

WELCOME!

On behalf of the Office of International Students and Scholars (ISS), congratulations on being accepted to Purdue University. We are glad you have chosen Purdue as the institution to continue your education.

TRAVEL TO PURDUE

With this mailing you are receiving a Form I-20 (F-1 students) or a Form DS-2019 (J-1 students) unless you have indicated that another agency will provide the Form DS-2019 for you. Students who have Form I-20 or Form DS-2019 for initial entry to the U.S. must pay the \$100 SEVIS fee. See the attached information sheet for details. After paying the SEVIS fee, take the SEVIS receipt, the Form I-20 or Form DS-2019, valid passport, and evidence of financial support to the nearest U.S. Embassy or U.S. Consulate to apply for an F-1 visa with Form I-20 or a J-1 visa with Form DS-2019. When you depart for the U.S. be sure to carry these documents with you. You should also carry original financial documents as proof to support the funding listed on your Form I-20 or Form DS-2019. A United States immigration officer will review these items at your U.S. city of arrival.

Note: Immigration law limits arrival into the U.S. to no more than 30 days prior to the report date listed on the Form I-20 or Form DS-2019.

Please plan your trip to Purdue so that you will be able to enter the U.S. on or before August 13, 2009. Also, you should be aware that there are a number of cities in the United States named Lafayette. Therefore, be certain your travel arrangements are made to Lafayette or West Lafayette, Indiana, U.S.A.

Purdue is located over 120 miles (202 km) from Chicago, Illinois, and 300 miles (483 km) from Detroit, Michigan. If you plan to travel through Chicago, you should plan on either obtaining a connecting flight to Indianapolis, Indiana, or reserving a seat on the Express Air Coach mini-van service between Chicago O'Hare airport and the Purdue campus. The Express Air Coach webpage for making reservations is: <http://www.expressaircoach.com/> 765-743-3120. There is currently no direct bus, train, or mini-van service from Detroit to the Purdue campus. When flying to Indianapolis, Indiana, we recommend making reservations with the Lafayette Limo, a mini-van service to Purdue University. The approximate cost is \$25.00. The Lafayette Limo leaves the Indianapolis Airport at the following times:

Morning: 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 A.M.
Afternoon: 12:30, 2:30, 4:30 P.M.
Evening: 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 P.M.

The trip to the Purdue Memorial Union takes about 1 1/2 hours. Please inform the limo driver of your destination. You may contact the Lafayette Limo at:

Phone: 765-497-3828 Fax: 765-497-4106
Web Site: www.lafayettelimo.com

ARRIVAL PICK-UP SERVICE

Our office will have representatives available to meet you at the Lafayette Greyhound Bus Station, Lafayette Train Station, Purdue Memorial Union (drop-off site on Purdue Campus for the Lafayette Limo Service from the Indianapolis Airport) and the Purdue airport (drop-off site on Purdue campus for the Express Air Coach service from Chicago's O'Hare airport) on the following days listed below:

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight
Monday, August 10, 2009
Tuesday, August 11, 2009
Wednesday, August 12, 2009

To be met by a representative from our office during these dates and times, be sure to go online to this website: <http://www.iss.purdue.edu/Admission/pickupform.cfm>. Complete the form online and submit it electronically as instructed. **The Form must be submitted on or before Saturday, August 1, 2009. If you arrive on a day or time other than the ones listed above, please be advised that our office will not be able to provide pick-up service.** You may contact one of the student groups listed at the end of this brochure in the section entitled, "International Student Groups," to see if they will meet you.

HOUSING

Both on-campus and off-campus housing options are available. You should receive information about on-campus housing options from the Office of Residence Halls or the Graduate (Grad) House. Regardless of where you decide to live, make every effort to have your housing arrangements finalized prior to your arrival, including temporary housing if necessary! For questions regarding on-campus-housing options you may contact one of the following offices:

Hawkins Grad House Tel: 765-494-1000
Email: ghapp@purdue.edu Fax: 765-494-0718

Purdue Village Housing Tel: 765-494-2090
Email: pvill@purdue.edu Fax: 765-494-8687

If you choose to live off-campus, be aware that you will need to arrange your own housing prior to or after arrival and that your options will be very limited if you arrive just before school starts. For off campus housing information or a copy of, "Your Home off Campus" contact:

Dean of Students, Off-Campus Housing Services
Schleman Hall of Student Services
475 Stadium Mall Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2050
Email: offcampushousing@purdue.edu Phone: 765-494-7663
Website: <http://www.purdue.edu/ODOS/och/ochousing.htm>

HEALTH INSURANCE

You (and your family, should they travel with you) will be required to carry health insurance while you are a student at Purdue. Insurance coverage must begin with your program entry date and coverage must be continuous for the duration of your academic studies at Purdue. U.S. federal law specifically requires minimum health insurance coverage for all J-1 students and their J-2 dependents. Furthermore, Purdue University requires all nonimmigrant international students and family members, including F-1 and F-2 dependents, to carry health insurance.

