Pre-Arrival Information for New International Students

In addition to managing your admitted student checklist in myIllini, make sure to review the information below before you arrive on campus.

I-901 SEVIS Fee
If you will hold an F-1 or J-1 visa status, please pay your SEVIS fee once you receive your I-20 or DS-2019 from the University of Illinois. The SEVIS fee can be paid online at fmjfee.com (I-901 fee). Remember to print the receipt to present at your visa interview.

Entry Visa
Schedule an appointment for your non-immigrant entry visa at usembassy.gov. Please bring the required documents to your visa interview as listed on the embassy website.
If you wish to bring your Notice of Admission to your visa interview, you can access it through your admitted student checklist in myIllini. It is located at the bottom of the page under “Additional Information.”

Final Admissions Documents
Freshmen need to submit all test scores, high school transcripts and a statement of graduation; if you are in an exam-based system, this includes test results by December 1, 2020. Transfer students should send final transcripts, including Fall 2020 grades as soon as such grades are posted. If your academic records will not be released to meet the deadlines, please contact admissions@illinois.edu. Failure to submit final documents on time may result in a change to your admission status.

International Student Check-In
All new international students are required by law to report for check-in with the Office of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS). Instructions and important dates for the virtual check in can be found at: http://go.illinois.edu/Checkin

International Student Orientation
ISSS and New Student Programs offer a comprehensive orientation about the university’s academics, programs, and services, as well as information on maintaining immigration status. Instructions, important dates, and location can be found at: https://go.illinois.edu/SpringSummerOrientation

University of Illinois Student Health Insurance Plan
The University of Illinois requires all students to have effective health insurance in order to offset the potential costs of medical care for the duration of their enrollment. In accordance with this policy, all eligible students are assessed the Student Health Insurance fee, which is automatically charged to each student’s tuition bill every semester. For fee details, please review the plan information brochures found on http://si.illinois.edu/
Students who have health insurance that is comparable to what is offered under the University of Illinois plan and complies with the Affordable Care Act have the option to opt out of the Student Health Insurance coverage along with the associated fee. To be considered comparable, the other insurance must meet the following conditions:
• For the Spring 2021 semester, it must provide coverage from 01/16/2021-05/14/2021
• It must have unlimited monetary benefit per sickness or injury.
• It must have provisions for the cost of medical care (both emergent and non-emergent) received within a 50-mile radius of the University of Illinois campus.
• It must cover repatriation and medical evacuation.
• It must be compliant with the Affordable Care Act
• It must have inpatient and outpatient mental health benefits.

Students may request to waive the Student Health Insurance plan by filling out the waiver form online at si.illinois.edu. This form must be submitted online between the dates of 01/15/2021-05/14/2021

Important Guidelines:

We encourage students to be as prepared as possible when traveling, and students who have all required documents usually do not encounter issues at the US Port of Entry. However, should an issue arise at the Port of Entry, students may contact ISSS at +1-217-333-1303 from 8:30-5:00 CST Monday through Friday, or the Dean of Students Office at +1-217-333-0050 outside of business hours. Have a great trip and we look forward to meeting you soon!