

Frequently Asked Questions

New International Students in the U.S.

Spring 2023



Question	How can I contact an International Advisor from the Office of International Education (OIE)?
Answer	<p>International students should use the Bookings Link to schedule an advising appointment, with an Advisor. Document processing time is typically 7-10 days, so please plan ahead.</p> <p>Advising hours can be found on the OIE website here: https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/oie/iss/immigration-advising</p>
Question	How can I request/receive documents?
Answer	International students should use the Bookings Link to schedule an appointment for document pick up.
Question	Do I need to submit immigration documents to the Office of International Education?
Answer	<p>Yes. The Office of International Education requires that all international students submit documentation to our office for legal and record-keeping purposes.</p> <p>Before entering the U.S., you are required to complete the OIE Pre-Orientation course in Canvas. This is the only way to remove your INT hold. The Canvas course also provides access to the eforms from the link provided at the end of the pre-orientation modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Contact Form (emergency contact must be a parent, sibling, or spouse) • Statement of Understanding (contains important immigration regulations) <p>After entering the U.S., you are required to submit copies of your immigration documents to complete the document check in process. When you have completed the pre-orientation modules and submitted the initial forms, you will receive a link to upload the following documents in our Global Mavs webpage. Under “General Student Services” on the left side of the menu, you will find “Orientation Immigration Documents”. Click the link and upload the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of your passport/ID page • Copy of your student Visa page • Copy of your entry stamp or I-94 copy

	You may submit color copies, black and white copies, or photos if the images are clear. All documents must be uploaded as a pdf or jpeg file.
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Question	When can International Students legally arrive in the United States?
Answer	<p>Entry to the U.S. as a new student is allowed <u>no earlier</u> than 30 days from the program start date on your I-20. Please review these two links and the next question “How do I get my UTA I-20?” for more info.</p> <p>https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/2013/01/what-is-the-form-i-20 https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/student-forms?form=Forms_I-20</p>

Question	How do I get my UTA I-20?
Answer	<p>A student's Form I-20 is a document issued to accepted students by Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-certified schools that indicates a student's primary purpose for coming to the United States.</p> <p>You must receive your UTA I-20 as soon as possible based upon availability of visa appointments at the U.S. consulate or embassy in your home country. Your first UTA I-20 will be issued by the Office of Admissions. Once you have completed the entire application process, including submitting proof of funding, your I-20 will be issued by either Undergraduate or Graduate Admissions. Please communicate with the Office of Admissions directly if you have any questions about that process.</p> <p>If you are a transfer student, you will have to make sure that your record has been released to UTA and that your new UTA I-20 has the same SEVIS number as any previous I-20 forms from previous schools.</p> <p>Ensure you submit the following documents to get your UTA I-20 issued:</p> <p>Undergraduate Students:</p> <p>Financial Statement Form: https://cdn.web.uta.edu/-/media/project/website/admissions/downloads/international-forms/international-fin--stmt--2019-2020.ashx?revision=ca2c1f63-da2d-4a41-8d85-0d3200fa21d9</p> <p>School Transfer Notification For F-1 Transfer (Only for Transfer Students): https://cdn.web.uta.edu/-/media/project/website/admissions/downloads/international_transfer_form.ashx?revision=7097d3b9-ea9a-4812-b4d4-9975bf14ada5</p> <p>Graduate Students:</p> <p>Financial Statement Form: https://cdn.web.uta.edu/-/media/project/website/admissions/downloads/international-forms/graduate-financial-statement.ashx?revision=d73e7de7-72a0-4a12-b299-048201b6d953</p> <p>School Transfer Notification For F-1 Transfer (Only for Transfer Students): https://cdn.web.uta.edu/-/media/project/website/admissions/downloads/international-graduate-transfer-notification.ashx?revision=0f9a21b3-dde4-4dd9-97c5-597213963bc1</p> <p>You can submit the documents here: https://www.uta.edu/admissions/forms/residency-upload-form</p>

