Pre-Arrival Checklist

You've received your DS-2019, next steps:

☐ Pay the SEVIS I-901 fee. Visit fmjfee.com to pay for this fee. Be sure to print a copy of the SEVIS fee payment receipt.

☐ Apply for J-1 Visa. Complete the online Visa Application form, pay the DS160 fee, and schedule your appointment.

☐ Prepare to Enter the U.S. Plan for health insurance, initial expenses, baggage, temporary housing, and medical records prior to departing your home country.

☐ Arrive in the U.S. Plan to have the necessary documents available to show the inspection officer at the U.S. port of entry and plan travel from the airport to SMU.

Tip: Review the Exchange Visitor Post Arrival Handbook on the ISSS website for more information and resources about SMU and Dallas.

☐ Obtain Adequate Health Insurance. Ensure that you and all dependents (if applicable) have health insurance that meets at least the minimum requirements.

☐ Secure Housing. Use an apartment search on the internet to search for apartments near SMU. Keep in mind some apartments are accessible via the SMU Express bus.

Post-Arrival Checklist

Welcome to Dallas, Texas!

☐ Scan all documents: DS-2019 first page, J-1 Visa, Passport, I-94 Arrival Document, Appointment Letter, and copies of all immigration documents of J-2 dependents, if applicable.

☐ Register to attend the required Government Check-in Session: Visit https://booking.smu.edu/calendar/scholars to register for a check-in session.

☐ Attend Government Check-In appointment with ISSS: Prior to attending, review the required documents on the ISSS website and bring scanned versions of them all and a device (laptop) to submit documents on.

☐ Attend Employee Orientation with Human Resources (Only for benefits-eligible employees).

☐ OBTAIN SMU ID: Visit SMU Parking and ID Services (Hughes-Trigg Student Center) to pick-up your SMU ID Card.

For more information, visit https://www.smu.edu/EnrollmentServices/international/For-Scholars/New-Scholar-Information