Purdue University requires all international students to purchase the University-sponsored health insurance plan unless their insurance falls into one of the following three categories:

Category # 1 - Government sponsored students whose government purchases insurance for the students, and does not just supply funds to purchase an insurance plan of their choice.

Category # 2 - Students employed by a US based employer or the dependent of a US-based employee with employer based health insurance.

Category #3 - Students who are participants in an official study abroad exchange (exchange students).

Please note: international graduate students with benefit-eligible graduate staff appointments (benefit-eligible TA or RA positions) will continue to have the Purdue University Graduate Staff Health Insurance option.

Individual and private insurance companies will no longer qualify for a waiver. For those in the categories described above who may be eligible for the waiver, supporting documents must be submitted by the stated deadline each semester. *Please note: Failure to enroll in the Student Health Insurance plan or to submit a waiver by*

the compliance deadline will result in loss of the waiver option and cancellation of classes.

If you are in one of the three categories eligible for a waiver, please note the minimum criteria for granting a waiver are as follows:

- *1. Medical benefits of at least \$50,000 per accident or illness.
- *2. Repatriation of remains in the amount of \$7,500.
- *3. Medical evacuation coverage in the amount of \$10,000.
- *4. Annual deductible not to exceed \$500 per illness per person.
5. The insurance carrier must carry and maintain one of the following ratings:
 - a. A.M. Best Rating of "A-" or better.
 - b. Insurance Solvency Intl., Ltd. (ISI) rating of "A-" or better.
 - c. Standard and Poor's Claims paying ability rating of "A-" or better.
 - d. Weiss Research, Inc. rating of "B+" or better.
 - e. Backed by the full faith and credit of the home government.

** Amounts must be in US dollars and are the minimal amounts required at the time a waiver request is reviewed at the University.*

Again, the waiver option is *only* available to individuals in one of the three categories noted in the previous paragraphs. There is no monetary profit for the University if a student purchases the University plan. The benefit is having the assurance all international students have an adequate health insurance plan and are protected from huge financial burdens.

For more information please contact the Student Insurance Representative at the Purdue University Student Health Center (PUSH), Room 340. Telephone: 765-496-3998, FAX: 765-496-2524 or visit their website at:

<https://www.purdue.edu/push/>

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Be sure you arrive at Purdue with sufficient U.S. dollars. To begin with, you will need to purchase health insurance. If you have been awarded a graduate assistantship or fellowship, you will have to pay approximately \$460.00 (approx. \$4,700.00 for those enrolling in MS programs in Management, Industrial Administration, or Human Resources; other programs may also require additional fees) *per semester* in university fees which are not covered by such awards. The University does accept credit card payment for tuition fees. See your myPurdue portal for additional information on credit card payments.

You will need to purchase your textbooks and other supplies. Be aware that your living expenses for the first month must be paid upon arrival. If you live off-campus some landlords will require both the first and the last month's rent to be paid in advance plus a security deposit. Remember, if you have been awarded a graduate assistantship you will probably not receive your first paycheck until the end of September. Plan ahead to avoid problems! Also, do not carry large amounts of cash with you. We suggest you purchase U.S. traveler's checks, which can be cashed at most banks and stores in our country. Bring your original Purdue admission letter as this

may be needed to open a U.S. bank account.

Note: A word of caution about carrying money in any form in your luggage. Luggage can sometimes be delayed or lost in transit from airport to airport. A good suggestion is to wear a money belt or similar type of pouch that can be kept out of sight under clothing.

PRE-ORIENTATION CHECK-IN

August 10, 11, 12 Room 306, Stewart Center

8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

August 14 Room 306, Stewart Center

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

This is required. You will not be able to obtain a student photo ID card until you complete the Check-in process.

You only need to report on one of the dates and times listed above. Bring your passport, Form I-20(s) or Form DS-2019(s) and I-94 card,. Only students with proof of employment (teaching or research assistant offer letter, for example), and who can show proof of full-time enrollment (in the Registrar's computer system or written documentation from the Registrar) may apply for a social security number on at least one of these days. The exact date(s) will be announced when you check in.

