraduate students (bachelor’s, post-baccalaureate and non-degree undergraduates) must be enrolled for and complete a minimum of 12 credits each term.

**Graduate Students**

Graduate students are not required to pay the ATD nor sign up for a START session. New graduate students must report to their Graduate Department and meet with their Graduate Advisor before registering for their first term.

**Graduate Registration Requirements**

Graduate students (master’s, doctorate and non-degree graduates) must register for and complete a minimum of 9 credits each term. Graduate students who have a graduate assistantship must register for 12 credits during the academic year (some departments require more).

**Exchange Students**

Exchange students are not required to pay the ATD nor sign up for a START session. New Exchange students...
Registration continued

should contact the academic advisor(s) in your department(s) of interest for advising and registration. Visit catalog.oregonstate.edu/ChapterDetail.aspx?key=369.

Conditional Admission Program (CAP) Students Undergraduate and Graduate

The Conditional Admission Program (CAP) is for students who have not yet met OSU’s English language requirements. The CAP Coordinator will send you additional information that describes the Conditional Admission Orientation, tuition and fees, and important dates. For questions, contact the CAP Coordinator at Marybeth.Trevino@oregonstate.edu.

CAP students will receive advising and registration instructions at the CAP Orientation. Please note that CAP Orientation begins before International Student Orientation for fall term. See back of Pre-Departure Guide or I-20 for start dates.

Registration Handbook
oregonstate.edu/registrar/PDF/OSURegistrationInformationHandbook2011-2012.pdf

OSU Course Catalog
catalog.oregonstate.edu

Schedule of Classes Searcher
catalog.oregonstate.edu/SOCSearcher.aspx

Tuition, Fees and Payment Information
Within 1-2 days after you successfully register for your first term at Oregon State, you will receive an electronic statement showing the cost of tuition and fees for your first term, including the cost of health insurance. Payment of tuition and fees can be made by credit card, bank draft, traveler’s checks or bank wire to OSU’s Business Affairs Office and should be paid within 30 days of the beginning of classes. Please note that credit card payments involve a $40 surcharge. Any unpaid balance remaining after the first of each month is subject to an interest charge of one percent per month. For detailed tuition and fees, visit oregonstate.edu/fa/businessaffairs/studentfinance/tuition/tuition_info.
Getting Settled in Corvallis

Welcome Desk at the International Living-Learning Center
Once you reach the OSU campus, be sure to drop by the Welcome Desk in the International Living-Learning Center to learn more about the many services and opportunities available to you at Oregon State! In addition to meeting other new international students, you can learn about local transportation, entertainment, roommates, banking, clubs and organizations, housing, phone services, groceries, weekend activities, places of worship, restaurants, etc.

Bank Accounts
When you arrive in Corvallis, you will need to open a checking and/or savings account(s) with a bank. You will receive information about local banks during Orientation. You usually need two pieces of picture ID (passport and student ID card), your local mailing address, and money to open an account. More information is available on the International Programs page of the OSU website at oregonstate.edu/international/atosu/resources/banking.

Cash and Credit/Debit Cards
The currency in the United States is the US Dollar (US $). It is divided into one hundred cents (100 cents). Bills are issued in $100, $50, $20, $10, $5, and $1. Coins are called a quarter (25 cents), a dime (10 cents), a nickel (5 cents), and a penny (1 cent). You should not carry large amounts of cash with you. However, plan to carry some smaller bills and change with you when you first arrive in the US for food, phone calls, and other inexpensive purchases.

In the US, the most widely accepted credit cards are Visa and MasterCard. It is not easy for international students to obtain credit cards in the US. It is best to apply for a credit card in your home country. If you would like to take cash from your credit or debit account, you can use a Plus, Cirrus, Interlink, or Star Network bank card to make a cash withdrawal. ATMs are located in the airport, on the OSU campus, and around Corvallis.

Cell Phones
If you would like to have a cell phone while living in the US, Corvallis hosts all four major providers (AT&T, Verizon, T-Mobile, and Sprint). There are two major options in the US cell phone industry: long-term contract and pre-paid, or pay-as-you-go, phones. For a monthly service plan, cell phone companies require a new customer to sign a 2-year service agreement. Penalty charges apply if you cancel your contract before the 2-year period has expired. Expensive deposits are often required of international students, but this money will be refunded. You can choose from a wide variety of calling plans, costing from around $30-$100 per month. If you do not want to sign a 2-year contract, you have a choice of pre-paid or pay-as-you-go plans. You will receive a handout with more information about buying a cell phone and all the cell phone stores in Corvallis after you arrive.

