



2020 CHECK-LIST FOR ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Please review all information provided by the Admissions office for details about regulations, housing deadlines, and other pre-arrival information. Below you will find information specifically for International Students. Please feel free to contact the Office of International Programs and Services at international@purchase.edu if you have any questions about this information.

Student Visa

- Thank you for submitting all of your documentation needed to create a Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) Form I-20. For more information about SEVIS, please visit: <https://www.ice.gov/sevis>. Your Form I-20 now allows you to apply for a student visa.
- **Special Note for Canadian Students ONLY:** You do not need to obtain a visa. You are still required to pay the \$350 SEVIS Registration Fee.
- Please follow the directions below:
 - Ensure your passport is valid and you have at least 6 months AFTER your final departure date from Purchase College or plan to renew it at some point during your study.
 - Ensure all of the information is correct on the attached Form I-20; notify our office immediately if there are any misspellings or incorrect information.
 - Pay the SEVIS Registration Fee by going to: <https://www.fmifee.com/i901fee/index.html>. **NOTE:** you must have access to a printer to print a receipt of payment.
 - SEVIS fee is \$350
 - ONLY pay the SEVIS fee by credit card; other payment forms may cause substantial delays.
 - Collect documents needed for a Visa Interview:

Required:

- Form I-20
- Passport
- Visa Application, Fee Payment, and Photo (see U.S. Embassy or Consulate Instructions Below)
- SEVIS Fee Receipt
- Purchase College Acceptance Letter

Suggested Optional Supporting Documentation:

- Copies of the financial documents you submitted to Purchase
- If English is not your native language, proof of proficiency like a TOEFL or IELTS score report
- Supporting documentation of your current home university program; transcript, class registration, student ID, etc.

- Find your closest U.S. Embassy or Consulate: <http://www.usembassy.gov/> and follow the instructions on how to apply for a 'Non-Immigrant' Visa.
- PLEASE NOTE: You must have paid your SEVIS Fee to register for a visa appointment. The SEVIS Fee is not the same as a VISA fee. While fees are subject to change, this fee is approximately \$160 USD. For more information about the visa process, please visit: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study.html>

Health and Immunization History

- The college offers a primary healthcare facility on the campus which provides direct patient services for routine medical conditions and refers students to off-campus specialists, as necessary. To assist the staff of Health Services in providing students with quality care, each international student must submit three forms:
 - College Entrance Health History and Physical Examination
 - MMR Immunization Record
 - Meningococcal Vaccination Response Form

These forms are available online at:

<https://www.purchase.edu/offices/health-services/forms/> .

- **Complete and submit these forms by January 15, 2020:** New York State Law and College policy prohibits students from registering for or attending any classes before completing these three requirements.
- Because it is not likely that these forms will reach the college by mail before you arrive, do not mail them. Submit them by fax or email to Health Services at (914) 251-6388 or hse@purchase.edu (do not send directly to the Office of International Programs and Services).
- We highly suggest that international students bring a copy of their immunization record with them to Purchase.

Health Insurance

- Please note all international students will be enrolled in the International Student Health Insurance Plan offered by the State University of New York (SUNY). If you have questions on this, please contact the Office of International Programs and Services. The premium for the insurance will be included in your tuition bill.

Living Accommodations

- Housing may not be available for the full academic year. Some residence halls close for the Thanksgiving Break (November), Winter Break (December and January), and Spring Break (typically in March). Please see the Purchase College [academic calendar](https://www.purchase.edu/offices/registrar/academic-calendar/index.php) (<https://www.purchase.edu/offices/registrar/academic-calendar/index.php>) for specific dates. If you need year-round housing or housing during these breaks, be sure to request "PREP" housing. Please contact the Office of Community Engagement at (914) 251-6320 or CEG@purchase.edu with any housing questions.
- Pay the housing deposit (\$250 USD payable by Credit Card) and complete the Residence Life License Agreement immediately on the "myHeliotrope" page of the Purchase College website at <https://www.purchase.edu/current-students/>. Please note, the longer you wait to deposit on housing, the harder it may be to select certain housing options.
- When applying for on-campus housing through MyHeliotrope, you are required to put a U.S. Emergency Contact phone number and address. If you do not have an emergency

contact in the U.S., you can list the Coordinator of Education Abroad with 'UPD,' our University Police Departments contact info. For after-hours emergencies, UPD can contact the Office of International Programs and Services to make international emergency calls. If you need this, please be sure to input:

