

New International Student Pre-Arrival Checklist



BEGIN HERE

- Apply to UT Dallas [online](#).
- Track your admissions status and accept your admission in [Galaxy](#).
- Set-up and access your UT Dallas email. All official communication from UTD will be sent to this account.
- Apply for a passport if you do not have one.
- F-1 student: apply for a [Form I-20](#).
J-1 student: apply for a [Form DS-2019](#).
Note: Both requests require supplemental financial documents and passport copy.
- Your Form I-20 or Form DS-2019 will be sent to you via electronically. Once your visa appointment has been scheduled, request a hard copy of your I-20 by completing these steps:
 - a. Request a shipping label by submitting the "Complimentary Express Shipping" eForm in Step 2 of your iComet application. This eForm will direct you to the eShip Global website where you will input the details of your shipping request.
 - b. Submit the "Original Initial I-20 Request" eForm in iComet. You may use the hyperlink, or copy and paste the following link into your web browser: <https://icomet.utdallas.edu/istart/controllers/client/ClientEngine.cfm?serviceid=EFormOriginalInitialI20Request0ServiceProvider>
- Pay [SEVIS I-901](#) fee online, once you receive your Form I-20 or Form DS-2019.
- Contact your corresponding US embassy or consulate and schedule your visa interview. List of all [US embassies/consulates](#).
- Prepare the required documents for your visa interview. In addition to filling out the Form DS-160 online, check the website for the US Consulate/Embassy where you will be interviewed to see what documents are required.
 - Admission Letter.
 - Form I-20 or Form DS-2019.
 - Proof of funding / sponsorship as reflected on the Form I-20 or Form DS-2019.
 - Passport.
 - Proof of ties to your home country and intent to return after studying.
 - Any other recommendations based on the consulate/embassy website.
- Inform ISSO about the status of your F-1 visa application by submitting the 'Visa Update' eForm located in the 'New Admit: F-1 Student' request in iComet.
- Complete international student orientation in elearning.utdallas.edu. This is highly recommended for all new students.
- Take the Meningitis Vaccine (mandatory for all students under 22 year of age) and submit the results to the [UTD Registrar Office](#).
- Research [housing](#). There are both on-campus and off-campus options.
- Enter the US as a student no earlier than 30 days prior to start of classes. At the port of entry, present your passport, F-1 or J-1 student visa, and Form I-20 or Form DS-2019, as well as your admission letter.
- Become familiar with the requirements for maintaining your [F-1 status](#) or [J-1 status](#).