Question	Are International Students required to attend New Maverick Orientation?
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Answer	Yes. All new international students are required to complete pre-arrival orientation modules and attend New Maverick Orientation. You may find information and register for International Student Orientation here: https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/orientation/about/international
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Question	How do I get my Holds removed?																
Answer	<p>Your Holds and Tasks can be found in MyMav (https://www.uta.edu/mymav/). They appear on your UTA Student Homepage on the right side under the 'TO DO LIST'.</p> <p>It is normal for new incoming international students to have any or all the following holds:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Hold</th><th>Removal</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>International Student Office (INT)</i></td><td>Removed after completing online Canvas pre-orientation modules and filling out the appropriate eforms in GlobalMavs, usually within 2-3 business days. Here is the link to the Canvas course: https://uta.instructure.com/enroll/DTTBBT</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>Advising</i></td><td>Removed within 24 hours after you meet your academic advisor (for undergraduate students) or after you attend your department's orientation (separate from the international orientation. Contact your department for more information on these.</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>Health Center</i></td><td>One hold is for Tuberculosis (TB) testing, and one is for follow-up of the result. The first hold will be removed from your account within 24 hours after you get the TB test. The second will be removed after you get the result.</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>No Domestic Address</i></td><td>You will need to add the physical address you're staying at in MyMav after you arrive in the U.S. It can be a temporary address if you haven't identified where you'll stay for the year, but make sure you do update MyMav after that has been determined. The hold will be taken off immediately after you add your domestic address.</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>No Domestic Phone</i></td><td>You will need to list your U.S. phone number in MyMav after arriving. The hold will be taken off immediately after you do this.</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>Official Degree Certificate not submitted/Official Transcripts not submitted</i></td><td>If you see this hold, you will need to submit your official Degree Certificate/Transcripts to the Office of Records.</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>Other Holds</i></td><td>If you have any other Holds besides these, you can click on the Hold in MyMav to see the name of the department that placed the Hold and how to get it removed.</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Hold	Removal	<i>International Student Office (INT)</i>	Removed after completing online Canvas pre-orientation modules and filling out the appropriate eforms in GlobalMavs, usually within 2-3 business days. Here is the link to the Canvas course: https://uta.instructure.com/enroll/DTTBBT	<i>Advising</i>	Removed within 24 hours after you meet your academic advisor (for undergraduate students) or after you attend your department's orientation (separate from the international orientation. Contact your department for more information on these.	<i>Health Center</i>	One hold is for Tuberculosis (TB) testing, and one is for follow-up of the result. The first hold will be removed from your account within 24 hours after you get the TB test. The second will be removed after you get the result.	<i>No Domestic Address</i>	You will need to add the physical address you're staying at in MyMav after you arrive in the U.S. It can be a temporary address if you haven't identified where you'll stay for the year, but make sure you do update MyMav after that has been determined. The hold will be taken off immediately after you add your domestic address.	<i>No Domestic Phone</i>	You will need to list your U.S. phone number in MyMav after arriving. The hold will be taken off immediately after you do this.	<i>Official Degree Certificate not submitted/Official Transcripts not submitted</i>	If you see this hold, you will need to submit your official Degree Certificate/Transcripts to the Office of Records.	<i>Other Holds</i>	If you have any other Holds besides these, you can click on the Hold in MyMav to see the name of the department that placed the Hold and how to get it removed.
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Question	How do I find my Academic Advisor?
Answer	<p>Graduate students should contact the advisor in their college. Advisor contact information can be found here: https://www.uta.edu/admissions/enroll/accepted-graduate</p> <p>Undergraduate students can schedule an appointment with the advisor in their major department. Advising offices by major, can be found here: https://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/uac/advising-offices.php</p> <p>All incoming freshmen should be seen by an advisor in the Division of Student Success. Request an advising appointment at uac@uta.edu.</p>

Answer	<p><u>F-1 Students Residing in the U.S. for Spring 2023</u></p> <p>You can find information about course options at UTA at this website: https://www.uta.edu/academics/courses-and-schedules</p> <p><u>Full-Time Enrollment</u></p> <p>All students maintaining F-1 status, must enroll full time unless the student has a “Less Than Full-Course Waiver” (https://www.uta.edu/oie/?page=forms&form=FTEW) approved by an International Education Advisor. There are no changes in the requirements for full-time enrollment.</p> <p><u>Additional Resources</u></p> <p>The Office of International Education is committed to helping our students stay safe and continue their education while complying with immigration regulations. For additional information and resources, please consider visiting these official UTA websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of International Education and SEVP guidance: https://www.uta.edu/oie/ • Information for new international students: https://www.uta.edu/oie/?page=newstudents
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Question	Is Health Insurance Required for International Students? Can I waive UTA Health Insurance?
Answer	<p>The University of Texas Board Of Regents has passed Regents Rule 50402 (https://www.utsystem.edu/board-of-regents/rules/50402-student-health-insurance-requirements), which now requires all international students to have medical insurance compliant with the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA).</p> <p>The UT Student Health Insurance Plan (UT SHIP, https://uta.myahpcare.com/benefits) meets the new requirements. Enrollment in UT SHIP is automatic each semester and the insurance premium is automatically charged to your tuition and fee account when you register for classes, unless you submit a health insurance waiver: http://www.uta.edu/oie/?page=forms&form=HealthInsuranceWaiver.</p> <p>New incoming international students must complete the orientation requirements and pre-orientation modules to be enrolled in UT SHIP. For continuing students, no action is required to be enrolled in UT SHIP except to ensure that your contact email and mailing address are always current in MyMav: http://www.uta.edu/mymav.</p> <p>Waiving UTA Health Insurance: The UT System has established criteria in which an international student can request to waive the student health insurance plan by providing alternate health insurance coverage. In order to be approved for a waiver, your alternate health coverage must meet or exceed the requirements as set by the System regulation and be PPACA compliant.</p> <p>More information about waiving UTA health insurance including the deadline to do so can be found here: https://uta.myahpcare.com/waiver and at the Office of International Education's Health Insurance Information page: https://www.uta.edu/oie/?page=forms&form=HealthInsuranceWaiver</p> <p>Additional information on the UT student health insurance plan, please visit the Insurance page on our website. The following links provide helpful information on understanding health insurance in the United States:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding Health Coverage: http://www.bcbstx.com/getting_started/health_insurance/index.html • Common Health Insurance Terms: https://www.healthcare.gov/glossary/index.html

