



# NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CHECKLIST

## PREPARE FOR YOUR JOURNEY TO PURDUE

Please use the information below as you prepare for your arrival at Purdue. Also, be sure to review each section of the online [“Prepare to be WOW’ed”](#) publication.

- **Pre-Arrival and Orientation - New Student Check In:** All students are required to upload copies of their immigration documents before coming to Purdue. Click [here](#) to upload your documents through myISS with the New Student Check In e-form.
- **Mandatory International Student Check-in (MISCI):** The US Dept. of Homeland Security requires you to [check in](#) with ISS and bring all immigration documents with you: I-20 or DS-2019, passport, visa, and I-94 arrival record (and corresponding dependent documents, if applicable). Sessions will begin promptly at the designated times. You must be present during the entire time; late arrival is not permitted.
- **Graduate Students:** The Office of Graduate Admissions will have a representative in Stewart Center during MISCI to collect official documents (either transcripts or diplomas) that were listed in your official on-line admission letter. Graduate students may submit these documents either before or after the MISCI session.
- **Weeks of Welcome (WOW) Events:** [View events](#) on-line to participate in free activities for all new international Boilermakers. Several community groups and local organizations will be on hand to welcome you to the community. Both graduate and undergraduate students arriving in January are welcome to attend. Use these events as opportunities to meet other students and ask for help from staff or student leaders. Look for the CILMAR table in the WOW Resource Center during MISCI and learn about other events and trips that occur after the semester begins.
- **International Friendship Program (IFP):** Get paired with a local family and meet 3-4 times during your first semester on campus. The International Friendship Program is a great way to make a friend, get connected with the community and learn about American culture while sharing your own culture. Look for an email invitation some time in December with registration details.
- **Boiler OUT! Volunteer Program:** Get to know your new community by volunteering with other international and domestic students through Boiler OUT! (Outreach, Understanding, Teamwork). Boiler OUT! holds more than 15 volunteer events every month around the Greater Lafayette community. For volunteer opportunities and updates, [request membership](#).
- **Traveling to Purdue:** As you make your travel plans, remember that you are not permitted to enter the US more than 30 days before the start date on your I-20 or DS-2019. For detailed information on what to expect as you enter the US, refer to the [Department of Homeland Security’s website](#). After you have scheduled your flight, you should [arrange a shuttle service](#) to get from the airport to Purdue. The shuttle services will make limited stops on and around campus.
- **Transportation to your Residence Hall or Apartment:** Express Air Coach (EAC) has a Campus Shuttle for new students arriving at Purdue. EAC will meet every airport shuttle arrival at the Purdue Memorial Union (PMU) and transport students to their local residence for a minimal fee of \$10/person. This shuttle service will be available only on January 2nd, 3rd and 4th and only at the PMU location. The Campus Shuttle will bring you to your residence hall or apartment in West Lafayette or Lafayette. [Reserve your spot now!](#)
- **Housing Reminder:** It is strongly suggested to make your [on-campus](#) or [off-campus](#) housing arrangements before your arrival.
- **Health Insurance:** Purdue University Health Services is your primary site for health care on campus. Please follow the [instructions](#) to comply with state and university requirements and make sure to [enroll](#) in the required health insurance. Also, use the [on-line portal](#) to complete your immunization requirements.
- **Review Your Class Schedule Carefully:** All F-1 and J-1 international students are required by law to enroll in a full course load. For **F-1** students, a **maximum of 3 on-line** or digitally delivered credit hours may apply to your minimum full-time enrollment. For **J-1** students, **no on-line** or digitally delivered credit hours may apply toward your minimum full-time enrollment. Your assigned schedule might have too many on-line or digitally delivered courses, so it is **your responsibility** to review and adjust as needed. Minimum full-time enrollment is as follows:
  - Undergraduate: Minimum 12 credit hours
  - Graduate student with an assistantship (TA/RA) or fellowship administered as an assistantship: Minimum 6 credit hours
  - Graduate student with no assistantship, or with a fellowship that doesn’t require any employment: Minimum 8 credit hours
- **Facebook Invitation:** ISS and CILMAR are on Facebook! The [ISS fan page](#) is a great place to connect with current international students. The [CILMAR fan page](#) is a great place to learn about events with CILMAR, the rest of campus, and the community. There are many options to stay connected and find your community at Purdue.

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