I think students should connect with their Student Association when they arrive. When I came here, I bought a lot of new things and spent a lot of money [on household items]. It was expensive. The Student Associations can help. They have things you can buy for a lower price, especially if you are staying here short term. They can also help you find an apartment if you want to live off campus.

Debra Ya-Chieh Tseng, Taiwan

Facebook: Search “New2OSU-International”
Getting Settled in Corvallis continued

Driving
To drive a car in the US, you will need to get a US Driver’s License. You must pass a written knowledge test of US driving laws in English, and a driving test. You will also have to wait until after you are enrolled in your classes and can provide proof of enrollment to the US government before you will be able to get a driver’s license. More information about how to obtain a license will be provided after you arrive and is available at oregonstate.edu/international/atosu/resources/transportation/cars.

Computers and Internet Access
If you would like to use the internet from your room in the residence hall, you will need your own computer and an Ethernet cable. There is ample access to computer labs on campus, including a 24-hour lab. All internet access on campus is free. Many locations have wireless internet access available, including the Memorial Union (student union building) and the library, for students who would like to use WiFi from their laptops on campus.

Appliances
For appliances, phones, and other electrical items like computers or laptops, please be advised that electrical outlets in the US are 110-volts AC, which may be different from your home country. You can purchase a plug adapter which will allow you to plug in your electronics from home. Items like laptop computers and digital camera chargers often have a built-in voltage adapter and will only need a plug adapter to work properly abroad. We recommend purchasing all other necessary appliances and electronics after you arrive. Most appliances (like rice cookers or electric teapots) are not allowed in residence hall bedrooms and are provided for free in the residence hall kitchens.

Keeping in contact with home
When you arrive in the US you will have traveled a long way from home and although this will be an exciting time, please do remember that your family and friends may worry about you. Remember to contact them and let them know that you are safe!

Skype is a free computer program that allows you to use your computer like a phone and place international calls to other Skype users for free. Depending on your computer, web cameras are also supported. Please go to skype.com for more information and to download for free.
Employment

Employment
Degree-seeking students on an F-1 visa are eligible to work on campus up to 20 hours per week while the term is in session, and up to 40 hours per week between terms and during summer breaks. Students on a J-1 visa may also work on campus once they receive an authorization letter from ISAS. Off-campus employment requires authorization and is approved only under specific conditions. Always consult an international student advisor before accepting any off-campus employment. Dependents on an F-2 visa and conditionally admitted (CAP) students are not eligible for employment.

On-Campus Jobs
Beaver JobNet is an online list of job openings on campus as well as off campus. This site requires your ONID username and password. Examples of on-campus jobs include working in a computer lab, for University Housing and Dining Services or at OSU’s Dixon Recreation Center.

Note: International students are ineligible for positions listed as “work study.”

Social Security Number
Students who receive an offer for on-campus employment will need to apply for a social security number at the local Social Security Administration office in Albany, Oregon (about 18 km from Corvallis). Once you have a written offer of employment, you will need to request a Social Security letter from International Student Advising and Services (ISAS). Before requesting this letter, be sure to register full-time for your first term at OSU. Additional information about applying for a Social Security number is provided during the International Student Orientation and is available in the ISAS office or at oregonstate.edu/international/atosu.

Please note that you may only be issued a Social Security Number if you have an on-campus employment offer. Students without an employment offer are ineligible to receive a Social Security Number.
Corvallis Safety Information
Corvallis and Oregon State University are, for the most part, very safe and welcoming places. However, it is important to be aware of your surroundings and take steps to help ensure the safety of your property and yourself. By far the most common crime in Corvallis is theft. Follow these steps to prevent thieves from taking advantage of your unprotected property:

- Lock up your bicycle whenever you leave it unattended.
- Do not leave items unattended in the library. Even textbooks may be stolen, as thieves hope to sell the books for cash.
- Always keep your OSU ID card on you and safe, as a thief could use the money attached to the card to make purchases on campus.
- Always lock the door to your house, apartment, or dorm room when you leave. It is also a good idea to lock your windows.
- Always lock your car when you are not using it. Don’t leave valuable items in your car.
- Don’t keep a lot of cash on you or in your apartment or dorm room. Keep it in the bank until you need it.
- At night, use well-lit and well-traveled routes. Travel with a friend or in a group.
- SafeRide is a free service for all OSU students that provides transportation to, from, or around campus. Call 541-737-5000 to schedule a ride.
- Blue Light Emergency Phones are placed around campus for quick communication with the Department of Public Safety.
- The Department of Public Safety can provide additional services such as personal escorts, vehicle jump-starts, and building access assistance.
- Report any suspicious activity to The Department of Public Safety immediately.