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Question	Are International Students required to be screened for Tuberculosis (TB)?
Answer	<p>All incoming international students who are new to UTA are required to complete TB screening prior to attending classes on campus. Health Services accepts both T-Spot and Quantiferon Gold blood tests completed in the United States within the last 12 months. Mantoux/PPD/Tuberculin (TB) skin test results are not accepted.</p> <p>If you have not completed TB screening in the United States within the last 12 months, you will need to get tested in the health center or other clinic in the United States.</p> <p>Please visit the UTA Health Services website to learn more about TB testing requirements and appointments: https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/health-services/new-students</p>

Question	Are International Students required to be vaccinated against bacterial Meningitis?
Answer	<p>Incoming students who are new to the institution and students returning after an absence of at least one fall or spring semester who are under age 22 on the first day of the term are required to submit documentation of immunization against bacterial meningitis. Incoming international students are encouraged to receive their vaccination in their home country in order to meet the deadline for providing documentation of vaccination. All documents must be submitted in English.</p> <p>More Information about Bacterial Meningitis requirements can be found on the UTA Health Services website, here: https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/health-services/new-students</p>

Question	Can International Students work ON CAMPUS?
Answer	<p>International students may work on campus only if the following conditions are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You work no more than 20 hours per week during required semesters of enrollment • The jobs must be categorized as “Non work-study” in the Handshake (https://www.uta.edu/careers/employers/handshake/index.php) student employee portal.

Question	Can International Students work OFF CAMPUS?
Answer	<p><u>International students must have authorization to work off-campus!</u></p> <p>Legal off-campus employment includes Optional Practical Training (OPT) and Curricular Practical Training (CPT). For more information about legal employment for international students in the US, please visit the Office of International Education website: https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/oie/iss/employment</p>

Question	How do I pay Tuition and other fees?
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Answer	<p>Information regarding your individual tuition rates and registration can be found in MyMav. MyMav is also where you go to check admission status, register for classes, make payments, check grades, and more!</p> <p>You may find additional information regarding payment of tuition/fees in the following links:</p> <p>Information about tuition (https://www.uta.edu/business-affairs/sfs/about-tuition.php) Make a payment (https://www.uta.edu/business-affairs/sfs/make-payment.php) Payment information (https://www.uta.edu/business-affairs/sfs/payment-info)</p> <p>After registration, full payment of tuition, fees and health insurance can be paid by credit card, bank draft (payable to UTA), cash, or personal bank check.</p> <p>An installment plan is available to all students. The installment plan requires payment of 33% of tuition and fees (plus \$10) by the payment deadline, and two additional payments of 33%.</p> <p>The exact cost of tuition cannot be known until you register for classes. Tuition can be estimated at http://www.uta.edu/fees. This amount does not include the cost of UTA health insurance.</p> <p>To cover immediate expenses such as tuition and fees, apartment deposit and rent, food and incidentals, bring at least \$6,000 with you. This amount is a portion of the expenses listed on the I-20 or DS-2019 and is based on the installment plan described above. You may bring a check or money order from your home country bank to deposit in a bank in Arlington, but you will not be able to access the money until the check is processed, which may take up to one month. A bank in your home country may charge a check-processing fee for its own checks which are cashed abroad. This fee can be as high as \$100, the cost of which will be charged back to you by UT Arlington or the U.S. bank where you decide to deposit the check. Bank drafts may be made payable to The University of Texas at Arlington. Money transfers from one U.S. bank to another can take 7 to 10 days to be processed.</p>
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Question	What is the deadline to arrive on campus?
Answer	<p>If you cannot arrive at UTA by the date indicated on your immigration documents, you must request a late arrival letter from the Office of International Education (OIE) at least two (2) weeks before you leave for the U.S. To request this, please email international@uta.edu.</p> <p>Requests should include the student's full name, country of citizenship, and student ID number. Please also indicate if you are undergraduate or graduate, and your major. This information will help with timely processing of the letter.</p> <p>Students under 22 years old who are arriving late are also responsible for completing the bacterial meningitis vaccination requirement by the deadline and will not be able to register for classes until after they have reported to the OIE (Swift Center).</p>