UPD / Marjorie Ramirez
914-251-6900
735 Anderson Hill Rd
Purchase, NY 10577

Travel Plans

- **Make Travel Arrangements:** It is common for students to wait until they have received a visa, but please note, the longer you wait, the more expensive transportation can be. We require students to make travel arrangements and notify our office by **January 15, 2020** by emailing international@purchase.edu the following information:
 - Your Name (Last, First)
 - Mobile Telephone Number (including country code)
 - Your non-Purchase email address
 - Emergency Contact Name, Location (i.e. Paris, France), Phone Number (including country code), and Email Address
 - How you are arriving (air, bus, car, etc.)
 - Your arrival date in the U.S.
 - Are you living on campus or off?
 - Have you verified your housing (deposited for on-campus with confirmation or obtained an apartment off campus)?
 - Your expected date and arrival time to Purchase College
 - Move-In Monday between 12pm – 4pm
 - Just for Orientation (starting at 9:00am Tuesday)
- Students are responsible for arranging travel to campus; we highly recommend you reserve a shuttle van services like those found at JFK Airport, 'Supper Shuttle' (<http://www.supershuttle.com/Locations/NewYorkCityJFK>) or 'Go Airport Shuttle' (http://goairportshuttle.com/john_f_kennedy_international_jfk_airport_shuttle).
- While public transportation can be used to arrive at Purchase College from all major airports, it is very time consuming, confusing, and difficult to manage with luggage; our office does not recommend it.
- Students are eligible to enter the U.S. up to 30 days prior to the start of their Program. **PLEASE NOTE:** Purchase College will not be able to accommodate students with on-campus housing or meal plans prior to **Monday, January 20**; all hotel/meals are at the student's expense.

- **Special Note for Students Crossing an Air Boarder:** Be sure that you keep all required documents in your carry-on luggage. You need these documents to be accessible, especially if there are any delays with receiving your checked baggage. Keep handy:
 - Passport
 - Form I-20
 - Acceptance Letter
 - Supporting documentation: housing, billing, or registration information
- **Special Note for Students Crossing a Land Border into the United States:** You will be required to present your Form I-20 for processing.
 - Please be sure to clearly state this is your first time entering the U.S. for purposes of F-1 Student Visa Study.
 - You will be asked to process documents inside the main office so do not be surprised if you are asked inside for further questioning.
 - Please carry the following with you:
 - Passport
 - Original Form I-20
 - SEVIS Fee Receipts
 - Copies of the financial documents you submitted to Purchase
 - Be aware that you will need to pay a \$6.00 I-94 Processing Fee; be prepared with U.S. Dollars (not debit/credit) to pay for this.

Arriving to Campus

- Students must arrive to campus in time for **New International Student Orientation on January 21 at 9:00am**. Please come to the Student Services Building, 2nd floor (see [campus map](#)).
- **If you are living on campus, you must move in Monday, January 20, 12:00PM – 4:00 PM.** Students need to report to Campus Center North to receive keys from Community Engagement (housing). Transportation from JFK (closest international airport) can take up to 3 hours between arrival, baggage pick up, and shuttle transportation. Please plan accordingly; some students may arrive January 20 and secure a hotel.
- **PEASE NOTE: Purchase College cannot accommodate students who arrive early to campus; there is no housing or meals before Monday, January 20.** If you arrive to the U.S. earlier than this date, you are responsible for any hotel and/or meal costs.
- If you are experiencing travel delays, please email or call the Office of International Programs and Services (OIPS).
- If it is after 4:00PM on Monday, January 20, please contact the Purchase College University Police at 915-251-6900. They will reach out to the staff of OIPS to assist you.
- Dinner will be provided to students living on campus on Monday, January 20 who have checked in by 4:00PM.

International Student Orientation: Tuesday, January 21, 2020; 9:00AM-12:00PM in the Student Services Building, 2nd floor.

- **Orientation is MANDATORY** for *all* students whether living on or off campus. We will be reviewing things like visa/immigration, academic expectations, support services (both academic and medical), and general campus and U.S. adjustment (banking, clubs/activities, food options, etc.)
- Please bring:
 - Passport with Student Visa.
 - Form I-20.
 - SEVIS Receipt.
 - Form I-94 if you crossed into the U.S. via land border crossing
 - Forms (if any) giving to you by Border Officials; for instance, in some circumstances, a Form I-515A.
 - A pen/pencil and paper to take notes.
- A detailed schedule will be provided to you at Orientation.
- Students living on campus will have three meals a day provided to them during orientation. Students living off campus will have lunch provided to them during orientation. Meal plans begin after Orientation.

New Student Orientation: January 21, 2020; 12:00PM – 5:00PM

- Following International Student Orientation, you are required to attend the New Student Orientation program.

Ship your Belongings

- You are welcome to ship personal belongings to Purchase College. They must be sent to your attention indicated below. Arrival of packages for holding should not be more than 2 weeks before the start of the academic semester. Mail via airmail or allow 3 months for surface mail if you are sending packages from abroad:

To: **YOUR NAME**
c/o Purchase College – Mailroom
735 Anderson Hill Road
Purchase, NY 10577 USA
Hold for Arrival on **DATE**

Get Connected!

- Like us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/purchasestudyabroad/>
- Follow us on Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/purchase_oips/
- Find us on Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/127081368@N02>