PRE-ARRIVAL CHECKLIST

For New F-1 International Students

You've received your I-20, next steps:

☐ Understand, review, and verify the information on your I-20 form is accurate. If you notice any errors, please contact the ISSS office at isss@smu.edu immediately.

   Click here to view a helpful "Understanding your I-20 form" video

☐ 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 F-1 Visa. Prepare for your visa interview, take the following documents with you:
   - SEVIS Fee Receipt
   - Letter of Admission
   - Form I20
   - Passport
   - Proof of funding and/or educational sponsorship documents reflected on I-20

   Tip: Review helpful videos on the ISSS website about paying the SEVIS I-90 fee, Applying for a visa, and more!

☐ Obtain certified copies of your immigration documents. It is highly recommended that you have these documents with you when you arrive in the U.S.

☐ Check your SMU email regularly for updates related to class registration, orientation, and notices from campus departments.

☐ Register for health insurance & complete immunizations to ensure there are no holds on your account. All international students are required to maintain health insurance through the SMU Health Center. You can register through my.SMU.edu. For more information visit the SMU Health Center website.

   Tip: Review the New International Student Handbook on the ISSS website for more information and resources about SMU and Dallas.

☐ Secure Housing. If you will live on-campus (undergraduates only), secure your on-campus housing and meal plan with the Residential Life and Student Housing office. When you schedule your move-in, please note that as an international student, you will have access to an early move-in slot. Visit https://www.smu.edu/StudentAffairs/ResidenceLifeandStudentHousing

   Graduate students, please visit https://www.veryapt.com/portal/9/smu-graduate-school/ to learn more about housing opportunities.

☐ Pay tuition and fees: For more information visit the SMU Bursars Office website at https://www.smu.edu/enrollmentservices/bursar
You've arrived in Dallas, next steps:

- **Scan all of the following immigration documents:**
  - I-20
  - F-1
  - Passport
  - I-94 Arrival Record
  - Copies of all immigration documents of F-2 dependents, if applicable.

- **Register to attend a required Government Check-in Session** and ensure you have all the required documents.

  [Click here for more information!](#)

- **Attend a Government Check-In session at your scheduled time:** Prior to attending, review the required documents on the ISSS website and bring scanned versions along with a device (laptop) to submit the documents.

- **Attend International Orientation:** Join us for international orientation to learn more about life in the U.S. and at SMU and important information about maintaining your status at SMU. Visit the ISSS website for the most up-to-date orientation schedule.

  *Please note:* Keep up with your emails and individual department/school orientation and activities that you may be required to attend.