We're excited about your arrival, and we want to make your transition as smooth as possible. Inside, you’ll find essential information for making arrangements to attend the University of Michigan.
PASSPORTS AND VISAS: STARTING THE PROCESS

Generally, international students must do two things to be eligible to enter the United States: Obtain a passport from their government and obtain a visa from a United States Consulate or Embassy.

The university enrolls many students in various temporary (non-immigrant) visa statuses. The most common categories are Student (F-1) and Exchange Visitor (J-1, student category).

If you request the F-1 Student status, we will issue you a Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20). If you require the J-1 Exchange Visitor status, you should expect to receive the Certificate of Eligibility (Form DS-2019) either from the university or from another appropriate program sponsor.

CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR STUDENT VISA

To obtain an F-1 or J-1 visa, you must complete the Financial Resources Statement form (admissions.umich.edu/frs) and return the form to ecredentials@umich.edu or fax to 734-936-0740, along with supporting documentation and a copy of the name page of your passport, soon after you’ve confirmed enrollment. Include your UMID on all materials.

After the information has been received, the Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20 for the F-1 visa status, or DS-2019 for the J-1 visa status) will be issued.

GETTING YOUR VISA

To apply for either visa, you must first pay a SEVIS fee and get a receipt. Do this at ice.gov/sevis/i901. If your form says “Transfer Pending,” you are not subject to a SEVIS fee.

Next, make an appointment at the U.S. Consulate or Embassy. For more information visit https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas.html.

At your appointment, take your passport, your Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20 or DS-2019), your SEVIS fee receipt, and supporting documentation (such as your letter of admission and proof of financial resources) with you. Canadian citizens please see the “Canadian Students” section on the next page.

ENTERING THE U.S.

At the U.S. port of entry, you will need your passport, Form I-20 or DS-2019, and financial documents. Make sure they are easily available to you; don’t leave them in your luggage.

If you enter the U.S. at an airport, you will receive an admission stamp in your passport and instructions for printing your record of arrival at https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94. If you enter the U.S. at a land border, you will receive a small white I-94 card, which you should keep in your passport.

Please do not share any of your documents on social media. These are confidential and include personal information.
Canadian students do not need to apply for a visa, but must pay the SEVIS fee in advance, since it can’t be paid at the port of entry. There, you will be asked to present your Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20 or DS-2019), your SEVIS fee receipt, evidence of Canadian citizenship, and evidence of adequate funding for your proposed program of study. When you enter the U.S., you will receive an admission stamp in your passport and instructions for printing your record of arrival at https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94, or if you enter at a land border, you will receive an I-94 card. Either the stamp or card will be your permit to stay in the U.S.

Please remember that Canadian citizens are subject to all F-1 or J-1 regulations. Also, like other international students, Canadian citizens must comply with university health insurance requirements.
GETTING TO ANN ARBOR

Many international students use the AirRide bus service to travel from Detroit Metropolitan Airport to Ann Arbor. This $15 service drops off passengers at the Blake Transit Center in downtown Ann Arbor, a convenient location just a few blocks from Central Campus. From the center, you can walk or take a taxi to your residence hall. Reservations can be made online at michiganflyer.com. Taxis and ridesharing services are also readily available at the airport.

Additional airport transportation information is available at: annarbor.org/plan/getting-here-getting-around/.

FALL ARRIVAL

If you have pre-registered for International Undergraduate Student Orientation, go directly to your residence hall. It is not necessary to visit the International Center since staff will be at orientation.

Arriving before your housing contract begins:

• Make arrangements to stay in U-M temporary housing (housing.umich.edu) or in a hotel.
• During the month of August, the International Center and the Office of New Student Programs provide an International Undergraduate Orientation, which includes the Mandatory Immigration Check-in. Students not attending this orientation should sign up for a mandatory check-in by following the instructions for new undergraduate students at internationalcenter.umich.edu/events/student-checkin.

The center also offers a variety of special orientation workshops and social events for new international students. The orientation and workshop schedule is available in late May or early June at: internationalcenter.umich.edu/events/orientation.

The International Center’s International Student Associations webpage, internationalcenter.umich.edu/students/international-student-associations, links to information about a variety of international student organizations.

UNIVERSITY HOUSING

Beginning in early April, housing applications will be emailed as enrollment deposits are received. Between June and August, residence hall contracts will become available online. You will receive an email sent to your University of Michigan email account when the contract is ready. Your contract will indicate your exact move-in date.

Students who move into their residence hall for orientation are charged a fee for all days prior to the official contract start day. Charges, which include meals, will be placed on your student account. Need to find a hotel? Find more information at visitannarbor.org/hotels.

Regular meal service begins in the residence halls after orientation.

Fall: If you plan to arrive in advance of your orientation program and have questions about housing, please contact housing@umich.edu.