Medical Services in Corvallis
The most common way to see a doctor in the US is by making an appointment (see open hours below). However, sometimes medical assistance is needed urgently, without an appointment or outside of business hours. Here are some resources for urgent medical attention:

- **OSU Plageman Student Health Center (PSHC)**
  - Located on campus. General services to students only.
  - **Phone:** 541-737-9355
  - **Hours:** Monday – Friday 9:00 am-6:00 pm, Saturday 10:00 am-3:00 pm, Sunday CLOSED
  - **After-hours Urgent Medical Hotline:** 1-800-607-5501

- **Good Samaritan Hospital**
  - Provides general and emergency care to everyone
  - **Location:** 3600 NW Samaritan Drive
  - **Phone (Information):** 541-757-5111,
  - **Phone (Emergency):** 541-757-5021
  - **Hours:** Emergency services available 24 hours a day, seven days a week

- **Corvallis Clinic**
  - Provides general care to everyone.
  - **Location:** 3680 NW Samaritan Drive
  - **Phone:** 541-754-1150
  - **Hours:** Monday–Friday 8:00 am-5:00 pm

Medical Emergencies
For medical emergencies outside of the times posted above, you have the following options:

- Good Samaritan Hospital Emergency Room is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Call 9-1-1 for medical dispatch. An ambulance will come get you anywhere and evaluate you or take you to a hospital.
- You can also call the OSU Campus Police at 541-737-7000 and they will come to you if you’re on campus.
Campus Map & Key Locations

- Memorial Union (MU)
- Milne Computing Center (MCC)
- Valley Library (VLib)
- Kerr Administration Building (KAd)
- INTO OSU & International Living-Learning Center (ILLC)
- Hilton Garden Inn/Airport Shuttle Stop
- Reser Stadium (Resr)
- Dixon Recreation Center (DxRC)
- International Student Advising & Services (HkLg)
- Plageman Student Health Center (PSHC)
- Valley Library (VLib)
- Milne Computing Center (MCC)

Facebook: Search “New2OSU-International”
Useful Numbers & Resources

Oregon State University Information
OSU Information
541-737-1000
oregonstate.edu

OSU Student Health Center
541-737-2721
Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm

Emergencies
Oregon State University Campus Police
Non-emergency: 541-737-3010
Emergency: 541-737-7000

Emergency Police, Fire and Ambulance Services (anywhere in the US)
911

Useful Resources
studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/internationalstudents
Find information here about required immunizations, health insurance, getting medical treatment on campus, and an overview of Student Health Services at OSU.

oregonstate.edu/international ATOSU/resources
This website provides helpful information about OSU and Corvallis, adjusting to life in the US, cultural organizations at OSU and more.

oregonstate.edu/sli/isosu
International Students of Oregon State University (ISOSU) is a student-run group dedicated to creating a community that enhances and influences the international student experience.

visitcorvallis.com
This is Corvallis’ tourism website. You can learn a lot about our town, things to do, places to eat and local events here.

Social Media

facebook
For new international students
Search “New2OSU-International”
OSU
facebook.com/osateavers
ISOSU
Search “ISOSU At Oregon State”

twitter
OSU
twitter.com/osateavers
Powered By Orange
twitter.com/poweredbyorange

YouTube
OSU
youtube.com/user/osateavers
INTO OSU
youtube.com/user/intotv
**Important Dates**

**Fall 2013**
- **Sept. 2**: Deadline to confirm Intent to Attend OSU
- **Sept. 20**: Conditional Admission Program Orientation
- **Sept. 22**: On-campus housing move-in date
- **Sept. 23-27**: International Student Orientation & Immigration Document Check-in (REQUIRED)
- **Sept. 30**: First day of classes

**Winter 2014**
- **Dec. 16**: Deadline to confirm Intent to Attend OSU
- **Jan. 1**: On-campus housing move-in date
- **Jan. 2**: International Student Orientation & Immigration Document Check-in (REQUIRED)
- **Jan. 6**: First day of classes

**Spring 2014**
- **Mar. 10**: Deadline to confirm Intent to Attend OSU
- **Mar. 26**: On-campus housing move-in date
- **Mar. 27**: International Student Orientation & Immigration Document Check-in (REQUIRED)
- **Mar. 31**: First day of classes

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**For new international students**

Search "New2OSU-International"

OSU
facebook.com/osubeavers

ISOSU
Search "ISOSU At Oregon State"

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**International Programs** International Student Advising and Services

Oregon State University
Heckart Lodge
2900 SW Jefferson Way
Corvallis, OR 97331
USA

T: +1 541 737 6310
F: +1 541 737 6226
oregonstate.edu/international/atosu