

Congratulations on your admission to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. To ensure your trip to the United States is as smooth as possible, please make sure you do the following:

1**Obtain Your Student Visa**

- Check your I-20 or DS-2019 for accuracy. If any information is incorrect, email the Office of Graduate and International Admissions at intladm@siue.edu.
- Pay your SEVIS fee. Instructions can be found on the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement website at fmjfee.com. Make sure to type your name and SEVIS ID number exactly as they appear on your I-20 or DS-2019 form. Print a copy of the online payment receipt to keep with your records.
- Schedule your visa appointment. You may schedule your appointment up to 120 days prior to your program start date. Locate the nearest U.S. Consulate or Embassy at usembassy.gov. More information regarding the visa process, including average wait times, can be found by visiting the U.S. Department of State website at travel.state.gov/visas/en.html.
- Attend your visa appointment. Be sure to bring all required documents, including your passport (valid at least six months into the future), your I-20 or DS-2019, your SEVIS fee payment receipt, your admission letter, evidence of financial support for one year, and any visa application forms and fees.

2**Make Housing Arrangements**

- Information regarding living on campus can be found at siue.edu/housing. You will need to complete a housing application and pay a \$300 advance payment for University housing. Cougar Village apartments are located on campus and are open year round. These units have full kitchens and can accommodate families, as well as individual students.
- Information about off-campus housing options can be found at offcampushousing.siue.edu. SIUE does not provide housing support for students who choose to live off campus.

3**Make Travel Arrangements**

- St. Louis Lambert International Airport is approximately 30-45 minutes from SIUE. All major airlines provide service to St. Louis at this airport. The airport code is STL.
- Check the ideal arrival dates website at siue.edu/iss/arrival/important-dates.shtml to determine the best dates to arrange your travel to SIUE.
- Make arrangements to travel from the airport to campus by visiting siue.edu/iss/arrival/airport-transport-siue.shtml.

4**Complete Health Service Requirements**

- Specific immunizations are required for all international students enrolled at SIUE. We recommend that you complete your immunizations before arrival. Visit siue.edu/healthservice/immunization/index.shtml for a list of required immunizations.
- Immunization records not in English must be accompanied by a certified translation.
- Immunizations required upon arrival can cost from \$75-\$200.

5**Register for Orientation**

- Orientation is mandatory for all international students and will be held the week prior to the start of each semester. For most students, class enrollment will take place during this week.
- Register online at siue.edu/iss/arrival/register-for-orientation.shtml.

6**Prepare for Your First Week on Campus**

- Gather all required documents for the first day of orientation. These may include, but are not limited to, official copies of your transcript, diploma, bank statements or any other items listed on your acceptance letter.
- Get connected at SIUE by activating your SIUE electronic username (e-ID) and University email account at siue.edu/eid. Your SIUE ID number (800xxxxx) can be found on your admission letter.
- Complete the Online International Student Orientation to reinforce your understanding of your immigration requirements while studying in the United States. Visit siue.edu/iss/pdf/onlinemodule.pdf for instructions.
- Be prepared to pay your tuition and fees. International students are not required to make a payment before arriving in the U.S. However, a payment should be made soon after registration is complete.
- Bring enough money to cover your initial expenses when you arrive: \$3,000-\$4,000 is recommended. Remember, you will need to pay your housing security deposit and first month's rent, purchase books and supplies, and cover other personal expenses, such as transportation, food and communications.

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Visit the "Arrival at SIUE" Website at siue.edu/iss/arrival for more information. Upon arrival in Edwardsville, you should plan to check in at the International Students and Scholars Office, located in Room 0300 in the Student Success Center. Bring your passport and I-20/DS-2019 to complete your immigration check-in at SIUE.