Winter: Students should note the Housing Information Office will be closed from December 23, 2019 through January 1, 2020. It’s best not to arrive early, but if you do, it may be necessary for you to stay in a hotel.

Students admitted to Spring and Summer terms should have no difficulty locating lodging immediately.

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Off-campus housing listings are available at: offcampushousing.umich.edu.

LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Our learning communities combine the personal attention of a small college with the resources of a large public university. You can be a part of a supportive, intellectually stimulating community while taking advantage of everything the larger campus has to offer. Find more information at admissions.umich.edu/mlc.

Questions can be directed to housing@umich.edu or 734-763-3164.
WE CAN HELP

THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER
The International Center ([internationalcenter.umich.edu](http://internationalcenter.umich.edu)) provides support services, general information, programs, and advice about visa and immigration issues, employment, cross-cultural issues, health insurance, and other practical concerns. Contact the center by phone at 734-764-9310 or by email at icenter@umich.edu.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE SUPPORT
THE SWEETLAND CENTER FOR WRITING provides a wide range of support services for international undergraduate students throughout the year, offering writing courses for academic credit, free workshops, and one-on-one tutoring. For more information, visit: [lsa.umich.edu/sweetland/undergraduates/international-student-support.html](http://lsa.umich.edu/sweetland/undergraduates/international-student-support.html).

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE (ELI) offers an intensive seven-week English for Academic Purposes program for students already admitted for the Fall term. Learn more about this non-credit-bearing summer experience at [lsa.umich.edu/eli/summer-programs](http://lsa.umich.edu/eli/summer-programs).

MENTORSHIP
Open to all first-year students, the Mentorship Program is one of many Michigan Learning Communities available to students. Transfer students interested in a mentorship program should apply to Transfer Connections. Learn more at [onsp.umich.edu/mentorship/about](http://onsp.umich.edu/mentorship/about).

ADDITIONAL STUDENT RESOURCES
Once you’re settled on campus, we want to help you thrive in your new environment. We offer a variety of resources such as academic advising, computer support, the Language Resource Center, Math Lab, Science Learning Center, and tutoring services.

FALL TERM
In August, the International Center offers special orientation workshops and social events for new international students. International undergraduate students are invited to attend these workshops and social events, in addition to International Undergraduate Orientation, if they would like to do so. The workshop schedule will be available at [internationalcenter.umich.edu/events/orientation](http://internationalcenter.umich.edu/events/orientation) in late May or early June. The International Center’s International Student Associations webpage, [internationalcenter.umich.edu/students/international-student-associations](http://internationalcenter.umich.edu/students/international-student-associations), also links to information about a variety of international student organizations.

WINTER TERM
International students arriving for Winter term will complete a Mandatory Immigration Check-in as part of the International Undergraduate Student Orientation. This is conducted by the Office of New Student Programs and the International Center.

SPRING AND SUMMER TERMS
International students arriving for Spring or Summer term must sign up for a mandatory check-in by following the instructions for new undergraduate students at [internationalcenter.umich.edu/events/student-checkin](http://internationalcenter.umich.edu/events/student-checkin).

International Undergraduate Student Orientation details and registration materials will be mailed in June.
COSTS & INSURANCE

SPONSORED STUDENTS
Please mail or bring your sponsor’s letter of authorization for billing to Student Financial Services and Teller Services, 2226 Student Activities Building, 515 East Jefferson Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1316, U.S.A. Please reference your term of entry and your student identification number (UMID).

PAYING TUITION AND ON-CAMPUS HOUSING
Billing due dates for tuition and on-campus housing costs can be found at: finance.umich.edu/finops/student/billing/

A late fee is assessed if payment is not made by the due date. If your government requires certification of your estimated expenses before authorizing U.S. dollar exchange, you may request the necessary documentation by filling out the Standard Letter Request Form internationalcenter.umich.edu/resources/forms/standard-letter-request-form and submitting it to the International Center.

PENALTIES FOR NONPAYMENT OF BILLS
Unpaid university bills can result in the loss of the ability to register and a hold on the release of an individual’s transcript and diploma certificate.

MONEY
If you bring more than $10,000 into the U.S. (this includes traveler’s checks), you must report it to U.S. Customs and Border Protection to avoid severe penalties. It is also good practice to carry limited funds in your purse/wallet in case it is lost or stolen. For more information visit: cbp.gov/travel/international-visitors/kbyg/money.

HOW ARE MEDICAL COSTS COVERED?
Health care costs in the U.S. are very high, so it is important to have health insurance.

STUDENTS WITH U-M ISSUED I-20 OR DS-2019 FORMS:
The university requires you to have adequate health insurance; you and any F-2 or J-2 dependents will be automatically enrolled in the International Health Insurance Plan. Your health insurance coverage will begin on the program start date on your Form I-20 (in the program of study box) or Form DS-2019 (item 3). If you already have health insurance that meets the university’s minimum requirements, you may apply for a waiver of the insurance requirement after you complete your orientation and check-in. If your waiver request is denied, you will have to remain enrolled in the International Health Insurance Plan.