If you arrive after the 13th, you will need to report on one of the following days:

August 17,18,19 Stewart 306, 8:30–11am or 1-4pm

August 20: Stewart 306, 1-4pm

August 22: Schleman Hall, Room 136 8am-5pm

After August 23: Schleman Hall, Room 136 8am-5pm

Bring the same documentation as listed above. Late arrival is discouraged, as you will miss orientation.

NOTE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS: If you are transferring from another educational institution in the U.S. to Purdue, you must notify your current institution before you depart that you will be attending Purdue for the fall semester. This will allow the other institution to transfer your record out of the government's SEVIS database and for our office to access your record and issue you a new transfer I-20 or DS-2019. You must bring all

your immigration documents (including I-20's or DS-2019's from previous schools) to the Pre-Orientation Check-in to notify us of your arrival so that we may process your transfer.

ORIENTATION PROGRAM

Electrical Engineering Building (Room 129)

Thursday, August 13, 2009 (9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

Fri Aug 14, 2009 1:00 -4:00 Optional Breakout Sessions at Stewart Center

This program is also required and designed to assist you in your adjustment to life here in the U.S. in general and especially to Purdue and the surrounding community.

Immigration laws relating to your stay as an international student in our country will also be discussed. It is extremely important that you attend and understand your responsibilities. We will provide you with a detailed schedule when you check-in with us on August 10, 11 or 12. That schedule will also provide information about optional fun events scheduled for Friday, August 14. We recommend that you plan on attending these events.

HOTEL LISTING - Hotels/Motels in the area

This list is provided if you need to arrange temporary accommodations. Please note that only the Union Club Hotel is located on campus. You should inquire about transportation to campus from the other hotels/motels. The 800 numbers are toll-free calls from the U.S. only.

Motel 6 - \$\$	Prestige Inn - \$
Lafayette (765) 447-7566	W Lafayette (765) 463-1531

Fairfield Inn - \$\$	Best Western - \$\$\$
Lafayette (765) 449-0083	Lafayette (765) 447-0575
www.fairfieldinn.com	1-800-333-3333

Family Inn - \$	Premiere Hotel - \$\$
W Lafayette (765) 463-9511	Lafayette (765) 447-9460
1-800-932-8383	www.ramada.com

Hilton Garden Inn - \$\$\$	Red Roof Inn - \$\$
Lafayette (765) 743-2100	Lafayette (765) 448-4671
1-800-445-8667	www.redroof.com

Holiday Inn-Select \$\$	Signature Inn - \$\$
Lafayette (765) 423-1000	Lafayette (765) 447-4142
www.hiscc.com	

Holiday Inn Express- \$\$	Super 8 - \$\$
Lafayette (765) 449-4808	Lafayette (765) 447-5551
1-800-465-4329	www.super8.com

Homewood Suites - \$\$\$	Econolodge - \$\$
Lafayette (765) 448-9700	W Lafayette (765) 567-7100

www.homewood-suites.com

Knights Inn - \$	University Plaza - \$\$
Lafayette (765) 447-5611	W Lafayette (765) 463-5511

www.knightsinn.com

Union Club Hotel - \$\$\$
Purdue Campus (765) 494-8900
1-800-320-6291

GUIDE TO HOTEL/INN PRICING:

\$ - Less Costly	- Under \$50.00
\$\$ - Mid-Priced	- \$50.00 - \$100.00
\$\$\$ - More Costly	- Over \$100.00

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GROUPS

Purdue has many international student groups organized by the students themselves for the purpose of helping new students and providing social and cultural activities throughout the year. The following website will provide you with a list of these groups along with their contact information. You may check with them to see if they would be able to assist with your arrival at Purdue:

<http://www.iss.purdue.edu/Current/UnivLife/StudentOrgs.cfm>

WEB SITES WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

<http://www.iss.purdue.edu>

<http://www.lafayette.in.gov/>

<http://www.city.west-lafayette.in.us/>

<http://www.lafayette-online.com/>

CELL PHONE / INTERNATIONAL PHONE CALLING PLAN

<http://www.iss.purdue.edu/mobilesphere/index.cfm>

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

*Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
765-494-5770

*All other times
765-427-4401

*These times are based on the U.S. Eastern Time Zone (the same time of day as New York City).

PURDUE

UNIVERSITY

Pre-Arrival Brochure For New International Graduate Students

Fall 2009



OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS AND
SCHOLARS

Schleman Hall of Student Services, Room 136
475 Stadium Mall Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2050

Phone: (765) 494-5770

Fax: (765) 494-6859

E-mail: iss@purdue.edu