Minimum insurance requirements: internationalcenter.umich.edu/resources/healthins/waiver

International Insurance Plan annual cost: $1,709 for an individual student. Costs change each September and are posted at: internationalcenter.umich.edu/resources/healthins/coverage-and-rates.

ALL OTHER STUDENTS:
The university strongly recommends but does not require insurance. If you don’t have your own health insurance, you can choose to enroll in the “domestic” student insurance plan (uhs.umich.edu/dship). U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents, and other students who do not have a U-M issued I-20 or DS-2019 are not eligible for the international insurance plan but are eligible for U-M’s “domestic” insurance.

REQUIRED FINAL CREDENTIALS
• Students who have been admitted and intend to enroll in the university are required to have a final official secondary school transcript showing graduation date submitted directly to ecredentials@umich.edu as soon as it becomes available. If your school does not list a graduation date on the final transcript, a letter or certificate from the school certifying graduation and the date should also be submitted.

• Students who have taken British Advanced Level or Singapore H Level exams should submit officially certified copies of exam results or certificates to ecredentials@umich.edu.

• Any Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exam results should be submitted by the testing agency. Read more about AP and IB credits at admissions.umich.edu/apply/freshmen-applicants/ap-ib-credit.

• Transfers from universities in China must arrange for an official CHESICC “verification report” to be sent directly to U-M by the CHESICC China Credentials Verification if not already submitted (www.chsi.com.cn or www.chsi.cn, Email: kefu@chsi.com.cn or info@chsi.com.cn).

• For specific other requirements by country, refer to: admissions.umich.edu/international-requirements-by-country.

• All transcripts and exam certificates not issued in English must be accompanied by an official English translation and sent to ecredentials@umich.edu.
We know international students want to learn more about American life and higher education. Our International Orientation Programs can help you adapt to your new life in Michigan. They include information on education, immigration regulations, health care and health insurance, campus safety, and a wealth of other services.

Please visit onsp.umich.edu/orientation/internationals to view dates and other important steps to take before coming to campus. If you have any questions, please contact onsp@umich.edu.

You will register for your first semester classes at orientation.

**FALL ARRIVAL**
You are required to participate in the International Undergraduate Student Orientation, the Summer Orientation, or the Fall Orientation. International Undergraduate Student Orientation details and registration materials will be sent in June.

You will receive additional information about housing and arrival information in the spring. If you are flying to Michigan, we recommend that you do not purchase a plane ticket before you receive your arrival information.
# ACADEMIC CALENDAR

## WINTER TERM, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residence Halls Move-In</td>
<td>January 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Orientation</td>
<td>January 6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes Begin</td>
<td>January 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr Day (Holiday)</td>
<td>January 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation Begins</td>
<td>February 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes Resume</td>
<td>March 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Honors Convocation</td>
<td>March 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes End</td>
<td>April 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>April 23 - 24, 27 - 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commencement</td>
<td>May 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SPRING/SUMMER TERM, 2020

*Check the housing website ([housing.umich.edu](http://housing.umich.edu)) for specific move-in dates for Summer Orientation, and additional information.*

*On-campus housing-related questions can be directed to housing@umich.edu, or 734-763-3164.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring Orientation</td>
<td>May 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Classes Begin</td>
<td>May 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorial Day (Holiday)</td>
<td>May 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Half Term Ends</td>
<td>June 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>June 25 - 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Freshman Orientation</td>
<td>June 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Transfer Orientation</td>
<td>June 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Half Term Begins</td>
<td>July 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independence Day (Holiday)</td>
<td>July 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes End</td>
<td>August 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>August 20 - 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full and Summer Half Terms End</td>
<td>August 21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## FALL TERM, 2020

*LSA International Transfer Orientation Participants only*  
*International Undergraduate Orientation Participants only*  
*Final Fall Orientation Participants only*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residence Halls Move-In (LSA)</td>
<td>August 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSA International Transfer Orientation</td>
<td>August 19 - August 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence Halls Move-In (International Undergraduate)</td>
<td>August 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Undergraduate Student Orientation</td>
<td>August 24 - August 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence Halls Move-In (Final Fall)</td>
<td>August 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Fall Orientation</td>
<td>August 26 - August 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes Begin</td>
<td>August 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Study Break</td>
<td>October 19 - 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving Break Begins</td>
<td>November 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes Resume</td>
<td>November 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes End</td>
<td>December 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>December 14 - 18, 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commencement</td>
<td>December 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*University offices are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday except for Monday, September 7 (Labor Day holiday), when most university offices are closed. On-campus housing-related questions can be directed to housing@umich.edu, or 734-763-3164.*